

CT FINANCIAL PARTNERS, LLC

a Registered Investment Adviser

1745 Indian Wood Circle, Suite 250
Maumee, OH 43537

(888) 949-6549

www.ctfpllc.com

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of CT Financial Partners, LLC (hereinafter “CT Financial Partners” or the “Firm”). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact the Firm at the telephone number listed above. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or by any state securities authority. Additional information about the Firm is available on the SEC’s website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. The Firm is a registered investment adviser. Registration does not imply any level of skill or training.

Item 2. Material Changes

In this Item, CT Financial Partners is required to discuss any material changes that have been made to the brochure since the last annual amendment.

The Firm updated Item 9 of the brochure to disclose that Craig S. Thistlethwaite was involved in a disciplinary event that is material to a client's evaluation of the Firm's advisory practice.

Without admitting or denying any findings, Craig S. Thistlethwaite, the Firm's Managing Member, consented to the sanctions and to the entry of findings that he exercised discretionary authority to effect trades in two related customers' accounts without obtaining written authorization from the customers and without his member firm having accepted the accounts as discretionary while Mr. Thistlethwaite was employed by Morgan Stanley. FINRA's findings stated that Mr. Thistlethwaite caused Morgan Stanley to maintain incomplete books and records by exchanging business-related communications, including communications concerning securities transactions, with a firm customer via text message from his personal cellular device without the firm's approval. Because these communications were sent via an unapproved communications platform, they were not captured and preserved by Morgan Stanley. Mr. Thistlethwaite was subject to a 60-day suspension and was fined \$10,000.

Item 3. Table of Contents

Item 2. Material Changes.....2

Item 3. Table of Contents3

Item 4. Advisory Business.....4

Item 5. Fees and Compensation.....6

Item 6. Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management9

Item 7. Types of Clients9

Item 8. Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss.....9

Item 9. Disciplinary Information14

Item 10. Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations14

Item 11. Code of Ethics15

Item 12. Brokerage Practices16

Item 13. Review of Accounts20

Item 14. Client Referrals and Other Compensation.....21

Item 15. Custody.....21

Item 16. Investment Discretion.....21

Item 17. Voting Client Securities22

Item 18. Financial Information.....22

Item 19. Requirement for State Registered Advisers.....22

Item 4. Advisory Business

CT Financial Partners offers a variety of advisory services, which include financial planning, consulting, and investment management services. Prior to CT Financial Partners rendering any of the foregoing advisory services, clients are required to enter into one or more written agreements with CT Financial Partners setting forth the relevant terms and conditions of the advisory relationship (the “Advisory Agreement”).

CT Financial Partners filed for registration as an investment adviser in February 2023 and is owned by Craig Thistlethwaite. As of January 26, 2024, CT Financial Partners had \$59,663,787 assets under management, all of which were managed on a discretionary basis.

While this brochure generally describes the business of CT Financial Partners, certain sections also discuss the activities of its Supervised Persons, which refer to the Firm’s officers, partners, directors (or other persons occupying a similar status or performing similar functions), employees or other persons who provide investment advice on CT Financial Partners’s behalf and are subject to the Firm’s supervision or control.

CT Financial Partners provides advisory services through certain programs sponsored by LPL Financial LLC (“LPL”), a registered investment advisor and broker-dealer. CT Financial Partners provides its wrapped services pursuant to this brochure. For more information regarding any LPL programs please see the program account packet (which includes the account agreement and LPL Form ADV program brochure) or request additional information.

Financial Planning and Consulting Services

CT Financial Partners offers clients a broad range of financial planning and consulting services, which include any or all of the following functions:

- Business Planning
- Cash Flow Forecasting
- Trust and Estate Planning
- Financial Reporting
- Investment Consulting
- Insurance Planning
- Retirement Planning
- Risk Management
- Charitable Giving
- Distribution Planning
- Tax Planning
- Education Planning

In performing these services, CT Financial Partners is not required to verify any information received from the client or from the client’s other professionals (e.g., attorneys, accountants, etc.) and is expressly authorized to rely on such information. CT Financial Partners recommends certain clients engage the Firm

for additional related services, its Supervised Persons in their individual capacities as insurance agents, and/or other professionals to implement its recommendations. Clients are advised that a conflict of interest exists for the Firm to recommend that clients engage CT Financial Partners or its affiliates to provide (or continue to provide) additional services for compensation, including investment management services. Clients retain absolute discretion over all decisions regarding implementation and are under no obligation to act upon any of the recommendations made by CT Financial Partners under a financial planning or consulting engagement. Clients are advised that it remains their responsibility to promptly notify the Firm of any change in their financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing, evaluating or revising CT Financial Partners's recommendations and/or services.

Wealth Management Services

CT Financial Partners provides clients with wealth management services which include a broad range of financial planning and consulting services as well as discretionary management of investment portfolios.

CT Financial Partners primarily allocates client assets among various mutual funds, exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), individual equity (and occasionally individual debt) securities and options in accordance with their stated investment objectives.

Where appropriate, the Firm also provides advice about any type of legacy position or other investment held in client portfolios, but clients should not assume that these assets are being continuously monitored or otherwise advised on by the Firm unless specifically agreed upon. Clients can engage CT Financial Partners to manage and/or advise on certain investment products that are not maintained at their primary custodian, such as variable life insurance and annuity contracts and assets held in employer sponsored retirement plans and qualified tuition plans (i.e., 529 plans). In these situations, CT Financial Partners directs or recommends the allocation of client assets among the various investment options available with the product. These assets are generally maintained at the underwriting insurance company or the custodian designated by the product's provider.

CT Financial Partners tailors its advisory services to meet the needs of its individual clients and seeks to ensure, on a continuous basis, that client portfolios are managed in a manner consistent with those needs and objectives. CT Financial Partners consults with clients on an initial and ongoing basis to assess their specific risk tolerance, time horizon, liquidity constraints and other related factors relevant to the management of their portfolios. Clients are advised to promptly notify CT Financial Partners if there are changes in their financial situation or if they wish to place any limitations on the management of their portfolios. Clients can impose reasonable restrictions or mandates on the management of their accounts if CT Financial Partners determines, in its sole discretion, the conditions would not materially impact the performance of a management strategy or prove overly burdensome to the Firm's management efforts.

Retirement Plan Consulting Services

CT Financial Partners provides various consulting services to qualified employee benefit plans and their fiduciaries. This suite of institutional services is designed to assist plan sponsors in structuring, managing and optimizing their corporate retirement plans. The retirement planning services are provided at a fixed fee. This fee ranges from .25% - 1.00%. Each engagement is individually negotiated and customized, and includes any or all of the following services:

- Plan Design and Strategy
- Plan Review and Evaluation
- Executive Planning & Benefits
- Investment Selection
- Plan Fee and Cost Analysis
- Plan Committee Consultation
- Fiduciary and Compliance
- Participant Education

As disclosed in the Advisory Agreement, certain of the foregoing services are provided by CT Financial Partners as a fiduciary under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”). In accordance with ERISA Section 408(b)(2), each plan sponsor is provided with a written description of CT Financial Partners’s fiduciary status, the specific services to be rendered and all direct and indirect compensation the Firm reasonably expects under the engagement.

Sponsor and Manager of Wrap Program

CT Financial Partners provides investment management services as the sponsor and manager of the CT Financial Partners Wrap Program (the “Wrap Program”), a wrap fee program (i.e., an arrangement where certain brokerage commissions and transaction costs are absorbed by the Firm). Accounts managed through the Wrap Program are done so in substantially the same manner as those managed under a non-wrap arrangement. Participants in the Wrap Program may pay a higher or lower aggregate fee than if investment management and brokerage services are purchased separately. Additional information about the Wrap Program is available in CT Financial Partners’s Wrap Brochure, which appears as Part 2A Appendix 1 of the Firm’s Form ADV (the “Wrap Brochure”).

Item 5. Fees and Compensation

CT Financial Partners typically offers services for a fee based upon assets under management or advisement. Additionally, certain of the Firm’s Supervised Persons, in their individual capacities, offer insurance products under a separate commission-based arrangement. For investment management fees associated with participation in the Wrap Program, please see the Wrap Brochure.

Wealth Management Fees

CT Financial Partners offers investment management services for an annual fee based on the amount of assets under the Firm's management. This management fee varies in accordance with the following blended fee schedule:

<u>PORTFOLIO VALUE</u>	<u>BASE FEE</u>
First \$250,000	1.20%
Next \$250,000	1.00%
Next \$500,000	0.90%
Next \$1,000,000	0.75%
Above \$2,000,000	0.65%

The annual fee is prorated and charged quarterly, in advance, based upon the market value of the assets being managed by CT Financial Partners on the last day of the previous quarter as determined by a party independent from the Firm (including the client's custodian or another third-party).

The Firm includes cash in a client's account in determining the valuation for billing purposes. The Firm may, in its sole discretion, not include cash in determining the fee, especially where a client has a high percentage of cash for reasons other than the Firm's investment management decision.

If assets are deposited into or withdrawn from an account after the inception of a billing period, the fee payable with respect to such assets is adjusted to reflect the interim change in portfolio value. For the initial period of an engagement, the fee is calculated on a *pro rata* basis. In the event the advisory agreement is terminated, the fee for the final billing period is prorated through the effective date of the termination and the outstanding or unearned portion of the fee is charged or refunded to the client, as appropriate.

Additionally, for asset management services the Firm provides with respect to certain client holdings (e.g., held-away assets, accommodation accounts, alternative investments, etc.), CT Financial Partners can negotiate a fee rate that differs from the range set forth above. Clients are advised that a conflict of interest exists for the Firm to recommend that clients engage CT Financial Partners for additional services for compensation, including rolling over retirement accounts or moving other assets to the Firm's management. Clients retain absolute discretion over all decisions regarding engaging the Firm and are under no obligation to act upon any of the recommendations.

Retirement Plan Consulting Fees

CT Financial Partners charges as fixed project-based fee to provide clients with retirement plan consulting services. Each engagement is individually negotiated and tailored to accommodate the needs of the

individual plan sponsor, as memorialized in the Agreement. These fees vary, based on the scope of the services to be rendered.

Fee Discretion

CT Financial Partners may, in its sole discretion, negotiate to charge a lesser fee based upon certain criteria, such as anticipated future earning capacity, anticipated future additional assets, dollar amount of assets to be managed, related accounts, account composition, pre-existing/legacy client relationship, account retention, pro bono activities, or competitive purposes.

Additional Fees and Expenses

In addition to the advisory fees paid to CT Financial Partners, clients also incur certain charges imposed by other third parties, such as broker-dealers, custodians, trust companies, banks and other financial institutions (collectively “Financial Institutions”). These additional charges include securities brokerage commissions, transaction fees, custodial fees, fees attributable to alternative assets, margin and other borrowing costs, charges imposed directly by a mutual fund or ETF in a client’s account, as disclosed in the fund’s prospectus (e.g., fund management fees and other fund expenses), deferred sales charges, odd-lot differentials, transfer taxes, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. The Firm’s brokerage practices are described at length in Item 12, below.

Direct Fee Debit

Clients provide CT Financial Partners with the authority to directly debit their accounts for payment of the investment advisory fees. The Financial Institutions that act as the qualified custodian for client accounts, from which the Firm retains the authority to directly deduct fees, have agreed to send statements to clients not less than quarterly detailing all account transactions, including any amounts paid to CT Financial Partners. Alternatively, clients may elect to have CT Financial Partners send a separate invoice for direct payment.

Use of Margin

CT Financial Partners can recommend that certain clients utilize margin, securities-backed borrowing, or other borrowing in the client’s investment portfolio. CT Financial Partners only recommends such borrowing for non-investment needs, such as bridge loans and other financing needs. The Firm’s fees are determined based upon the value of the assets being managed gross of any margin or borrowing.

Account Additions and Withdrawals

Clients can make additions to and withdrawals from their account at any time, subject to CT Financial Partners's right to terminate an account. Additions can be in cash or securities provided that the Firm reserves the right to liquidate any transferred securities or declines to accept particular securities into a client's account. Clients can withdraw account assets on notice to CT Financial Partners, subject to the usual and customary securities settlement procedures. However, the Firm designs its portfolios as long-term investments and the withdrawal of assets may impair the achievement of a client's investment objectives. CT Financial Partners may consult with its clients about the options and implications of transferring securities. Clients are advised that when transferred securities are liquidated, they may be subject to transaction fees, short-term redemption fees, fees assessed at the mutual fund level (e.g., contingent deferred sales charges) and/or tax ramifications.

Item 6. Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management

CT Financial Partners does not provide any services for a performance-based fee (i.e., a fee based on a share of capital gains or capital appreciation of a client's assets).

Item 7. Types of Clients

CT Financial Partners offers services to individuals, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, pension and profit-sharing plans. CT Financial Partners' services are not subject to a minimum fee or account size.

Item 8. Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss

Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies

CT Financial Partners adheres to a long-term investment strategy, where the financial plan is the foundation on which the portfolio is built. The overall asset allocation is driven by the financial plan with consideration to the goals, objectives and risk tolerance. Other factors that could affect the overall asset allocation in the short and medium term are market conditions, economy, valuations and interest rates.

CT Financial Partners believes you can best control portfolio income, tax consequences and expenses through the use of individual securities, such as individual stocks and bonds. When the overall asset allocation does not allow for proper diversification through the use of individual securities, CT Financial

Partners will use ETFs and mutual funds to reduce risk through the imbedded diversification that comes with those investments.

Other forms of analysis that will be employed to help shape the overall asset allocation, along with the investments there in, include the following:

Fundamental analysis involves an evaluation of the fundamental financial condition and competitive position of a particular company or sector. For CT Financial Partners, this process typically involves an analysis of an issuer's management team, investment strategies, style drift, past performance, reputation and financial strength in relation to the asset class concentrations and risk exposures. A substantial risk in relying upon fundamental analysis is that while the overall health and position of a company may be good, evolving market conditions may negatively impact the security.

Technical analysis involves the examination of past market data in determining the recommendations made to clients. Technical analysis may involve the use of mathematical based indicators and charts, such as moving averages and price correlations, to identify market patterns and trends which may be based on investor sentiment rather than the fundamentals of the company. A substantial risk in relying upon technical analysis is that spotting historical trends may not help to predict such trends in the future. Even if the trend will eventually reoccur, there is no guarantee that CT Financial Partners will be able to accurately predict such a reoccurrence.

Cyclical analysis is similar to technical analysis in that it involves the assessment of market conditions at a macro (entire market or economy) or micro (company specific) level, rather than focusing on the overall fundamental analysis of the health of the particular company that CT Financial Partners is recommending. The risks with cyclical analysis are similar to those of technical analysis.

Modern Portfolio Theory ("MPT") is a mathematical based investment discipline that seeks to quantify expected portfolio returns in relation to corresponding portfolio risk. The basic premise of MPT is that the risk of a particular holding is to be assessed by comparing its price variations against those of the market portfolio. However, MPT disregards certain investment considerations and is based on a series of assumptions that may not necessarily reflect actual market conditions. As such, the factors for which MPT does not account (e.g., tax implications, regulatory constraints and brokerage costs) may negate the upside or add to the actual risk of a particular allocation. Nevertheless, CT Financial Partners investment process is structured in such a way to integrate those assumptions and real-life considerations for which MPT analytics do not account.

Risk of Loss

The following list of risk factors does not purport to be a complete enumeration or explanation of the risks involved with respect to the Firm's investment management activities. Clients should consult with their

legal, tax, and other advisors before engaging the Firm to provide investment management services on their behalf.

Market Risks

Investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal, and all investors should be guided accordingly. The profitability of a significant portion of CT Financial Partners's recommendations and/or investment decisions may depend to a great extent upon correctly assessing the future course of price movements of stocks, bonds and other asset classes. In addition, investments may be adversely affected by financial markets and economic conditions throughout the world. There can be no assurance that CT Financial Partners will be able to predict these price movements accurately or capitalize on any such assumptions.

Volatility Risks

The prices and values of investments can be highly volatile, and are influenced by, among other things, interest rates, general economic conditions, the condition of the financial markets, the financial condition of the issuers of such assets, changing supply and demand relationships, and programs and policies of governments.

Cash Management Risks

The Firm may invest some of a client's assets temporarily in money market funds or other similar types of investments, during which time an advisory account may be prevented from achieving its investment objective.

Equity-Related Securities and Instruments

The Firm may take long positions in common stocks of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers traded on national securities exchanges and over-the-counter markets. The value of equity securities varies in response to many factors. These factors include, without limitation, factors specific to an issuer and factors specific to the industry in which the issuer participates. Individual companies may report poor results or be negatively affected by industry and/or economic trends and developments, and the stock prices of such companies may suffer a decline in response. In addition, equity securities are subject to stock risk, which is the risk that stock prices historically rise and fall in periodic cycles. U.S. and non-U.S. stock markets have experienced periods of substantial price volatility in the past and may do so again in the future. In addition, investments in small-capitalization, midcapitalization and financially distressed companies may be subject to more abrupt or erratic price movements and may lack sufficient market liquidity, and these issuers often face greater business risks.

Fixed Income Securities

While the Firm emphasizes risk-averse management and capital preservation in its fixed-income bond portfolios, clients who invest in this product can lose money, including losing a portion of their original investment. The prices of the securities in our portfolios fluctuate. The Firm does not guarantee any particular level of performance. Below is a representative list of the types of risks clients should consider before investing in this product.

- Interest rate risk. Prices of bonds tend to move in the opposite direction to interest rate changes. Typically, a rise in interest rates will negatively affect bond prices. The longer the duration and average maturity of a portfolio, the greater the likely reaction to interest rate moves.
- Credit (or default) risk. A bond's price will generally fall if the issuer fails to make a scheduled interest or principal payment, if the credit rating of the security is downgraded, or if the perceived creditworthiness of the issuer deteriorates.
- Liquidity risk. Sectors of the bond market can experience a sudden downturn in trading activity. When there is little or no trading activity in a security, it can be difficult to sell the security at or near its perceived value. In such a market, bond prices may fall.
- Call risk. Some bonds give the issuer the option to call or redeem the bond before the maturity date. If an issuer calls a bond when interest rates are declining, the proceeds may have to be reinvested at a lower yield. During periods of market illiquidity or rising rates, prices of callable securities may be subject to increased volatility.
- Prepayment risk. When interest rates fall, the principal of mortgage-backed securities may be prepaid. These prepayments can reduce the portfolio's yield because proceeds may have to be reinvested at a lower yield.
- Extension risk. When interest rates rise or there is a lack of refinancing opportunities, prepayments of mortgage-backed securities or callable bonds may be less than expected. This would lengthen the portfolio's duration and average maturity and increase its sensitivity to rising rates and its potential for price declines.

Mutual Funds and ETFs

An investment in a mutual fund or ETF involves risk, including the loss of principal. Mutual fund and ETF shareholders are necessarily subject to the risks stemming from the individual issuers of the fund's underlying portfolio securities. Such shareholders are also liable for taxes on any fund-level capital gains, as mutual funds and ETFs are required by law to distribute capital gains in the event they sell securities for a profit that cannot be offset by a corresponding loss.

Shares of mutual funds are generally distributed and redeemed on an ongoing basis by the fund itself or a broker acting on its behalf. The trading price at which a share is transacted is equal to a fund's stated daily per share net asset value ("NAV"), plus any shareholders fees (e.g., sales loads, purchase fees, redemption fees). The per share NAV of a mutual fund is calculated at the end of each business day, although the actual NAV fluctuates with intraday changes to the market value of the fund's holdings. The trading prices of a mutual fund's shares may differ from the NAV during periods of market volatility, which may, among other factors, lead to the mutual fund's shares trading at a premium or discount to actual NAV.

Shares of ETFs are listed on securities exchanges and transacted at negotiated prices in the secondary market. Generally, ETF shares trade at or near their most recent NAV, which is generally calculated at least once daily for index-based ETFs and potentially more frequently for actively managed ETFs. However, certain inefficiencies may cause the shares to trade at a premium or discount to their pro rata NAV. There is also no guarantee that an active secondary market for such shares will develop or continue to exist. Generally, an ETF only redeems shares when aggregated as creation units (usually 20,000 shares or more). Therefore, if a liquid secondary market ceases to exist for shares of a particular ETF, a shareholder may have no way to dispose of such shares.

Finally, some mutual funds and ETFs may have lock-up periods that restrict an investor from selling their position for a period of time. Other mutual funds and ETFs could also have early redemption fees that are taken if the investor sells their position before a certain amount of time.

Use of Private Collective Investment Vehicles

CT Financial Partners recommends that certain clients invest in privately placed collective investment vehicles (e.g., hedge funds, private equity funds, etc.). The managers of these vehicles have broad discretion in selecting the investments. There are few limitations on the types of securities or other financial instruments which may be traded and no requirement to diversify. Hedge funds may trade on margin or otherwise leverage positions, thereby potentially increasing the risk to the vehicle. In addition, because the vehicles are not registered as investment companies, there is an absence of regulation. There are numerous other risks in investing in these securities. Clients should consult each fund's private placement memorandum and/or other documents explaining such risks prior to investing.

Options

Options allow investors to buy or sell a security at a contracted "strike" price at or within a specific period of time. Clients may pay or collect a premium for buying or selling an option. Investors transact in options to either hedge (i.e., limit) losses in an attempt to reduce risk or to speculate on the performance of the underlying securities. Options transactions contain a number of inherent risks, including the partial or total loss of principal in the event that the value of the underlying security or index does not increase/decrease to the level of the respective strike price. Holders of options contracts are also subject to default by the option writer which may be unwilling or unable to perform its contractual obligations.

Currency Risks

An advisory account that holds investments denominated in currencies other than the currency in which the advisory account is denominated may be adversely affected by the volatility of currency exchange rates.

Interest Rate Risks

Interest rates may fluctuate significantly, causing price volatility with respect to securities or instruments held by clients.

Item 9. Disciplinary Information

CT Financial Partners' Managing Member has been involved in a legal or disciplinary event that is material to a client's evaluation of its advisory business or the integrity of its management.

Without admitting or denying any findings, Craig S. Thistlethwaite, the Firm's Managing Member, consented to the sanctions and to the entry of findings that he exercised discretionary authority to effect trades in two related customers' accounts without obtaining written authorization from the customers and without his member firm having accepted the accounts as discretionary while Mr. Thistlethwaite was employed by Morgan Stanley. FINRA's findings stated that Mr. Thistlethwaite caused Morgan Stanley to maintain incomplete books and records by exchanging business-related communications, including communications concerning securities transactions, with a firm customer via text message from his personal cellular device without the firm's approval. Because these communications were sent via an unapproved communications platform, they were not captured and preserved by Morgan Stanley. Mr. Thistlethwaite was subject to a 60-day suspension and was fined \$10,000.

Item 10. Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

This item requires investment advisers to disclose certain financial industry activities and affiliations.

Licensed Insurance Agents

The Firm's principal, Craig Thistlethwaite is a licensed insurance agent and offers certain insurance products on a fully-disclosed commissionable basis. A conflict of interest exists to the extent that CT Financial Partners recommends the purchase of insurance products where Mr. Thistlethwaite is entitled to insurance commissions or other additional compensation. The Firm has procedures in place whereby it

seeks to ensure that all recommendations are made in its clients' best interest regardless of any such affiliations.

Item 11. Code of Ethics

CT Financial Partners has adopted a code of ethics in compliance with applicable securities laws ("Code of Ethics") that sets forth the standards of conduct expected of its Supervised Persons. CT Financial Partners's Code of Ethics contains written policies reasonably designed to prevent certain unlawful practices such as the use of material non-public information by the Firm or any of its Supervised Persons and the trading by the same of securities ahead of clients in order to take advantage of pending orders.

The Code of Ethics also requires certain of CT Financial Partners's personnel to report their personal securities holdings and transactions and obtain pre-approval of certain investments (*e.g.*, initial public offerings, limited offerings). However, the Firm's Supervised Persons are permitted to buy or sell securities that it also recommends to clients if done in a fair and equitable manner that is consistent with the Firm's policies and procedures. This Code of Ethics has been established recognizing that some securities trade in sufficiently broad markets to permit transactions by certain personnel to be completed without any appreciable impact on the markets of such securities. Therefore, under limited circumstances, exceptions may be made to the policies stated below.

When the Firm is engaging in or considering a transaction in any security on behalf of a client, no Supervised Person with access to this information may knowingly effect for themselves or for their immediate family (*i.e.*, spouse, minor children and adults living in the same household) a transaction in that security unless:

- the transaction has been completed;
- the transaction for the Supervised Person is completed as part of a batch trade with clients; or
- a decision has been made not to engage in the transaction for the client.

These requirements are not applicable to: (i) direct obligations of the Government of the United States; (ii) money market instruments, bankers' acceptances, bank certificates of deposit, commercial paper, repurchase agreements and other high quality short-term debt instruments, including repurchase agreements; (iii) shares issued by money market funds; and (iv) shares issued by other unaffiliated open-end mutual funds.

Clients and prospective clients may contact CT Financial Partners to request a copy of its Code of Ethics by contacting the Firm at the phone number on the cover page of this brochure.

Item 12. Brokerage Practices

Recommendation of Broker-Dealers for Client Transactions

CT Financial Partners recommends that clients utilize the custody, brokerage and clearing services of LPL for investment management accounts. The final decision to custody assets with LPL is at the discretion of the client, including those accounts under ERISA or IRA rules and regulations, in which case the client is acting as either the plan sponsor or IRA account holder. CT Financial Partners is independently owned and operated and not affiliated with Custodian. Custodian provides CT Financial Partners with access to its institutional trading and custody services, which are typically not available to retail investors.

LPL is generally compensated by clients through commissions, trails, or other transaction-based fees for trades that are executed through LPL or that settle into LPL accounts. For IRA accounts, LPL generally charges account maintenance fees. In addition, LPL also charges clients miscellaneous fees and charges, such as account transfer fees. LPL charges CT Financial Partners an asset-based administration fee for administrative services provided by LPL. Such administration fees are not directly borne by clients, but may be taken into account when CT Financial Partners negotiates its advisory fee with clients.

Factors which CT Financial Partners considers in recommending LPL or any other broker-dealer to clients include their respective financial strength, reputation, execution, pricing, research and service. LPL enables the Firm to obtain many mutual funds without transaction charges and other securities at nominal transaction charges. The commissions and/or transaction fees charged by LPL may be higher or lower than those charged by other Financial Institutions.

The commissions paid by CT Financial Partners's clients to LPL comply with the Firm's duty to obtain "best execution." Clients may pay commissions that are higher than another qualified Financial Institution might charge to effect the same transaction where CT Financial Partners determines that the commissions are reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services received. In seeking best execution, the determinative factor is not the lowest possible cost, but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of a Financial Institution's services, including among others, the value of research provided, execution capability, commission rates and responsiveness. CT Financial Partners seeks competitive rates but may not necessarily obtain the lowest possible commission rates for client transactions.

Consistent with obtaining best execution, brokerage transactions are directed to certain broker-dealers in return for investment research products and/or services which assist CT Financial Partners in its investment decision-making process. Such research will be used to service all of the Firm's clients, but brokerage commissions paid by one client may be used to pay for research that is not used in managing that client's

portfolio. The receipt of investment research products and/or services as well as the allocation of the benefit of such investment research products and/or services poses a conflict of interest because CT Financial Partners does not have to produce or pay for the products or services.

The receipt of investment research products and/or services as well as the allocation of the benefit of such investment research products and/or services poses a conflict of interest because CT Financial Partners does not have to produce or pay for the products or services. CT Financial Partners periodically and systematically reviews its policies and procedures regarding its recommendation of Financial Institutions in light of its duty to obtain best execution.

Software and Support Provided by Financial Institutions

CT Financial Partners receives support services and/or products from LPL, many of which assist the Firm to better monitor and service program accounts maintained at LPL; however, some of the services and products benefit CT Financial Partners and not client accounts. These support services and/or products may be received without cost, at a discount, and/or at a negotiated rate, and may include the following:

- investment-related research
- pricing information and market data
- software and other technology that provide access to client account data
- compliance and/or practice management-related publications
- consulting services
- attendance at conferences, meetings, and other educational and/or social events
- marketing support
- computer hardware and/or software
- other products and services used by the Firm in furtherance of its investment advisory business operations

LPL may provide these services and products directly, or may arrange for third party vendors to provide the services or products to CT Financial Partners. In the case of third-party vendors, LPL may pay for some or all of the third party's fees.

These support services are provided to CT Financial Partners based on the overall relationship between CT Financial Partners and LPL. It is not the result of soft dollar arrangements or any other express arrangements

with LPL that involves the execution of client transactions as a condition to the receipt of services. CT Financial Partners will continue to receive the services regardless of the volume of client transactions executed with LPL. Clients do not pay more for services as a result of this arrangement. There is no corresponding commitment made by the CT Financial Partners to LPL or any other entity to invest any specific amount or percentage of client assets in any specific securities as a result of the arrangement. However, because CT Financial Partners receives these benefits from LPL, there is a conflict of interest. The receipt of these products and services presents a financial incentive for CT Financial Partners to recommend that its clients use LPL's custodial platform rather than another custodian's platform.

LPL also makes available to CT Financial Partners other services intended to help the Firm manage and further develop its business. Some of these services assist CT Financial Partners to better monitor and service program accounts maintained at LPL, however, many of these services benefit only CT Financial Partners, for example, services that assist the Firm in growing its business. These support services and/or products may be provided without cost, at a discount, and/or at a negotiated rate, and include practice management-related publications; consulting services; attendance at conferences and seminars, meetings, and other educational and/or social events; marketing support; and other products and services used by CT Financial Partners in furtherance of the operation and development of its investment advisory business.

The products and services described above are provided to CT Financial Partners as part of its overall relationship with LPL. While as a fiduciary CT Financial Partners endeavors to act in its clients' best interests, the receipt of these benefits creates a conflict of interest because the Firm's recommendation that clients custody their assets at LPL is based in part on the benefits received and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody or brokerage services provided by LPL. CT Financial Partners's receipt of some of these benefits may be based on the amount of advisory assets custodied on the LPL Financial platform.

Loans Received by the Supervised Persons From LPL

LPL has provided forgivable loans to the Firm or certain Supervised Persons of the Firm. The loan payments repayable by the Supervised Persons are forgiven over time so there is an incentive for the Firm to maintain its relationship with LPL as custodian for advisory clients.

The loan is provided by LPL as transition assistance to the Firm. On the last business day of the month after the six month anniversary of the relationship between the Firm and LPL, LPL will review assets custodied with LPL and provide the loan based those assets. Therefore, there is a conflict of interest to have as much assets under management at LPL as possible in order to receive a larger forgivable loan. In addition, forgiveness of the loan, in whole or in part, is conditioned on assets at LPL. As such, the Firm and its Supervised Persons have a financial incentive to recommend that its clients maintain their accounts with LPL.

The receipt of the loans creates conflicts of interest relating to CT Financial Partners's advisory business because it creates a financial incentive for the Firm and its Supervised Persons to recommend clients maintain their advisory accounts with LPL. CT Financial Partners seeks to mitigate these conflicts of interest by evaluating LPL's services to determine that the recommendation to use LPL is based on the benefits that such services provide to clients, rather than the benefits received by the Firm or its Supervised Person. As set forth above, the Firm periodically and systematically reviews its policies and procedures regarding its recommendation of Financial Institutions in light of its duty to obtain best execution, including its recommendation of LPL. However, clients should be aware of this conflict and take it into consideration in making a decision whether to custody their assets with LPL through CT Financial Partners.

Brokerage for Client Referrals

CT Financial Partners does not consider, in selecting or recommending broker-dealers, whether the Firm receives client referrals from the Financial Institutions or other third party.

Directed Brokerage

The client may direct CT Financial Partners in writing to use a particular Financial Institution to execute some or all transactions for the client. In that case, the client will negotiate terms and arrangements for the account with that Financial Institution and the Firm will not seek better execution services or prices from other Financial Institutions or be able to "batch" client transactions for execution through other Financial Institutions with orders for other accounts managed by CT Financial Partners (as described above). As a result, the client may pay higher commissions or other transaction costs, greater spreads or may receive less favorable net prices, on transactions for the account than would otherwise be the case. Subject to its duty of best execution, CT Financial Partners may decline a client's request to direct brokerage if, in the Firm's sole discretion, such directed brokerage arrangements would result in additional operational difficulties.

Trade Aggregation

Transactions for each client will be affected independently, unless CT Financial Partners decides to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time. CT Financial Partners may (but is not obligated to) combine or "batch" such orders to obtain best execution, to negotiate more favorable commission rates or to allocate equitably among the Firm's clients differences in prices and commissions or other transaction costs that might not have been obtained had such orders been placed independently. Under this procedure, transactions will be averaged as to price and allocated among CT Financial Partners's clients pro rata to the purchase and sale orders placed for each client on any given day. To the extent that the Firm determines to aggregate client orders for the purchase or sale of securities, including securities in which CT Financial Partners's Supervised Persons may invest, the Firm does so in accordance with applicable rules promulgated under the Advisers Act and no-action guidance provided by

the staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. CT Financial Partners does not receive any additional compensation or remuneration as a result of the aggregation.

In the event that the Firm determines that a prorated allocation is not appropriate under the particular circumstances, the allocation will be made based upon other relevant factors, which include: (i) when only a small percentage of the order is executed, shares may be allocated to the account with the smallest order or the smallest position or to an account that is out of line with respect to security or sector weightings relative to other portfolios, with similar mandates; (ii) allocations may be given to one account when one account has limitations in its investment guidelines which prohibit it from purchasing other securities which are expected to produce similar investment results and can be purchased by other accounts; (iii) if an account reaches an investment guideline limit and cannot participate in an allocation, shares may be reallocated to other accounts (this may be due to unforeseen changes in an account's assets after an order is placed); (iv) with respect to sale allocations, allocations may be given to accounts low in cash; (v) in cases when a pro rata allocation of a potential execution would result in a de minimis allocation in one or more accounts, the Firm may exclude the account(s) from the allocation; the transactions may be executed on a pro rata basis among the remaining accounts; or (vi) in cases where a small proportion of an order is executed in all accounts, shares may be allocated to one or more accounts on a random basis.

Item 13. Review of Accounts

Account Reviews

CT Financial Partners monitors client portfolios on a continuous and ongoing basis and regular account reviews, which consist of checking cash levels, asset allocations, and exposure limits to individual securities are conducted monthly. Client reviews, where CT Financial Partners ensures that they are up to date on the client's goals and objectives, taking into account changes to the client's financial situation, are conducted on a periodic basis. Client reviews are offered on a quarterly basis, but are required to be conducted at least annually. Such reviews are conducted by the Firm's investment adviser representatives. All investment advisory clients are encouraged to discuss their needs, goals and objectives with CT Financial Partners and to keep the Firm informed of any changes thereto.

Account Statements and Reports

Clients are provided with transaction confirmation notices and regular summary account statements directly from the Financial Institutions where their assets are custodied. Clients should compare the account statements they receive from their custodian with any documents or reports they receive from CT Financial Partners or an outside service provider.

Item 14. Client Referrals and Other Compensation

Client Referrals

The Firm does not currently provide compensation to any third-party solicitors for client referrals.

Other Compensation

The Firm receives economic benefits from LPL. The benefits, conflicts of interest and how they are addressed are discussed above in response to Item 12.

Item 15. Custody

CT Financial Partners is deemed to have custody of client funds and securities because the Firm is given the ability to debit client accounts for payment of the Firm's fees. As such, client funds and securities are maintained at one or more Financial Institutions that serve as the qualified custodian with respect to such assets. Such qualified custodians will send account statements to clients at least once per calendar quarter that typically detail any transactions in such account for the relevant period.

In addition, as discussed in Item 13, CT Financial Partners will also send, or otherwise make available, periodic supplemental reports to clients. Clients should carefully review the statements sent directly by the Financial Institutions and compare them to those received from CT Financial Partners. Any other custody disclosures can be found in the Firm's Form ADV Part 1.

Item 16. Investment Discretion

CT Financial Partners is given the authority to exercise discretion on behalf of clients. CT Financial Partners is considered to exercise investment discretion over a client's account if it can effect and/or direct transactions in client accounts without first seeking their consent. CT Financial Partners is given this authority through a power-of-attorney included in the agreement between CT Financial Partners and the client. Clients may request a limitation on this authority (such as certain securities not to be bought or sold). CT Financial Partners takes discretion over the following activities:

- The securities to be purchased or sold;

- The amount of securities to be purchased or sold; and
- When securities transactions are made.

Item 17. Voting Client Securities

Declination of Proxy Voting Authority

CT Financial Partners does not accept the authority to vote a client's securities (i.e., proxies) on their behalf. Clients receive proxies directly from the Financial Institutions where their assets are custodied and may contact the Firm at the contact information on the cover of this brochure with questions about any such issuer solicitations.

Item 18. Financial Information

CT Financial Partners is not required to disclose any financial information listed in the instructions to Item 18 because:

- The Firm does not require or solicit the prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees six months or more in advance of services rendered;
- The Firm does not have a financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet contractual commitments to clients; and
- The Firm has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years.

Item 19. Requirement for State Registered Advisers

Principal Executive Officers and Management Persons

CRAIG S. THISTLETHWAITE

Born 1970

Post-Secondary Education

University of Toledo | B.B.A., Finance | 1995

Recent Business Background

CT Financial Partners, LLC | Managing Member & Investment Adviser Representative | March 2023 – Present

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney | Financial Advisor | December 2006 – January 2023

Additional Information

Neither the Firm nor its Supervised Persons are compensated for advisory services with performance-based fees. Neither the Firm nor its Supervised Persons have a material relationship or arrangement with any issuers of securities.

CT Financial Partners is required to disclose information regarding Craig S. Thistlethwaite's involvement in certain civil, self-regulatory organization or administrative proceedings, arbitration awards or findings, or bankruptcy proceedings. Without admitting or denying the findings, Mr. Thistlethwaite consented to the sanctions and to the entry of findings that he exercised discretionary authority to effect trades in two related customers' accounts without obtaining written authorization from the customers and without his member firm having accepted the accounts as discretionary while Mr. Thistlethwaite was employed by Morgan Stanley. FINRA's findings stated that Mr. Thistlethwaite caused Morgan Stanley to maintain incomplete books and records by exchanging business-related communications, including communications concerning securities transactions, with a firm customer via text message from his personal cellular device without the firm's approval. Because these communications were sent via an unapproved communications platform, they were not captured and preserved by Morgan Stanley. Mr. Thistlethwaite was subject to a 60-day suspension and was fined \$10,000.

CAREY M. THISTLETHWAITE

Born 1978

Post-Secondary Education

Ohio Northern University | B.S.B.A., International Business & Economics | 2000

Recent Business Background

CT Financial Partners, LLC | Chief Compliance Officer & Investment Adviser Representative | March 2023 – Present

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney | Associate | November 2011 – November 2018

Additional Information

Neither the Firm nor its Supervised Persons are compensated for advisory services with performance-based fees. Neither the Firm nor its Supervised Persons have been the subject of the type of disciplinary event that warrants disclosure pursuant to this Item. Neither the Firm nor its Supervised Persons have a material relationship or arrangement with any issuers of securities.