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This Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Portico Financial Group, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure, please contact us at 512-568-9635 or via email at mike@porticofinancialgroup.com. The information in this Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") or by any state securities authority.

Portico Financial Group, LLC ("Portico") is a Registered Investment Adviser. Registration of an Investment Adviser does not imply any level of skill or training. The oral and written communications of an Adviser provide you with information that you may use to determine whether to hire or retain them. Additional information about Portico is also available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

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# **Item 2 - Material Changes**

Since our last filing on February 13, 2024 we have updated our address.

In the future, we will ensure that you receive a summary of any material changes to this and subsequent Brochures within 120 days of the close of our business' fiscal year which is December 31st. We will provide other ongoing disclosure information about material changes as necessary. We will also provide you with a new Brochure, as necessary, based on changes or new information. Currently, our Brochure may be requested at any time, without charge, by contacting Michael Karbouski at 512-568-9635.

Additional information about Portico is also available via the SEC's website <a href="www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>. You can search this site by using a unique identifying number, known as a CRD number. The CRD number for Portico is 168810. The SEC's web site also provides information about any persons affiliated with Portico who are registered, or are required to be registered, as Investment Adviser Representatives of Portico.

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## **Item 4 - Advisory Business Introduction**

Portico is a Registered Investment Adviser ("Adviser") which offers investment advice, securities, insurance, and other financial services to clients.

We provide investment advice through Investment Adviser Representatives ("Advisor") associated with us. These individuals are appropriately licensed, qualified, and authorized to provide advisory services on our behalf. In addition, all advisors are required to have a college degree, professional designation, or equivalent professional experience.

Portico was founded in 2011 by Michael Karbouski who serves as a Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer. We provide portfolio management services to individuals, high net worth individuals, corporate pension and profit-sharing plans, corporations, and small businesses.

We also provide consulting and advisory services for employer-sponsored retirement plans in accordance with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA"). We provide ERISA 3(21) fiduciary services. When delivering ERISA services, we will perform these services for the retirement plan as a fiduciary under ERISA Section 3(21)(A)(ii) will act in good faith and with the degree of diligence, care, and skill that a prudent person rendering similar services would exercise under similar circumstances. ERISA 3(21) services are provided on a non-discretionary basis. We provide investment fiduciaries with an organized process for making informed and consistent decisions.

Portico is an independent firm that was founded with the goal of providing comprehensive and objective financial advice from highly qualified, experienced professionals with the highest degree of integrity. We have spent many years developing expert-level knowledge of the financial industry. We are committed to the precept that by placing the client's interests first, we will add value to the asset management and financial planning process and earn the client's trust and respect. We value long-term relationships with our clients whom we regard as strategic partners in our business.

## **Services**

We provide various asset management and financial planning services, with an emphasis on retirement planning and services. We also provide ERISA 3(21) fiduciary services, in order to lessen a plan sponsor's fiduciary responsibilities, while helping to improve an individual's investment decision-making process. Our focus is on helping you develop and execute plans that are designed to build and preserve your wealth.

As of December 31, 2024, we managed \$22,730,472 in discretionary assets and \$1,696,120 in non-discretionary assets.

We manage client accounts on a discretionary basis or nondiscretionary basis, which means the client decides whether to give us the authority to determine the following with/without your consent:

- Securities to be bought or sold for your account
- Amount of securities to be bought or sold for your account

- Broker-dealer to be used for a purchase or sale of securities for your account
- Commission rates to be paid to a broker or dealer for your securities transaction.

While you may decide to grant us trading discretion on your account (i.e., placing trades in your account without your approval), trading activity is generally limited to help minimize your trading costs. Trading may be required to meet initial allocation targets, after substantial cash deposits that require investment allocation, and/or after a request for a withdrawal that requires liquidation of a position. Additionally, your account may be rebalanced or reallocated periodically in order to reestablish the targeted percentages of your initial asset allocation. This rebalancing or reallocation will occur on the schedule we have determined together. You will be responsible for any and all tax consequences resulting from any rebalancing or reallocation of the account. We are not tax professionals and do not give tax advice. However, we will work with your tax professionals to assist you with tax planning. You will have the opportunity to meet with us periodically to review the assets in your account.

## 1. Financial Planning

We provide services such as comprehensive financial planning, estate planning, business planning and educational planning. Fee based financial planning is a comprehensive relationship which incorporates many different aspects of your financial status into an overall plan that meets your goals and objectives. The financial planning relationship consists of face-to-face meetings and ad hoc meetings with you and/or your other advisors (attorneys, accountants, etc.) as necessary.

In performing financial planning services, we typically examine and analyze your overall financial situation, which may include issues such as taxes, insurance needs, overall debt, credit, business planning, retirement savings and reviewing your current investment program. Our services may focus on all or only one of these areas depending upon the scope of our engagement with you.

It is essential that you provide the information and documentation we request regarding your income, investments, taxes, insurance, estate plan, etc. We will discuss your investment objectives, needs and goals, but you are obligated to inform us of any changes. We do not verify any information obtained from you, your attorney, accountant, or other professionals.

If you engage us to perform these services, you will receive a written agreement detailing the services, fees, terms, and conditions of the relationship. You will also receive this Brochure. You are under no obligation to implement recommendations through us. You may implement your financial plan through any financial organization of your choice.

We obtain information from a wide variety of publicly available sources. We do not have any inside private information about any investments that are recommended. All recommendations developed by us are based upon our professional judgment. We cannot guarantee the results of any of our recommendations. Choosing which advice to follow is your decision.

## 2. Asset Management

Asset management is the professional management of securities (stocks, bonds and other securities) and assets (e.g., real estate) in order to meet your specified investment goals. With an Asset Management Account, you engage us to assist you in developing a personalized asset allocation program and custom-tailored portfolio designed to meet your unique investment objectives. The investments in the portfolio account may include mutual funds, stocks, bonds, or exchange-traded funds.

We will meet with you to discuss your financial circumstances, investment goals and objectives, and to determine your risk tolerance. We will ask you to provide statements summarizing current investments, income and other earnings, recent tax returns, retirement plan information, other assets and liabilities, wills and trusts, insurance policies, and other pertinent information. Based on the information you share with us, we will analyze your situation and recommend an appropriate asset allocation or investment strategy. You will be provided with a targeted strategic allocation of assets by class, as well as limited investment advice. Our recommendations and ongoing management are based upon your investment goals and objectives, risk tolerance, and the investment portfolio you have selected. We will monitor the account, trade as necessary, and communicate regularly with you. Your circumstances shall be monitored annual account reviews. These reviews will be conducted in person, by telephone conference, and/or via a written inquiry/questionnaire. We will work with you on an ongoing basis to evaluate your asset allocation as well as rebalance your portfolio to keep it in line with your goals as necessary. We will be reasonably available to help you with questions about your account. You will also receive our Advisory Agreement which describes what services you will receive and what fees you will be charged.

#### We will:

- Review your present financial situation
- Monitor and track assets under management
- Provide portfolio statements, periodic rate of return reports, asset allocation statement, rebalanced statements as needed
- Advise on asset selection
- Determine market divisions through asset allocation models
- Provide research and information on performance and fund management changes
- Build a risk management profile for you
- Assist you in setting and monitoring goals and objectives
- Provide personal consultations as necessary upon your request or as needed.

You are obligated to notify us promptly when your financial situation, goals, objectives, or needs change.

You shall have the ability to impose reasonable restrictions on the management of your account, including the ability to instruct us not to purchase certain mutual funds, stocks, or other securities. These restrictions may be a specific company security, industry sector, asset class, or any other restriction you request.

Under certain conditions, securities from outside accounts may be transferred into your advisory account; however, we may recommend that you sell any security if we believe that it is not suitable for the current recommended investment strategy. You are responsible for any taxable events in these instances. Certain assumptions may be made with respect to interest and inflation rates and the use of past trends and performance of the market and economy. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

If you decide to implement our recommendations, we will help you open a custodial account(s). The funds in your account will generally be held in a separate account, in your name, at an independent custodian, and not with us. We recommend using Charles Schwab & Co ("Schwab"), Member FINRA/SPIC/NFA; however, you may use any custodian you wish.

You will enter into a separate custodial agreement with the custodian. This agreement, among other things, authorizes the custodian to take instructions from us regarding all investment decisions for your account. We will select the securities bought and sold and the amount to be bought and sold, within the parameters of the objectives and risk tolerance of your account. The custodian will effect transactions, deliver securities, make payments, and do what we instruct. You are notified of any purchases or sales through trade confirmations and monthly statements that are provided by the custodian. These statements list the total value at the start of the quarter, itemize all transaction activity during the quarter, and list the types, amounts, and total value of securities held as of the end of the quarter. Your statement may be in either printed or electronic form based upon your preferences. You will at all times maintain full and complete ownership rights to all assets held in your account, including the right to withdraw securities or cash, proxy voting and receiving transaction confirmations.

We will also provide you with a quarterly performance statement starting at the end of the first full calendar quarter after signing the Client Advisory Agreement. These statements give you additional feedback regarding performance, educate you about our long-term investment philosophy, and describe any changes in current strategy and allocation along with the reasons for making these changes.

We are available during normal business hours either by telephone, fax, email, or in person by appointment to answer your questions.

# 3. Qualified Retirement Plan Advisory Services

Plan sponsors are increasingly looking for an investment advisor to help shoulder fiduciary responsibilities. Under 3(21) fiduciary advisory arrangement Portico will assist in the recommendation of investments to plan sponsors, monitor the selected investments to ensure performance, provide participant education, and provide guidance throughout the fiduciary process. We also provide educational seminars to the plan participants and potential plan participants and make recommendations on the products in the plan.

As an ERISA Section 3(21) fiduciary, we do not have authority to make and implement fiduciary decisions for the plan. Our recommendations relieve plan sponsors of some of the liability associated with their investment decisions when the decisions are based on our advice. This allows for the plan sponsor/trustee to retain ultimate decision-making authority for investments and may accept or reject the recommendations. The plan sponsor is responsible for the selection and monitoring of the 3(21)-investment manager and implementation of any of the 3(21)-investment manager's investment recommendations and assumes responsibility and liability for any overriding decisions made by the plan

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sponsor. The plan sponsor will have the opportunity to meet with us periodically to review the plan strategies.

We will conduct research to determine appropriate investment selections and allocations and to project potential ranges of returns and market values over various time periods and using various cash flows.

The data used to determine the investment options is based on estimated, forward-looking performance of various asset classes and subclasses to create our forward-looking capital markets assumptions (e.g., expected return, expected standard deviation, correlation, etc.). Past performance and the return estimates of the asset classes and the indexes that correspond to these asset classes may not be representative of actual future performance. Actual results could differ, based on various factors including the expenses associated with the management of the portfolio, the portfolio's securities versus the securities comprising the various indexes and general market conditions. Before a specific investment is selected, other factors such as economic trends, which may influence the choice of investments and risk tolerance, should be considered. We have the responsibility and authority to determine the investment line up including evaluating investment managers and mutual fund companies, individual mutual funds, and money market funds which may be retained or replaced.

We also encourage you to consult with your other professional advisors since we do not provide tax or legal advice that may affect asset classes or allocations used in the modeling. We will apply guidelines you supply, as directed, however, compliance with these restrictions or guidelines is your responsibility.

We will assist you in creating a written investment policy statement ("IPS") to document the plan's investment goals and objectives as well as certain policies governing the investment of assets. The IPS also identifies an investment strategy that seeks to attain the plan's goals.

We will assist with the establishment, execution, and interpretation of the Investment Policy Statement. The Investment Policy Statement serves as a guide to assist in effectively supervising, monitoring, and evaluating the investment of the plan's assets. We will prepare a draft of the IPS based upon information furnished by you and your firm designed to profile various factors for the account such as investment objectives, risk tolerances, projected cash flow, and demographics of your retirement plan participants. It is your responsibility to provide all necessary information for the preparation of the IPS, particularly any limitations imposed by law or otherwise. This draft IPS is then submitted to you for review and approval. We recommend that your professional advisors, such as an attorney, actuary, and/or accountant, also review the IPS.

Upon your final approval, it is our responsibility to adhere to the IPS in managing the retirement program. We encourage you to review accounts periodically to verify our compliance with the IPS.

The Investment Policy Statement will be reviewed at least annually to determine whether stated investment objectives are still relevant and the continued feasibility of achieving those objectives. However, the Investment Policy Statement is not expected to vary much from year to year and the IPS will not be updated to account for short-term changes in market conditions or the economic environment.

We will also monitor the current managed investment line-up including the investment's performance compared to an applicable benchmark. If we determine that a fund no longer meets our criteria, we will select possible alternatives and assist in the selection of a replacement investment.

If you decide to implement any of our recommendations, we will help you open a custodial account(s) for the plan. The funds in your account will be held in a separate account, in the plan's name, at an independent custodian, not with us. The custodian will effect transactions, deliver securities, make payments, etc.

We may conduct plan participant meetings when a change is made either to the structure of the plan or if the investment lineup changes as a result of our decisions. We will detail the changes being made, how it affects the current participants, review the current investment opportunities, how participants may make changes to their investment selections, and will answer any questions a participant may have. We will review with the participants how to select the investments.

## 4. Other Services

We may recommend and sell life, accident and health, variable life, variable annuities, and HMO insurance. We will receive the usual and customary commissions associated with these sales from the insurance company. You will not pay a separate fee for these, and your advisory fee will not be reduced by any payments we receive from these sales.

Portico also offers to provide companies that do not receive Portico's ERISA 3(21) services with employee seminar consultations, in order to discuss the company's current 401(k) program. Portico would be providing information about the company's 401(k) plan and not the individual's account.

Portico also offers teaching and seminar services to companies and colleges regarding basic financial management.

# **Item 5 - Fees and Compensation**

We provide asset management and financial planning services for a fee. Our fees do not include brokerage commissions, transaction fees, and other related costs and expenses. You may incur certain charges imposed by custodians and other third parties. These include fees charged by managers, custodial fees, deferred sales charges, odd-lot differentials, transfer taxes, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. Mutual funds, money market funds and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) also charge internal management fees, which are disclosed in the fund's prospectus. These fees may include, but are not limited to, a management fee, upfront sales charges, and other fund expenses. We do not receive any compensation from these fees. All of these fees are in addition to the management fee you pay us. You should review all fees charged to fully understand the total amount of fees you will pay. Services similar to those offered by us may be available elsewhere for more or less than the amounts we charge.

You could invest in a mutual fund directly, without our services. In that case, you would not receive the services provided by us which are designed, among other things, to assist you in determining which mutual fund or funds are most appropriate to your financial condition and objectives.

Our Advisory-Agreement/Financial-Planning-Agreement defines what fees are charged and their frequency. We usually bill fees in advance on a quarterly basis. You will authorize the custodian to directly debit fees from your account held at the custodian and to pay us. Management fees are prorated for each contribution and withdrawal made during the applicable calendar quarter (with the exception of small inconsequential contributions and withdrawals). You will be provided with a quarterly statement reflecting deduction of the advisory fees.

Upon termination of any account, any prepaid fees that are in excess of the management services performed will be promptly refunded to you. Any fees that are due, but have not been paid, will be billed to you and are due immediately.

## 1. Financial Planning/Consulting Fees

You may want us to create a financial plan for you. We will work with you to create the plan. We can provide analysis and recommendations for retirement needs, estate planning needs, income tax planning, life and disability insurance needs, investment needs, and college education planning. You can have us create a full financial plan or select any of the individual modules.

Portico may provide a comprehensive financial plan for a fixed fee of \$500-1,000, depending upon the nature and complexity of the client's circumstances. All fees may be negotiable depending upon the nature and complexity of your circumstances.

If the plan is implemented through us, we may receive compensation from the sale of insurance products or services recommended in the financial plan. This compensation would be in addition to the financial planning fee you pay. The fees and expenses you pay for the purchase of these products may be more or less than the expenses you would pay should you decide to implement our recommendations through another investment advisory firm or broker-dealer and are typically determined by the broker-dealer or investment company sponsoring the product. Therefore, a conflict of interest may exist between our interests and your interests since we may recommend products that pay us compensation. We may have an incentive to recommend particular products based upon the potential compensation rather than your needs. This potential conflict is addressed in our Code of Ethics.

The Financial Planning Agreement will show the fee you will pay. Retainer fees are charged in advance. In the event that you cancel the Financial Planning Agreement, you will be responsible for the actual hours spent preparing the financial plan, up to the cancellation date, at the agreed upon hourly rate. A deposit of 50% of the fee is due at the time the agreement is signed. The remainder of the fee is due upon presentation of an investment plan or the rendering of consulting services. Investment plans will be presented to you within 90 days of the contract date, provided that all information needed to prepare the investment plan has been promptly provided to us. The financial planning agreement will terminate once you receive the final plan.

All recommendations developed by us are based upon our professional judgment. We cannot guarantee the results of any of our recommendations.

## 2. Asset Management Fee Schedule

We do not impose an account minimum for initiating a relationship. However, we may impose a minimum quarterly fee of \$375.00 which may be negotiable under certain circumstances. The fee charged is based upon the amount of money you invest. The total fee will be billed to the Client account unless arranged otherwise between us. Fees are charged quarterly, in advance. Payments are due and will be assessed on the first day of each quarter, based on the ending balance of the account under management for the preceding quarter and will be calculated as follows:

| Percentage    | Portfolio Size (AUM)                     |
|---------------|--|
| 1.10%         | \$0 - \$100,000                          |
| 1.00%         | \$100,001 - \$500,000                    |
| 0.75%         | \$500,001 - \$1,000,000                  |
| 0.40%         | \$1,000,001 - \$2,000,000                |
| 0.30%         | \$2,000,001 - \$3,000,000                |
| 0.20%         | \$3,000,001 +                            |
| 0.25% - 1.00% | Separate Fee for Alternative Investments |

The fees shown above are annual fees and may be negotiable based upon certain circumstances. You will be billed one fourth of this amount on a quarterly basis. No increase in the annual fee shall be effective without prior written notification to you. We also offer to manage alternative investments and charge a percentage of alternative investments under management ranging from 0.25% - 1.00% depending on the size and complexity of the investment under management. We do not charge our normal advisory fees for any alternative investments under management. We believe our advisory fee is reasonable considering the fees charged by other investment advisers offering similar services/programs.

In certain circumstances, advisory fees and account minimums may be negotiable based upon the nature and complexity of the client's circumstances, prior relationships, as well as related account holdings. Our fees will not be based upon a share of capital gains or capital appreciation of the funds or any portion of your funds.

Certain strategies offered by us involve investment in mutual funds. Load and no-load mutual funds may pay annual distribution charges, sometimes referred to as "12(b)(1) fees". These 12(b)(1) fees come from fund assets, and thus indirectly from clients' assets. We do not receive any compensation from these fees. The 12(b)(1) fee, deferred sales charges and other fee arrangements will be disclosed upon your request and are typically described in the applicable fund's prospectus.

Your account at the custodian may also be charged for certain additional assets managed for you by us but not held by the custodian (i.e., variable annuities, mutual funds, 401(k)s).

The fees we charge can be deducted directly from your account at the custodian. We will instruct the custodian to deduct the fees from your account at the end of the quarter. This fee will show up as a deduction on your following month's account statement from the custodian. Either party may terminate the relationship with a thirty (30) day written notice. Fees are due in full 15 days after receipt of the invoice.

## 3. Plan Advisory Fees

Our standard fee includes establishing your Investment Policy Statement, reviewing your plan structure, investment management, investment selection and monitoring, fund changes, participant education and reporting. The fee will be outlined in your Advisory Agreement with us. Our typical fee schedule is as follows:

| Basis Points | Portfolio Size (AUM) |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 0-50         | All Sizes            |

All asset based annual fee calculations will be based upon the market value of the plan assets on the date of execution of the advisory agreement and remain at that level for the remainder of the calendar year. These are paid per the fee schedule of the individual plan sponsors. Some may pay quarterly in arrears or in advance and some may pay monthly in arrears or in advance. The advisory agreement the plan sponsor has with us will outline exactly how the fees are charged and remitted to us.

You may also incur fees related to your use of outside service providers including third-party administrators and record keepers. The fee schedule for each outside service provider varies dramatically from service provider to service provider. The service provider's fees will also vary from plan to plan as each plan's structure and characteristics are different from the next, and are negotiable based upon prior relationships as well as related account holdings. Either party may terminate the Advisory Agreement in writing in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Advisory Agreement. Up to the date of termination, any unearned fees will be promptly refunded. Payment for any unpaid services up to the date of termination will be due immediately.

Portico also offers to provide companies with employee seminar consultations in order to discuss the company's current 401(k) program. Portico's fee for these services would be asset based and would get wrapped and included in the "Plan Expense" fee that the sponsor/company pays, which would be negotiated on a case-by-case basis. Portico would not receive any compensation from products sold, such as 12(b) (1) fees as a result of placing clients with mutual funds.

We believe our services help plan sponsors and plan fiduciaries meet their fiduciary duty to the plan and its participants. As a part of our services, we review the fees of service providers and the transparency of their fees. We will assist the plan sponsors with a review of service providers including the third-party administrator, daily record keeper, and custodian to ensure that their services, along with ours, remain competitive to alternatives that are available. Because we are a fee-only advisory firm, fee transparency from all parties is one of the most important aspects of our service.

## 4. Other Fees

Our Advisors may recommend and sell life, accident and health, variable life, variable annuities, and HMO insurance and will receive the usual and customary commissions in addition to any agreed upon advisory fee.

Portico also offers teaching and seminar services to companies and colleges regarding basic financial management principles and practices and charges an hourly rate in advance ranging from \$150 to \$300, which is based on nature and circumstances of the scope of work and is negotiable. The Financial Planning Agreement will show you the fee you pay, and the estimate of the amount of hours needed to complete the scope of work. Either party may terminate the Advisory Agreement in writing in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Advisory Agreement. Up to the date of termination, any unearned fees will be promptly refunded. Payment for any unpaid services up to the date of termination will be due immediately.

# Item 6 - Performance Based Fee and Side by Side Management

We do not charge any performance-based fees. These are fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a client.

# **Item 7 – Types of Clients**

We provide portfolio management services to individuals, high net worth individuals, corporate pension and profit-sharing plans, corporations, and small business owners.

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

We use combination of Modern Portfolio Theory and Strategic Asset Allocation as part of our overall investment management discipline. The implementation of these analyses as part of our investment advisory services to you may include any, all, or a combination of the following:

# 1. Modern Portfolio Theory (MPT)

We use publicly available research and reports regarding individual securities, issuers, investment strategies and performance of asset classes to select the funds they will offer. They also use Modern Portfolio Theory to help them select the funds they offer. Modern Portfolio Theory was created by some of the world's leading academic economists. They conducted extensive research, demonstrating that asset class selection (such as small-cap vs. large-cap, value vs. growth and U.S. vs. international)-not stock selection or market timing-is the most important determinant of portfolio performance. They also received a Nobel Prize for revealing these four tenets:

- 1. Markets process information so rapidly when determining security prices that it is extremely difficult to gain a competitive edge by taking advantage of market anomalies or inefficiencies.
- 2. Over time, riskier investments provide higher returns as compensation to investors for accepting greater risk.
- 3. Adding high-risk, low correlating asset classes to a portfolio can actually reduce volatility and increase expected rates of return.
- 4. Passive asset class fund portfolios can be designed to deliver over time the highest expected returns for a chosen level of risk.

Modern portfolio theory tries to understand the market as a whole, rather than looking for what makes each investment opportunity unique. Investments are described statistically, in terms of their expected long-term return rate and their expected short-term volatility. The volatility is equated with "risk," measuring how much worse than average an investment's bad years are likely to be. The end goal is to identify your acceptable level of risk tolerance, and then to find a portfolio with the maximum expected return for that level of risk.

## 2. Strategic Asset Allocation

We have asset allocation strategies covering everything from conservative income to very aggressive growth-oriented approaches that have been compiled by us. We will determine an asset allocation strategy for your portfolio that meets your goals and time horizon, while addressing the level of risk you are comfortable assuming. We screen and select funds and securities to be added to or removed you're your portfolio on a regular basis. Rebalancing can occur after a move in the market of 15% or more within any year but at least once per year based on the annual review of your financial situation.

## 3. Risks

We cannot guarantee our analysis methods will yield a return. In fact, a loss of principal is always a risk. Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you should be prepared to handle. You need to understand that investment decisions made for your account by us are subject to various market, currency, economic, political, and business risks. The investment decisions we make for you will not always be profitable nor can we guarantee any level of performance. A list of all risks associated with the strategies, products, and methodology we offer are listed below:

#### 1. Alternative Investment Risk

Investing in alternative investments is speculative, not suitable for all clients, and intended for experienced and sophisticated investors who are willing to bear the high economic risks of the investment, which can include:

- Loss of all or a substantial portion of the investment due to leveraging, short-selling or other speculative investment practices
- Lack of liquidity in that there may be no secondary market for the fund, and none expected to develop

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- Volatility of returns
- Absence of information regarding valuations and pricing
- Delays in tax reporting
- Less regulation and higher fees than mutual funds.

#### 2. Bond Fund Risk

Bond funds generally have higher risks than money market funds, largely because they typically pursue strategies aimed at producing higher yields of the risks associated with bond funds include:

- Call Risk The possibility that falling interest rates will cause a bond issuer to redeem—or call—its high-yielding bond before the bond's maturity date.
- Credit Risk the possibility that companies or other issuers whose bonds are owned by the
  fund may fail to pay their debts (including the debt owed to holders of their bonds). Credit
  risk is less of a factor for bond funds that invest in insured bonds or U.S. Treasury bonds. By
  contrast, those that invest in the bonds of companies with poor credit ratings generally will
  be subject to higher risk.
- Interest Rate Risk the risk that the market value of the bonds will go down when interest rates go up. Because of this, you can lose money in any bond fund, including those that invest only in insured bonds or Treasury bonds.
- Prepayment Risk the chance that a bond will be paid off early. For example, if interest rates fall, a bond issuer may decide to pay off (or "retire") its debt and issue new bonds that pay a lower rate. When this happens, the fund may not be able to reinvest the proceeds in an investment with as high a return or yield.

#### 3. Insurance Product Risk

The rate of return on variable insurance products is not stable, but varies with the stock, bond and money market subaccounts that you choose as investment options. There is no guarantee that you will earn any return on your investment and there is a risk that you will lose money. Before you consider purchasing a variable product, make sure you fully understand all of its terms. Carefully read the prospectus. Some of the major risks include:

- Liquidity and Early Withdrawal Risk There may be a surrender charges for withdrawals within a specified period, which can be as long as six to eight years. Any withdrawals before a client reaches the age of 59 ½ are generally subject to a 10 percent income tax penalty in addition to any gain being taxed as ordinary income.
- Sales and Surrender Charges Asset-based sales charges or surrender charges. These charges
  normally decline and eventually are eliminated the longer you hold your shares. For example,
  a surrender charge could start at 7 percent in the first year and decline by 1 percent per year
  until it reaches zero.
- Fees and Expenses There are a variety of fees and expenses which can reach 2% and more such as:

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- Mortality and expense risk charges
- o Administrative fees
- Underlying fund expenses
- Charges for any special features or riders.
- Bonus Credits Some products offer bonus credits that can add a specified percentage to the
  amount invested ranging from 1 percent to 5 percent for each premium payment. Bonus
  credits, however, are usually not free. In order to fund them, insurance companies typically
  impose high mortality and expense charges and lengthy surrender charge periods.
- Guarantees Insurance companies provide a number of specific guarantees. For example, they may guarantee a death benefit or an annuity payout option that can provide income for life. These guarantees are only as good as the insurance company that gives them.
- Market Risk The possibility that stock fund or bond fund prices overall will decline over short or even extended periods. Stock and bond markets tend to move in cycles, with periods when prices rise and other periods when prices fall.
- Principal Risk The possibility that an investment will go down in value, or "lose money," from the original or invested amount.

#### 4. Mutual Funds Risk

Mutual funds can offer the advantages of diversification and professional management. But, as with other investment choices, investing in mutual funds involves risk and fees and taxes will diminish a fund's returns.

But mutual funds also have features that some clients might view as disadvantages, such as:

- Costs despite Negative Returns Clients must pay sales charges, annual fees, and other expenses) regardless of how the fund performs. And, depending on the timing of their investment, clients may also have to pay taxes on any capital gains distribution they receive even if the fund went on to perform poorly after they bought shares.
- Lack of Control Investors typically cannot ascertain the exact make-up of a fund's portfolio at any given time, nor can they directly influence which securities the fund manager buys and sells or the timing of those trades.
- Price Uncertainty with an individual stock, you can obtain real-time (or close to real-time) pricing information with relative ease by checking financial websites or by calling your Advisor. You can also monitor how a stock's price changes from hour to hour. But with a mutual fund, the price you purchase or redeem shares for will typically depend on the fund's NAV, which the fund might not calculate until many hours after you've placed your order. In general, mutual funds must calculate their NAV at least once every business day, typically after the major U.S. exchanges close.

The following is a list of some general risks associated with investing in mutual funds.

- Country Risk The possibility that political events (a war, national elections), financial
  problems (rising inflation, government default), or natural disasters (an earthquake, a poor
  harvest) will weaken a country's economy and cause investments in that country to decline.
- Currency Risk -The possibility that returns could be reduced for Americans investing in foreign securities because of a rise in the value of the U.S. dollar against foreign currencies. Also called exchange-rate risk.
- Income Risk The possibility that a fixed-income fund's dividends will decline as a result of falling overall interest rates.
- Industry Risk The possibility that a group of stocks in a single industry will decline in price due to developments in that industry.
- Inflation Risk The possibility that increases in the cost of living will reduce or eliminate a fund's real inflation-adjusted returns.
- Manager Risk -The possibility that an actively managed mutual fund's investment adviser will
  fail to execute the fund's investment strategy effectively resulting in the failure of stated
  objectives.
- Market Risk -The possibility that stock fund or bond fund prices overall will decline over short or even extended periods. Stock and bond markets tend to move in cycles, with periods when prices rise and other periods when prices fall.
- Principal Risk -The possibility that an investment will go down in value, or "lose money," from the original or invested amount.

#### 5. Overall Fund Risk

- Clients need to remember that past performance is no guarantee of future results. All funds
  carry some level of risk. You may lose some or all of the money you invest, including your
  principal, because the securities held by a fund goes up and down in value. Dividend or
  interest payments may also fluctuate, or stop completely, as market conditions change.
- Before you invest, be sure to read a fund's prospectus and shareholder reports to learn about its investment strategy and the potential risks. Funds with higher rates of return may take risks that are beyond your comfort level and are inconsistent with your financial goals.

While past performance does not necessarily predict future returns, it can tell you how volatile (or stable) a fund has been over a period of time. Generally, the more volatile a fund, the higher the investment risk. If you'll need your money to meet a financial goal in the near-term, you probably can't afford the risk of investing in a fund with a volatile history because you will not have enough time to ride out any declines in the stock market.

#### 6. Stock Fund Risk

Although a stock fund's value can rise and fall quickly over the short term, historically stocks have performed better over the long term than other types of investments — including corporate bonds, government bonds, and treasury securities.

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Overall "market risk" poses the greatest potential danger for investors in stocks funds. Stock prices can fluctuate for a broad range of reasons, such as the overall strength of the economy or demand for particular products or services.

Not all stock funds are the same. For example:

- Growth funds focus on stocks that may not pay a regular dividend but have the potential for large capital gains.
- Income funds invest in stocks that pay regular dividends.
- Index funds aim to achieve the same return as a particular market index, such as the S&P 500
  Composite Index, by investing in all or perhaps a representative sample of the
  companies included in an index.
- Sector funds may specialize in a particular industry segment, such as technology or consumer products stocks.

# **Item 9 - Disciplinary Information**

Registered Investment Advisers are required to disclose all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to your evaluation of us or the integrity of our management. We have no information to disclose here about the Portico or any of our investment advisors. We adhere to high ethical standards for all advisors and associates. We strive to do what is in your best interests.

# Item 10 - Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

# 1. Insurance Agent

Michael Karbouski, the Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer for Portico, is a licensed insurance agent/broker with various companies. The sale of these products accounts for approximately 5% of his time.

Michael Karbouski may recommend insurance products and may also, as independent insurance agents, sell those recommended insurance products to Clients. When such recommendations or sales are made, a conflict of interest exists as the Insurance licensed Investment Adviser Reps earn insurance commissions for the sale of those products, which may create an incentive to recommend such products. We require that all Investment Adviser Reps disclose this conflict of interest when such recommendations are made. Also, we require Investment Adviser Reps to disclose that Clients may purchase recommended insurance products from other insurance agents not affiliated with us.

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# Item 11 - Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Accounts and Personal Trading

#### 1. General Information

We have adopted a Code of Ethics for all supervised persons of the firm describing its high standards of business conduct, and fiduciary duty to you, our client. The Code of Ethics includes provisions relating to the confidentiality of client information, a prohibition on insider trading, a prohibition of rumor mongering, restrictions on the acceptance of significant gifts, the reporting of certain gifts and business entertainment items, and personal securities trading procedures. All of our supervised persons must acknowledge the terms of the Code of Ethics annually, or as amended.

## 2. Participation or Interest in Client Accounts

We may recommend securities to you that we have purchased for our own accounts. We may trade securities in our account that we have recommended to you as long as we place our orders after your Orders. This policy is meant to prevent us from benefiting as a result of transactions placed on behalf of advisory accounts.

The following acts are prohibited:

- · Employing any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud
- Making any untrue statement of a material fact
- Omitting to state a material fact necessary in order to make a statement, in light of the circumstances under which it is made, not misleading
- Engaging in any fraudulent or deceitful act, practice, or course of business
- Engaging in any manipulative practices
- Participating in client accounts.

You may request a copy of the firm's Code of Ethics by contacting Michael Karbouski.

## 3. Personal Trading

We have established the following restrictions in order to ensure our fiduciary responsibilities to you are met:

- No securities for our personal portfolio(s) shall be bought or sold where this decision is substantially derived, in whole or in part, from the role of Investment Advisory Representative(s) of Portico, unless the information is also available to the investing public on reasonable inquiry. In no case, shall we put our own interests ahead of yours.
- We emphasize your unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice rendered.

However, some securities trade in sufficiently broad markets to permit transactions by clients to be completed without an appreciable impact on the markets of the securities. Under certain circumstances,

exceptions may be made to the policies stated above. Records of these trades, including the reasons for the exceptions, will be maintained with our records as required.

In addition, open-end mutual funds and/or investment sub-accounts which may comprise a variable insurance product are purchased or redeemed at a fixed net asset value. Therefore, purchases of mutual funds and/or variable insurance products by an advisor are not likely to have an impact on the prices of the fund in which you invest. These types of transactions are not prohibited by our policies and procedures.

Certain affiliated accounts may trade in the same securities with your accounts on an aggregated basis when consistent with our obligation of best execution. When trades are aggregated, all parties will share the costs in proportion to their investment. We will retain records of the trade Order (specifying each participating account) and its allocation. Completed Orders will be allocated as specified in the initial trade order. Partially filled Orders will be allocated on a pro rata basis. Any exceptions will be explained on the Order.

## 4. Privacy Statement

We are committed to safeguarding your confidential information and hold all personal information provided to us in the strictest confidence. These records include all personal information that we collect from you or receive from other firms in connection with any of the financial services they provide. We also require other firms with whom we deal with to restrict the use of your information. Our Privacy Policy is available upon request.

#### 5. Conflicts of Interest

We have a duty to disclose potential and actual conflicts of interest. Employees have a duty to report potential and actual conflicts of interest to management. Gifts (other than de minimis gifts, which are usually defined as having a value under \$100.00) should not be accepted from persons or entities doing business with us.

Michael Karbouski employs the same strategy for his personal investment account as he does for his clients. However, he does not place his orders in a way to benefit from the purchase or sale of a security.

We act in a fiduciary capacity. If a conflict of interest arises between us and you, we shall make every effort to resolve the conflict in your favor. Conflicts of interest may also arise in the allocation of investment opportunities among the accounts that we advise. We will seek to allocate investment opportunities according to what we believe is appropriate for each account. We strive to do what is equitable and in the best interests of all the accounts we advise.

## 6. Use of Disclaimers

We shall not attempt to limit liability for willful misconduct or gross negligence through the use of disclaimers.

## **Item 12 - Brokerage Practices**

Portico does not maintain custody of your assets that we manage, although we are deemed to have custody of your assets if you give us authority to withdraw assets from your account (see Item 15—Custody, below). Your assets must be maintained in an account at a "qualified custodian," generally a broker-dealer or bank. We recommend that our clients use Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("Schwab"), a registered broker-dealer and member of SIPC, as the qualified custodian.

We are independently owned and operated and are not affiliated with Schwab. Schwab will hold your assets in a brokerage account and buy and sell securities when we instruct them. While we recommend that you use Schwab as a custodian/ broker, you will decide whether to do so and will open your account with Schwab by entering into an account agreement directly with them. Conflicts of interest associated with this arrangement are described below as well as in Item 14 (Client referrals and other compensation). You should consider these conflicts of interest when selecting your custodian.

We do not open the account for you, although we can assist you in doing so. Not all advisors require their clients to use a particular broker-dealer or other custodian selected by the advisor. Even though your account is maintained at Schwab, and we anticipate that most trades will be executed through Schwab, we can still use other brokers to execute trades for your account as described below (see "Your brokerage and custody costs").

We recommend Schwab, a custodian/ broker, to hold your assets and execute transactions. When considering whether the terms that Schwab provides are, overall, most advantageous to you when compared with other available providers and their services, we take into account a wide range of factors, including:

- Combination of transaction execution services and asset custody services (generally without a separate fee for custody
- Capability to execute, clear, and settle trades (buy and sell securities for your account
- Capability to facilitate transfers and payments to and from accounts (wire transfers, check requests, bill payments, etc.
- Breadth of available investment products (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), etc.)
- Availability of investment research and tools that assist us in making investment decisions
- Quality of services
- Competitiveness of the price of those services (commission rates, margin interest rates, other fees, etc.) and willingness to negotiate the prices
- Reputation, financial strength, security, and stability
- Prior service to us and our clients
- Services delivered or paid for by Schwab
- Availability of other products and services that benefit us, as discussed below (see "Products and services available to us from Schwab")

## Your brokerage and custody costs

For our clients' accounts that Schwab maintains, Schwab generally does not charge you separately for custody services but is compensated by charging you commissions or other fees on trades that it executes or that settle into your Schwab account. Certain trades (for example, mutual funds and ETFs) do not incur Schwab commissions or transaction fees. Schwab is also compensated by earning interest on the

uninvested cash in your account in Schwab's Cash Features Program. For some accounts, Schwab charges you a percentage of the dollar amount of assets in the account in lieu of commissions. In addition to asset-based fees, Schwab charges you a flat dollar amount as a "prime broker" or "trade away" fee for each trade that we have executed by a different broker-dealer but where the securities bought or the funds from the securities sold are deposited (settled) into your Schwab account. These fees are in addition to the commissions or other compensation you pay the executing broker-dealer. Because of this, in order to minimize your trading costs, we have Schwab execute most trades for your account.

We are not required to select the broker or dealer that charges the lowest transaction cost, even if that broker provides execution quality comparable to other brokers or dealers. Although we are not required to execute all trades through Schwab, we have determined that having Schwab execute most trades is consistent with our duty to seek the "best execution" of your trades. Best execution means the most favorable terms for a transaction based on all relevant factors, including those listed above (see "How we select brokers/custodians"). By using another broker or dealer, you can pay lower transaction costs.

## 1. Soft Dollars

#### **Products & Services Available to Us from Schwab**

Schwab Advisor Services (formerly called Schwab Institutional) is Schwab's business serving independent investment advisory firms like ours. They provide us and our clients with access to its institutional brokerage – trading, custody, reporting, and related services – many of which are not typically available to Schwab retail customers. Schwab also makes available various support services. Some of those services help us manage or administer our clients' accounts, while others help us manage and grow our business. Schwab's support services are generally available on an unsolicited basis and at no charge to us as long as we maintain a total of at least \$10 million of our clients' assets in accounts at Schwab.

#### **Services that Benefit Client**

Schwab's institutional brokerage services include access to a broad range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of client assets. The investment products available through Schwab include some to which we might not otherwise have access, or that would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment by our clients. Schwab's services described in this paragraph generally benefit clients or their account(s).

## **Services that May Not Directly Benefit Clients**

Schwab also makes available to us other products and services that benefit us but cannot directly benefit the client or their account(s). These products and services assist us in managing and administering our clients' accounts. They include investment research, both Schwab's own and that of third parties. We can use this research to service all or some substantial number of our clients' accounts, including accounts not maintained at Schwab. In addition to investment research, Schwab also makes available software and other technology that:

- provides access to client account data (such as duplicate trade confirmations and account statements);
- facilitates trade execution and allocates aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts;
- provides pricing and other market data;
- facilitates payment of our fees from our clients' accounts; and
- assists with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and client reporting.

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Schwab also offers other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. These services include:

- educational conferences and events
- technology, compliance, legal, and business consulting;
- publications and conferences on practice management and business succession; and
- access to employee benefits providers, human capital consultants, and insurance providers.

Schwab can provide some of these services itself. In other cases, it will arrange for third-party vendors to provide the services to us. Schwab can also discount or waive its fees for some of these services or pay all or a part of a third party's fees.

Irrespective of direct or indirect benefits to our client through Schwab, we strive to enhance the client's experience, help reach their goals and put their interests before that of our firm or its associated persons.

#### 2. Best Execution

We have an obligation to seek best execution for you. In seeking best execution, the determinative factor is not the lowest possible commission cost but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of a broker-dealer's services, including the value of research provided, execution capability, commission rates, and responsiveness. Therefore, we will seek competitive commission rates, but we may not obtain the lowest possible commission rates for account transactions.

# 3. Brokerage for Client Referrals

We do not receive any compensation or incentive for referring you to broker-dealers for brokerage trades.

# 4. Directed Brokerage

#### **Investment Advisory Clients**

Not all advisory firms require you to direct brokerage to a specific broker-dealer or custodian. We have an obligation to seek best execution for you. In seeking best execution, the determinative factor is not the lowest possible commission cost but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of a broker-dealer's services, including the value of research provided, execution capability, commission rates, and responsiveness. Therefore, we will seek competitive commission rates, but we may not obtain the lowest possible commission rates for account transactions.

By directing brokerage to Schwab, you may pay higher fees or transaction costs than those obtainable by other broker-dealers or custodians. In most cases, we believe you are paying a discounted and reasonable rate.

If you elect to select your own broker-dealer or custodian and direct us to use them, you may pay higher or lower fees than what is available through our relationships. Generally, we will not negotiate lower rates below the rates established by the executing broker-dealer or custodian for this type of directed

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brokerage account, unless we believe that such rate is unfair or unreasonable for the size and type of transaction.

#### **Qualified Plan Clients**

You may direct us to us the broker-dealer of your choice. We are independently owned and operated and not affiliated with any of the custodians that we recommend. It is the responsibility of the plan's Investment Committee to review custodial and service provider relationships. When evaluating a custodian or service provider, we analyze and compare custodians on both trade capabilities and execution and fees. We will also review the custodian's size, market share, ability to timely execute trades electronically as well as over the phone, the markets in which the custodian participates and its market making capabilities, the ability to negotiate fees, the custodian's trade error procedures, its ease of use, the availability of the sales, operations, and technology teams to improve our ability to serve our clients, the custodians financials, regulatory actions taken against the custodian, and general news about the custodian. We will also review the fee schedule of each custodian and service provider as well as those of other custodians and service providers currently not used by the plan to compare fees and to ensure the reasonableness of the fees charged. We do not necessarily weight any particular capability of a custodian or service provider over another however trade execution and the ability to negotiate fees to reduce your total costs are two very important factors.

If requested, we will arrange for the execution of securities brokerage transactions for your account through Broker-Dealers that we reasonably believe will provide "best execution." These transactions will take place through one of several broker-dealers depending upon where your account is custodied. In seeking best execution, the determinative factor is not the lowest possible commission cost but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of a Broker-Dealer's services including the value of research provided, execution capability, commission rates, and responsiveness. Therefore, we will seek competitive commission rates, but we may not obtain the lowest possible commission rates for account transactions.

## 5. Trading

Transactions for each client account generally will be effected independently unless we decide to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time. We may (but are not obligated to) combine or "batch" such Orders to obtain best execution, to negotiate more favorable commission rates or to allocate equitably among our clients' differences in prices and commission or other transaction costs. Under this procedure, transactions will be price-averaged and allocated among our clients in proportion to the purchase and sale orders placed for each client account on any given day.

## **Item 13 - Review of Accounts**

## 1. Duty to Supervise

Michael Karbouski, CCO, is responsible for ensuring adequate supervision over the activities of all persons who act on our behalf. Specific duties include:

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- Establish procedures that could be reasonably expected to prevent and detect violations of law by our advisory personnel
- Analyze operations and create a system of controls to ensure compliance with applicable securities laws
- Ensure that all advisory personnel fully understand the Company's policies and procedures
- Establish a review system designed to provide reasonable assurance that our policies and procedures are effective and being followed.

## 2. Reviews

## **Investment Advisory Services**

Reviews will be conducted by us at least annually or as agreed to by us. You may request more frequent reviews and may set thresholds for triggering events that would cause a review to take place. Generally, we will monitor for changes and shifts in the economy, changes to the management and structure of a mutual fund or company in which client assets are invested, and market shifts and corrections.

#### **Qualified Plan Services**

We will meet with the plan's Investment Committee at least annually to review the current investments, custodial and service provider arrangements, and the Investment Policy Statement. The Investment Committee may decide to increase the frequency of its meetings. Should that occur, the IPS will be revised to denote such a change and we will begin reviewing the plan's investments at the intervals determined by the Investment Committee. Unless directed to do so by the Investment Committee, we will only review custodial and service provider arrangements on an annual basis. These meetings are attended by Allison Michael Karbouski, the CCO.

## 3. Reports

You will be provided with account statements reflecting the transactions occurring in the account on at least a quarterly basis. These statements will be written or electronic depending upon what you selected when you opened the account. You will be provided with paper confirmations for each securities transaction executed in the account. You are obligated to notify us of any discrepancies in the account(s) or any concerns you have about the account(s).

# Item 14 - Client Referrals and Other Compensation

We receive an economic benefit from Schwab in the form of the support products and services it makes available to us and other independent investment advisors whose clients maintain their accounts at Schwab. In addition, Schwab has also agreed to pay for certain products and services for which we would otherwise have to pay once the value of our clients' assets in accounts at Schwab reaches a certain size. [In some cases, a recipient of such payments is an affiliate of ours or another party which has some pecuniary, financial, or other interests in us (or in which we have such an interest). You do not pay more for assets maintained at Schwab as a result of these arrangements. However, we benefit from the arrangement because the cost of these services would otherwise be borne directly by us. You should

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consider these conflicts of interest when selecting a custodian. The products and services provided by Schwab, how they benefit us, and the related conflicts of interest are described above (see Item 12 – Brokerage Practices).

We do not pay a referral fee to third-party solicitors.

# Item 15 - Custody

Under government regulations, we are deemed to have custody of your assets if, for example, you authorize us to instruct Schwab to deduct our advisory fees directly from your account [or if you grant us authority to move your money to another person's account. Schwab maintains actual custody of your assets. You will receive account statements directly from Schwab at least quarterly. They will be sent to the email or postal mailing address you provided to Schwab. You should carefully review those statements promptly when you receive them. We also urge you to compare Schwab's account statements with the periodic account statements and/or portfolio reports you will receive from us.

## Item 16 - Investment Discretion

We usually receive discretionary authority from you at the beginning of an advisory relationship to select the identity and amount of securities to be bought or sold. This information is described in the Advisory Agreement you sign with us. In all cases, however, this discretion is exercised in a manner consistent with your stated investment objectives for your account.

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

We require that any investment guidelines and/or restrictions be provided to us in writing.

If we do not receive discretionary authority from you to select the type of securities and amount of securities to be bought or sold, we usually only have the ability to rebalance and reallocate your accounts on a quarterly basis, with your permission. For our 3(21) fiduciary advisory services for a qualified plan, we will receive nondiscretionary authority at the beginning of the relationship and do not have the authority to determine and select securities that are in the plan. The Advisory Agreement details this in full.

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# **Item 17 - Voting Client Securities**

As a matter of firm policy and practice, we do not have any authority to and do not vote proxies on behalf of advisory clients. You retain the responsibility for receiving and voting proxies for any and all securities maintained in your portfolios. We may provide advice to you regarding your voting of proxies. We are authorized to instruct the custodian to forward you copies of all proxies and shareholder communications relating to your account assets.

## Item 18 - Financial Information

We are required to provide you with certain financial information or disclosures about our financial condition. We have no financial commitment that would impair our ability to meet any contractual and fiduciary commitments to you, our client. We have not been the subject of any bankruptcy proceedings. In no event shall we charge advisory fees that are both in excess of five hundred dollars and more than six months in advance of advisory services rendered.

# Item 19 - Requirements for State Registered Advisers

## **Firm Principals**

There is one principal of Portico, Michael Karbouski. He is the Chief Compliance Officer and Managing Member and was born in 1965. His information is as follows:

# ADV Part 2B Brochure Supplement - Michael Karbouski

Item 1 - Cover Page

# Michael Karbouski

Portico Financial Group, LLC

1006 Convair St.

Bentonville, AR 72712

512-568-9635

www.porticofinancialgroup.com

This Brochure supplement provides information about Michael Karbouski (CRD# 1601923) and supplements the Portico Financial Group, LLC ("Portico") Brochure. You should have received a copy of that Brochure. Please contact Michael Karbouski if you did not receive the Brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Portico is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

## Item 2 - Educational Background and Business Experience

#### **Education**

Master of Business Administration 2004

Keller Graduate School of Management, DeVry University

Bachelor of Business Administration - Finance 1988

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

#### **Designations**

CFP R 2006

College of Financial Planning, Denver, CO

#### **Minimum Designation Requirements**

## Certified Financial Planner (CFP) ®

The CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, CFP® and federally registered CFP (with flame design) marks (collectively, the "CFP® marks") are professional certification marks granted in the United States by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. ("CFP Board").

The CFP® certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP® certification. It is recognized in the United States and a number of other countries for its (1) high standard of professional education; (2) stringent code of conduct and standards of practice; and (3) ethical requirements that govern professional engagements with clients. Currently, more than 62,000 individuals have obtained CFP® certification in the United States.

To attain the right to use the CFP® marks, an individual must satisfactorily fulfill the following requirements:

**Prerequisites/Experience:** Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent, measured as 2,000 hours per year)

**Educational Requirements:** Complete an advanced college level course of study addressing the financial planning subject areas that CFP Board's studies have determined as necessary for the competent and professional delivery of financial planning services, and attain a Bachelor's Degree from a regionally accredited United States college or university (or its equivalent from a foreign university). CFP Board's financial planning subject areas include insurance planning and risk management, employee benefits planning, investment planning, income tax planning, retirement planning, and estate planning.

**Examination Type:** Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination, administered in 10 hours over a two-day period, includes case studies and client scenarios designed to test one's ability to correctly diagnose financial planning Issues and apply one's knowledge of financial planning to real world circumstances.

**Ethics:** Agree to be bound by CFP Board's Standards of Professional/Conduct, a set of documents outlining the ethical and practice standards for CFP® professionals.

Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to continue to use the CFP® marks:

**Continuing Education/Experience Requirements:** Complete 30 hours of continuing education hours every two years, including two hours on the Code of Ethics and other parts of the Standards of Professional Conduct to maintain competence and keep up with developments in the financial planning field.

**Ethics:** Renew an agreement to be bound by the Standards of Professional Conduct. The Standards prominently require that CFP® professionals provide financial planning services at a fiduciary standard of care. This means CFP® professionals must provide financial planning services in the best interests of their clients.

CFP® professionals who fail to comply with the above standards and requirements may be subject to CFP Board's enforcement process, which could result in suspension or permanent revocation of their CFP® certification.

#### **Business History**

| July 2011 – Present          | Managing Member at Portico Financial Group, LLC  |
|------------------------------|--|
| July 2011 – September 2013   | Registered Representative of Intervest Equities Corporation                              |
| July 2011 – September 2013   | Investment Adviser Representative of Intervest International Inc.                        |
| January 2011 – July 2011     | Registered Representative and Investment Adviser Representative of VSR Advisory Services |
| October 2008 – December 2010 | Investment Adviser Representative of Sorrento Pacific Financial, LLC                     |
| October 2008 – June 2010     | Financial Advisor and Director of Financial Planning at Securant Bank $\&$ Trust         |
| September 2006 – July 2008   | Registered Representative and Investment Adviser Representative at Linsco Private Ledger |
| October 2004 – July 2008     | Investment Adviser Representative / Trust Officer at Irwin Union Bank, FSB               |

# **Item 3 – Disciplinary History**

Neither Portico nor Michael Karbouski has any disciplinary history to disclose.

## **Item 4 - Other Business Activities**

Michael Karbouski may recommend insurance products and may also, as independent insurance agents, sell those recommended insurance products to Clients. The sale of these products accounts for approximately 5% of his time. When such recommendations or sales are made, a conflict of interest exists as the Insurance licensed Investment Adviser Reps earn insurance commissions for the sale of those products, which may create an incentive to recommend such products. We require that all Investment Adviser Reps disclose this conflict of interest when such recommendations are made. Also, we require Investment Adviser Reps to disclose that Clients may purchase recommended insurance products from other insurance agents not affiliated with us.

# **Item 5 - Additional Compensation**

Michael Karbouski does not receive any other compensation.

# **Item 6 - Supervision**

Michael Karbouski is the CCO and Managing Member and performs all supervisory duties for his firm.

## Item 7 - Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

Michael Karbouski has no reportable events to disclose here.

## **Performance Fees**

We do not charge a performance-based fee (fees based on a share of capital gains on, or capital appreciation of, the assets of a client) for our normal asset management accounts.

## **Other Relationships**

Neither the firm nor Michael Karbouski has any relationship with any issuer of securities.

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