

**Statement of Additional Information**  
**June 28, 2018**

**LADDER SELECT BOND FUND**

Advisor Class (LSBKX)  
Institutional Class (LSBIX)

Series of

**ULTIMUS MANAGERS TRUST**

**225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450**  
**Cincinnati, Ohio 45246**

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) should be read in conjunction with the Prospectus for the Ladder Select Bond Fund (the “Fund”) dated June 28, 2018, which may be supplemented from time to time (the “Prospectus”). This SAI is incorporated by reference in its entirety into the Prospectus. Because this SAI is not itself a prospectus, no investment in shares of the Fund should be made solely upon the information contained herein. Copies of the Prospectus may be obtained without charge, upon request, by writing the Fund at P.O. Box 46707, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246-0707 or by calling toll-free 1-888-859-5867 or by visiting the Fund’s website [www.ladderfunds.com/ladder-select-bond-fund](http://www.ladderfunds.com/ladder-select-bond-fund).

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## **STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The Ladder Select Bond Fund is a non-diversified series of Ultimus Managers Trust (the “Trust”), an open-end management investment company. The Trust is an unincorporated business trust organized under Ohio law on February 28, 2012. The Fund’s investments are managed by Ladder Capital Asset Management LLC (the “Adviser”). For further information on the Fund, please call 1-888-859-5867.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON INVESTMENTS, STRATEGIES, AND RISKS**

Information contained in this SAI expands upon information contained in the Prospectus. All investments in securities and other financial instruments involve a risk of financial loss. No assurance can be given that the Fund’s investment programs will be successful. Investors should carefully review the descriptions of the Fund’s investments and associated risks described in the Prospectus and this SAI. No investment in shares of the Fund should be made without first reading the Prospectus.

Attached to this SAI is Appendix D, which contains descriptions of the rating services used by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (each an “NRSRO”) for certain securities in which the Fund invests.

**Structured Finance Securities.** Structured finance securities may include, in addition to Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities (“CMBS”), other mortgage-backed securities, asset backed securities, structured notes and credit-linked notes. Holders of structured finance securities bear the risks of the underlying investments, index or reference obligation and are subject to counterparty risk. Generally, the Fund does not have direct rights against the issuer or the entity that sold the assets to be securitized; rather, the Fund has the right to receive payments only from the issuer of the structured finance security. Certain structured finance securities may be thinly traded or have a limited trading market.

While certain structured finance investments enable the investor to obtain exposure to a pool of assets without the brokerage and other expenses associated with directly holding the same securities, investors in structured finance securities generally pay their share of the structured finance security issuer’s administrative and other expenses. The prices of indices and securities underlying structured finance securities, and, therefore, the prices of structured finance securities, will be influenced by, and will rise and fall in response to, the same types of market and economic factors that affect issuers of securities and capital markets generally. If the issuer of a structured finance security uses shorter term financing to purchase longer term securities, the issuer may be forced to sell its securities at below market prices if it experiences difficulty in obtaining short-term financing, which may adversely affect the value of the structured finance securities owned by the Fund.

The Fund may invest in structured finance securities collateralized by low grade or defaulted loans or securities. Investments in such structured finance securities are subject to the risks associated with non-investment grade securities. Such securities are characterized by high risk. It is likely that an economic recession could severely disrupt the market for such securities and may have an adverse impact on the value of such securities.

The Fund may invest in senior and subordinated classes issued by structured finance vehicles. The payment of cash flows from the underlying assets to senior classes take precedence over those of subordinated classes, and therefore subordinated classes are subject to greater risk. Furthermore, the leveraged nature of subordinated classes may magnify the adverse impact on such class of changes in the value of the assets, changes in the distributions on the assets, defaults and recoveries on the assets, capital gains and losses on the assets, prepayment on assets and availability, price and interest rates of assets.

**Structured Finance Securities/Structured Notes.** The Fund may also invest in structured notes. Structured notes include, but are not limited to, reverse convertible notes, interest rate-linked notes, credit-linked notes, commodity-linked notes, and dual currency notes. Structured notes are debt obligations where the interest rate and principal amount (which is payable upon maturity or redemption of the note) is determined by the performance of an underlying reference instrument, such as an asset, market or interest rate. Structured notes may be positively or negatively indexed; that is, an increase in the value of the reference instrument may produce an increase or decrease in the interest rate or principal. Further, the rate of return on a structured note may be determined by the application of a multiplier to the percentage change (positive or negative) in value of the reference instrument. Structured notes may be issued by governmental agencies, broker-dealers, or investment banks at various levels of coupon payments and maturities, and may also be privately negotiated to meet an individual investor's requirements. Many types of structured notes may also be "replicated" through a combination of holdings in equity and fixed-income securities and derivative instruments such as call or put options.

**Structured Finance Securities/Credit Linked Notes.** The Fund may invest in credit linked notes ("CLNs"). A CLN is a security with an embedded CDS allowing the issuer to transfer a specific credit risk to credit investors.

**Residential Mortgage-Backed Securities.** Residential Mortgage-Backed Securities ("RMBS") are securities the payments on which depend (except for rights or other assets designed to assure the servicing or timely distribution of proceeds to holders of such securities) primarily on the cash flow from residential mortgage loans made to borrowers that are secured (on a first priority basis or second priority basis, subject to permitted liens, easements, and other encumbrances) by residential real estate (one- to four-family properties), the proceeds of which are used to purchase real estate and purchase or construct dwellings thereon (or to refinance indebtedness previously so used). Residential mortgage loans are obligations of the borrowers thereunder only and are not typically insured or guaranteed by any other person or entity. Credit-related risk on RMBS arises from losses due to delinquencies and defaults by the borrowers in payments on the underlying mortgage loans and breaches by originators and servicers of their obligations under the underlying documentation pursuant to which the RMBS are issued. The rate of delinquencies and defaults on residential mortgage loans and the aggregate amount of the resulting losses will be affected by a number of factors, including general economic conditions, particularly those in the area where the related mortgaged property is located, the level of the borrower's equity in the mortgaged property and the individual financial circumstances of the borrower.

RMBS are subject to certain risks: credit risk associated with the performance of the underlying mortgage properties and of the borrowers owning these properties; risks associated with their structure and execution (including the collateral, the process by which principal and interest payments are allocated and distributed to investors and how credit losses affect the return to investors in such RMBS); risks associated with the servicer of the underlying mortgages; adverse changes in economic conditions and circumstances; prepayment risk, which can lead to significant fluctuations in the value of the RMBS; loss of all or part of the premium, if any, paid; and decline in the market value of the security, whether resulting from changes in interest rates, prepayments on the underlying mortgage collateral or perceptions of the credit risk associated with the underlying mortgage collateral. The value of RMBS may be substantially dependent on the servicing of the underlying pool of mortgages. In addition, the Fund's level of investment in RMBS of a particular type or in RMBS issued or guaranteed by affiliated obligors, serviced by the same servicer or backed by underlying collateral located in a specific geographic region, may subject the Fund to additional risk.

When market interest rates decline, more mortgages are refinanced and the securities are paid off earlier than expected. Prepayments may also occur on a scheduled basis or due to foreclosure. When market interest rates increase, the market values of RMBS decline. At the same time, however, mortgage

refinancings and prepayments slow, which lengthens the effective maturities of these securities. As a result, the negative effect of the rate increase on the market value of RMBS is usually more pronounced than it is for other types of debt securities and can cause the prices of RMBS to be increasingly volatile.

The rate of delinquencies and defaults on residential mortgage loans and the aggregate amount of the resulting losses will be affected by a number of factors, including general economic conditions, particularly those in the area where the related mortgaged property is located, the level of the borrower's equity in the mortgaged property and the individual financial circumstances of the borrower. If a residential mortgage loan is in default, foreclosure on the related residential property may be a lengthy and difficult process involving significant legal and other expenses. The net proceeds obtained by the holder on a residential mortgage loan following the foreclosure on the related property may be less than the total amount that remains due on the loan. The prospect of incurring a loss upon the foreclosure of the related property may lead the holder of the residential mortgage loan to restructure the residential mortgage loan or otherwise delay the foreclosure process.

Legal risks associated with RMBS can arise as a result of the procedures followed in connection with the origination of the mortgage loans or the servicing thereof, which may be subject to various federal and state laws (including, without limitation, predatory lending laws), public policies and principles of equity that regulate interest rates and other charges, require certain disclosures, require licensing of originators, prohibit discriminatory lending practices, regulate the use of consumer credit information and debt collection practices and may limit the servicer's ability to collect all or part of the principal of or interest on a residential mortgage loan, and entitle the borrower to a refund of amounts previously paid by it or subject the servicer to damages and sanctions.

**Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates.** The Fund may invest in obligations of Government National Mortgage Association ("GNMA"), Federal National Mortgage Association ("FNMA"), and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("FHLMC"), which include direct pass through certificates representing undivided ownership interests in pools of mortgages. The Fund may invest in such certificates, which are guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest (but not as to price and yield) by the issuer. For securities issued by GNMA, the payment of principal and interest is backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Mortgage pass-through certificates issued by FNMA or FHLMC are guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest by the credit of the issuing U.S. Government agency. Securities issued by other non-governmental entities (such as commercial banks or mortgage bankers) may offer credit enhancement such as guarantees, insurance, or letters of credit. Mortgage pass-through certificates are subject to more rapid prepayment than their stated maturity date would indicate; their rate of prepayment tends to accelerate during periods of declining interest rates or increased property transfers; and, as a result, the proceeds from such prepayments may be reinvested in instruments which have lower yields. The impact of prepayments on the price of a security may be difficult to predict and may increase the volatility of the price.

Various proposals have been put forth to further reform the U.S. housing and mortgage markets. The Fund and the Adviser cannot predict the future political, regulatory, or economic changes that could impact GNMA, FNMA, or FHLMC, and the values of their related securities or obligations, and the market for RMBS generally.

**Collateralized Mortgage Obligations.** The Fund may invest in Collateralized Mortgage Obligations ("CMOs"). CMOs are generally backed by mortgage pass-through securities or whole mortgage loans. CMOs are usually structured into classes of varying maturities and principal payment priorities. The prepayment sensitivity of each class may or may not resemble that of the CMO's collateral depending on the maturity and structure of that class. CMOs pay interest and principal (including prepayments) monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually. The prices and yields of CMOs are determined, in part,

by assumptions about cash flows from the rate of payments of the underlying mortgage. Changes in interest rates may cause the rate of expected prepayments of those mortgages to change. These prepayment risks can make the prices of CMOs very volatile when interest rates change. That volatility will affect the Fund's share price. Most CMOs are AAA rated, reflecting the credit quality of the underlying collateral; however, some classes carry greater price risk than that of their underlying collateral. The Adviser will invest in classes of CMOs only if their characteristics and interest rate sensitivity fit the investment objective and policies of the Fund.

**Mortgage-Related Securities.** The Fund may invest in other mortgage derivative products. In addition to the prepayment risks described above, rapidly rising interest rates could cause prepayments of mortgages to occur at a slower rate than expected, and the expected maturity of short or medium term mortgage-related securities could lengthen as a result. That could cause their values to fluctuate more, and the share price of the Fund to fluctuate more and to fall. Governmental, government-related, and private entities may create other mortgage-related securities offering mortgage pass-through and mortgage collateralized instruments in addition to those described herein. As new types of mortgage-related securities are developed and offered to the investment community, the Fund may consider making investments in such new types of mortgage-related securities.

**Collateralized Loan Obligations.** The Fund may invest in collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs"), which are debt instruments typically backed by a pool of loans. CLOs are generally backed by mortgage pass-through securities, whole mortgage loans, or other types of loans. CLOs are usually structured into classes of varying maturities and principal payment priorities. The prepayment sensitivity of each class may or may not resemble that of the CLO's collateral depending on the maturity and structure of that class. CLOs pay interest and principal (including prepayments) monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually. The prices and yields of CLOs are determined, in part, by assumptions about cash flows from the rate of payments of the underlying mortgage or loan. Changes in interest rates may cause the rate of expected prepayments of those mortgages or loans to change. These prepayment risks can make the prices of CLOs very volatile when interest rates change. That volatility will affect the Fund's share price. Most CLOs are AAA-rated, reflecting the credit quality of the underlying collateral; however, some classes carry greater price risk than that of their underlying collateral. The Adviser will invest in classes of CLOs only if their characteristics and interest rate sensitivity fit the investment objective and policies of the Fund.

**Sub-Prime Mortgages.** To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that involve sub-prime mortgages (a mortgage made to borrowers with lower credit ratings), the Fund will be at risk that an issuer of a sub-prime mortgage security will default on its payments of interest or principal on a security when due. These risks are more pronounced in the case of sub-prime mortgage instruments than more highly ranked securities. Because of this increased risk, these securities may also be less liquid and subject to more pronounced declines in value than more highly rated instruments in times of market stress.

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

States deteriorates, the incidence of mortgage foreclosures, especially sub-prime mortgages, may increase, which may adversely affect the value of any RMBS owned by the Fund.

Any increase in prevailing market interest rates, which are currently near historical lows, may result in increased payments for borrowers who have adjustable rate mortgages. Moreover, with respect to hybrid mortgage loans after their initial fixed rate period, interest-only products or products having a lower rate, and with respect to mortgage loans with a negative amortization feature which reach their negative amortization cap, borrowers may experience a substantial increase in their monthly payment even without an increase in prevailing market interest rates. Increases in payments for borrowers may result in increased rates of delinquencies and defaults on residential mortgage loans underlying the RMBS.

The significance of the mortgage crisis and loan defaults in residential mortgage loan sectors led to the enactment of numerous pieces of legislation relating to the mortgage and housing markets. These actions, along with future legislation or regulation, may have significant impacts on the mortgage market generally and may result in a reduction of available transactional opportunities for the Fund or an increase in the cost associated with such transactions and may adversely impact the value of RMBS.

**Asset-Backed Securities.** The Fund may invest in asset-backed securities (“ABS”). Typically, ABS represent undivided fractional interests in a trust whose assets consist of a pool of loans and security interests in the collateral securing the loans. Payments of principal and interest on ABS are passed through monthly to certificate holders and are usually guaranteed up to a certain amount and time period by a letter of credit issued by a financial institution. In some cases, ABS are divided into senior and subordinated classes to enhance the quality of the senior class. Underlying loans are subject to risks of prepayment, which may reduce the overall return to certificate holders. If the letter of credit is exhausted and the full amounts due on underlying loans are not received because of unanticipated costs, depreciation, damage or loss of the collateral securing the contracts, or other factors, certificate holders may experience delays in payment or losses on asset-backed securities.

The collateral underlying ABS may constitute assets related to a wide range of industries and sectors. ABS do not have the benefit of the same security interest in the underlying collateral as mortgage-backed securities (“MBS”) and are more dependent on the borrower’s ability to pay and may provide the Fund with a less effective security interest in the related collateral than do MBS. Payment of interest and repayment of principal on ABS is largely dependent upon the cash flows generated by the assets backing the securities and, in certain cases, supported by letters of credit, surety bonds, or other credit enhancements. There is the possibility that recoveries on the underlying collateral may not, in some cases, be available to support payments on these securities, which may result in losses to investors in an ABS transaction. Debtors may be entitled to the protection of a number of state and federal consumer credit laws with respect to the assets underlying ABS, which may give the debtor the right to avoid or reduce payment. The value of ABS held by the Fund also may change because of actual or perceived changes in the creditworthiness of the underlying asset obligors, the originators, the servicing agents, the financial institutions, if any, providing credit support, or swap counterparties in the case of synthetic ABS.

Recently adopted rules implementing credit risk retention requirements for ABS may increase the costs to originators, securitizers and, in certain cases, asset managers of securitization vehicles in which the Fund may invest. Although the impact of these requirements is uncertain, certain additional costs may be passed to the Fund and the Fund’s investments in ABS may be adversely affected.

**Other Debt Securities.** The Fund may invest in corporate debt securities and U.S. Government obligations. Corporate securities include, but are not limited to, debt obligations offered by public or private corporations either registered or unregistered. The Fund may invest in corporate or municipal debt securities. Corporate and municipal debt securities purchased by the Fund may be of any credit quality,

maturity, or yield. The market value of such securities may fluctuate in response to interest rates and the creditworthiness of the issuer. A debt instrument's credit quality depends on the issuer's ability to pay interest on the security and repay the debt; the lower the credit rating, the greater the risk that the security's issuer will default. The credit risk of a security may also depend on the credit quality of any bank or financial institution that provides credit enhancement for the security.

***Other Debt Securities/Corporate and Municipal Fixed-Income Securities.*** The Fund may invest directly and indirectly in corporate or municipal debt securities (also referred to as "fixed income securities"). Corporate and municipal fixed income securities purchased by the Fund may be of any credit quality, maturity, or yield. Accordingly, the Fund's fixed income securities may include "investment grade" securities (those rated at least Baa by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"), BBB by Standard & Poor's Global Ratings ("S&P") or Fitch, Inc. ("Fitch") or, if not rated, of equivalent quality in the Adviser's opinion). In addition, the Fund's fixed income securities may include lower-rated fixed income securities including, without limitation, securities of non-investment grade quality (commonly referred to as "high yield securities" or "junk bonds"). Fixed income securities rated Baa by Moody's or BBB by S&P or Fitch may be considered speculative and are subject to risks of non-payment of interest and principal. Fixed income securities rated lower than Baa by Moody's or lower than BBB by S&P or Fitch are generally considered speculative and subject to significant risks of non-payment of interest and principal and greater market fluctuations than higher-rated fixed-income securities. While the Adviser utilizes the ratings of various ratings used by a NRSROs noted above as one factor in establishing creditworthiness, it relies primarily upon its own analysis of factors establishing creditworthiness.

Lower-rated debt securities are usually issued by companies without long track records of sales and earnings, or by companies with questionable credit strength. The retail secondary market for these securities may be less liquid than that of higher-rated debt securities, and adverse conditions could make it difficult at times to sell certain securities or could result in lower prices than those used in calculating a Fund's net asset value ("NAV"). These risks can reduce the value of the Fund's shares and the income it earns. Lower-rated securities carry a greater risk of default than investment grade securities.

***Other Debt Securities/Variable and Floating Rate Securities.*** The Fund may invest in variable or floating rate securities that adjust the interest rate paid at periodic intervals based on an interest rate index. Typically, floating rate securities use as their benchmark an index such as the 1-, 3-, or 6-month London Interbank Offered Rate, 3-, 6-, or 12-month Treasury bills, or the Federal Funds rate. Resets of the rates can occur at predetermined intervals or whenever changes in the benchmark index occur. Changes in the benchmark index and the interest rate may be difficult to predict and may increase the volatility of the price, and have adverse effects on the value of the floating rate securities.

***Other Debt Securities/U.S. Government Obligations.*** The Fund may invest in U.S. Government obligations. U.S. Government obligations include U.S. Treasury notes, U.S. Treasury bonds, U.S. Treasury bills, and obligations guaranteed by the U.S. Government such as obligations of GNMA and Overseas Private Investment Corporation ("OPIC"), as well as obligations of U.S. Government authorities, agencies and instrumentalities such as FNMA, FHLMC, Federal Housing Administration, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Bank, Student Loan Marketing Association, Small Business Administration, and Tennessee Valley Authority. U.S. Government securities may be acquired subject to repurchase agreements. While obligations of some U.S. Government sponsored entities are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government (*e.g.*, GNMA and OPIC), others are not. No assurance can be given that the U.S. Government will provide financial support to U.S. Government agencies or instrumentalities that are not supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, since it is not obligated to do so by law. The guarantee of the U.S. Government does not extend to the yield or value of the Fund's shares.

Agencies and instrumentalities established by the U.S. Government include the Federal Home Loan Banks, the Federal Land Bank, GNMA, FNMA, FHLMC, the Small Business Administration, the Bank for Cooperatives, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Federal Financing Bank, the Federal Farm Credit Banks, the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, the Resolution Funding Corporation, the Financing Corporation of America, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Some of these securities are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government while others are supported only by the credit of the agency or instrumentality, which may include the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury. In the case of U.S. Government obligations not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, the investor must look principally to the agency or instrumentality issuing or guaranteeing the obligation for ultimate repayment, and may not be able to assert a claim against the U.S. Government itself in the event the agency or instrumentality does not meet its commitment. U.S. Government obligations are subject to price fluctuations based upon changes in the level of interest rates, which will generally result in all those securities changing in price in the same way, (*i.e.* all those securities experiencing appreciation when interest rates decline and depreciation when interest rates rise). Any guarantee of the U.S. Government will not extend to the yield or value of the Fund's shares.

**Futures Contracts.** The Fund may invest in futures contracts. A futures contract is a bilateral agreement to buy or sell a security (or deliver a cash settlement price, in the case of a contract relating to an index or otherwise not calling for physical delivery at the end of trading in the contracts) for a set price in the future. Futures contracts are designated by boards of trade that have been designated "contracts markets" by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"). No purchase price is paid or received when the contract is entered into. Instead, a Fund, upon entering into a futures contract (and to maintain the Fund's open positions in futures contracts), would be required to segregate cash, cash equivalents, and/or other liquid assets sufficient to satisfy the requirements of Section 18(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The margin required for a particular futures contract is set by the exchange on which the contract is traded, and may be significantly modified from time to time by the exchange during the term of the contract. Futures contracts are customarily purchased and sold on margin that may range upward from less than 5% of the value of the contract being traded.

If the price of an open futures contract changes (by increase in the case of a sale or by decrease in the case of a purchase) so that the loss on the futures contract reaches a point at which the margin on deposit does not satisfy margin requirements, the broker will require an increase in the margin. However, if the value of a position increases because of favorable price changes in the futures contract so that the margin deposit exceeds the required margin, the broker will pay the excess to the Fund. These subsequent payments, called "variation margin," to and from the futures broker, are made on a daily basis as the price of the underlying assets fluctuate, making the long and short positions in the futures contract more or less valuable, a process known as "marking to the market". The Fund seeks to earn income on its initial and variation margin deposits.

A Fund will incur brokerage fees when it purchases and sells futures contracts. Positions taken in the futures markets are not normally held until delivery or cash settlement is required; rather these positions are liquidated through offsetting transactions that may result in a gain or a loss. While futures positions taken by the Fund will usually be liquidated in this manner, the Fund may instead make or take delivery of underlying securities whenever it appears economically advantageous for the Fund to do so. A clearing organization associated with the exchange on which futures are traded assumes responsibility for closing out transactions. These clearing organizations also guarantee that all positions that remain open at the termination of the contract (and the sale and purchase obligations between the clearing members) will be completed.



**Securities Index Futures Contracts.** The Fund may invest in securities index futures contracts. Purchases or sales of securities index futures contracts may be used in an attempt to protect the Fund's current or intended investments from broad fluctuations in securities prices. A securities index futures contract does not require the physical delivery of securities, but merely provides for profits and losses resulting from changes in the market value of the contract to be credited or debited at the close of each trading day to the respective accounts of the parties to the contract. On the contract's expiration date, a final cash settlement occurs and the futures positions are simply closed out. Changes in the market value of a particular index futures contract reflect changes in the specified index of securities on which the future is based.

By establishing an appropriate "short" position in index futures, the Fund may also seek to protect the value of its portfolio against an overall decline in the market for such securities. Alternatively, in anticipation of a generally rising market, the Fund can seek to avoid losing the benefit of apparently low current prices by establishing a "long" position in securities index futures and later liquidating that position as particular securities are in fact acquired. To the extent that these hedging strategies are successful, the Fund will be affected to a lesser degree by adverse overall market price movements than would otherwise be the case.

**Options on Futures Contracts.** The Fund may purchase exchange-traded call and put options on futures contracts, and write exchange-traded call options on futures contracts. These options are traded on exchanges that are licensed and regulated by the CFTC for the purpose of options trading. A call option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right, in return for the premium paid, to purchase a futures contract (assume a "long" position) at a specified exercise price at any time before the option expires. A put option gives the purchaser the right, in return for the premium paid, to sell a futures contract (assume a "short" position), for a specified exercise price at any time before the option expires.

The Fund will write options only on futures contracts that are "covered." A Fund will be considered "covered" with respect to a put option it has written if, so long as it is obligated as a writer of the put, the Fund segregates cash, cash equivalents, and/or other liquid assets at all times equal to or greater than the aggregate exercise price of the puts it has written (less any related margin deposited with the futures broker). A Fund will be considered "covered" with respect to a call option it has written on a debt security future if, so long as it is obligated as a writer of the call, the Fund owns a security deliverable under the futures contract. A Fund will be considered "covered" with respect to a call option it has written on a securities index future if the Fund owns securities the price changes of which are, in the opinion of the Adviser, expected to replicate substantially the movement of the index upon which the futures contract is based.

Upon the exercise of a call option, the writer of the option is obligated to sell the futures contract (to deliver a "long" position to the option holder) at the option exercise price, which will presumably be lower than the current market price of the contract in the futures market. Upon exercise of a put, the writer of the option is obligated to purchase the futures contract (deliver a "short" position to the option holder) at the option exercise price, which will presumably be higher than the current market price of the contract in the futures market. When the holder of an option exercises it and assumes a long futures position, in the case of a call, or a short futures position, in the case of a put, its gain will be credited to its futures margin account, while the loss suffered by the writer of the option will be debited to its account and must be immediately paid by the writer. However, as with the trading of futures, most participants in the options markets do not seek to realize their gains or losses by exercise of their option rights. Instead, the holder of an option will usually realize a gain or loss by buying or selling an offsetting option at a market price that will reflect an increase or a decrease from the premium originally paid.

If the Fund writes options on futures contracts, it will receive a premium but will assume a risk of adverse movement in the price of the underlying futures contract comparable to that involved in holding a

futures position. If the option is not exercised, the Fund will realize a gain equal to the premium, which may partially offset unfavorable changes in the value of securities held by or acquired for the Fund. If the option is exercised, the Fund will incur a loss in the option transaction, which will be reduced by the amount of the premium it has received, but which will offset any favorable changes in the value of its portfolio securities or, in the case of a put, lower prices of securities it intends to acquire.

Options on futures contracts can be used by the Fund to hedge substantially the same risks as might be addressed by the direct purchase or sale of the underlying futures contracts. If a Fund purchases an option on a futures contract, it may obtain benefits similar to those that would result if it held the futures position itself. Purchases of options on futures contracts may present less risk in hedging than the purchase and sale of the underlying futures contracts since the potential loss is limited to the amount of the premium plus related transaction costs.

The purchase of put options on futures contracts may be used as a means of hedging the Fund's portfolios against a general decline in market prices. The purchase of a call option on a futures contract may represent a means of hedging the Fund's portfolio against a market advance when the Fund is not fully invested.

The writing of a call option on a futures contract constitutes a partial hedge against declining prices of the underlying securities. If the futures price at expiration is below the exercise price, the Fund will retain the full amount of the option premium, which provides a partial hedge against any decline that may have occurred in the value of the Fund's holdings of securities. The writing of a put option on a futures contract is analogous to the purchase of a futures contract in that it hedges against an increase in the price of securities the Fund intends to acquire. However, the hedge is limited to the amount of premium received for writing the put.

**Limitations on Purchase and Sale of Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts.**

Options and futures can be volatile instruments and involve certain risks. If the Adviser applies a hedge in a Fund's portfolios at an inappropriate time or judges market movements incorrectly, options and futures strategies may lower the Fund's return. A Fund could also experience losses if the prices of its options and futures positions were poorly correlated with its other investments, or if it could not close out its position because of an illiquid market.

In general, the Fund will not directly purchase or sell futures contracts or related options unless either (i) the futures contracts or options thereon are purchased for "bona fide hedging" purposes (as defined under the CFTC regulations); or (ii) if purchased for other purposes, the sum of the amounts of initial margin deposits on the Fund's existing futures and premiums required to establish non-hedging positions, less the amount by which any such options positions are "in-the-money" (as defined under CFTC regulations) would not exceed 5% of the liquidation value of the Fund's total assets.

In instances involving the purchase of futures contracts or the writing of put options thereon by the Fund, the Fund will segregate an amount of cash, cash equivalents and/or other liquid assets equal to the market value of such futures contracts or options written (less any related margin deposits), to the extent that such deposits are required under the 1940 Act.

**Forward Commitments and When-Issued Securities.** The Fund may purchase when-issued securities and commit to purchase securities for a fixed price at a future date beyond customary settlement time. The Fund is required to hold and maintain in a segregated account until the settlement date, cash, U.S. Government securities, or high-grade debt obligations in an amount sufficient to meet the purchase price. Purchasing securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis involves a risk of loss if the value of the security to be purchased declines prior to the settlement date, which risk is in addition to the risk of

decline in value of the Fund's other assets. In addition, no income accrues to the purchaser of when-issued securities during the period prior to issuance. Although the Fund would generally purchase securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis with the intention of acquiring securities for its portfolio, the Fund may dispose of a when-issued security or forward commitment prior to settlement if the Adviser deems it appropriate to do so. The Fund may realize short-term gains or losses upon such sales.

**Options.** The Fund may purchase and write put and call options on securities. The Fund may write a put or call option only if the option is "covered" by the Fund holding a position in the underlying securities or by other means that would permit immediate satisfaction of the Fund's obligation as writer of the option. The purchase and writing of options involves certain risks. During the option period, the covered call writer has, in return for the premium on the option, given up the opportunity to profit from a price increase in the underlying securities above the exercise price, but, as long as its obligation as a writer continues, has retained the risk of loss should the price of the underlying security decline. The writer of an option has no control over the time when it may be required to fulfill its obligation as a writer of the option. Once an option writer has received an exercise notice, it cannot effect a closing purchase transaction in order to terminate its obligation under the option and must deliver the underlying securities at the exercise price. If a put or call option purchased by a Fund is not sold when it has remaining value, and if the market price of the underlying security, in the case of a put, remains equal to or greater than the exercise price or, in the case of a call, remains less than or equal to the exercise price, the Fund will lose its entire investment in the option. Also, where a put or call option on a particular security is purchased to hedge against price movements in a related security, the price of the put or call option may move more or less than the price of the related security. There can be no assurance that a liquid market will exist when the Fund seeks to close out an option position. Furthermore, if trading restrictions or suspensions are imposed on the options market, the Fund may be unable to close out a position.

**Swap Agreements.** Generally, swap agreements are contracts between a Fund and, typically, a brokerage firm, bank or other institutional buyer (the swap counterparty) for periods ranging from a few days to multiple years. In a basic swap transaction, a Fund agrees with the swap counterparty to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) earned or realized on a particular "notional amount" or value of predetermined underlying reference instruments. The notional amount is the set dollar or other value selected by the parties to use as the basis on which to calculate the obligations that the parties to a swap agreement have agreed to exchange. The parties typically do not actually exchange the notional amount. Instead, they agree to exchange the returns that would be earned or realized if the notional amount were invested in given investments or at given interest rates. Examples of returns that may be exchanged in a swap agreement are those of a particular security, a particular fixed or variable interest rate, a particular non-U.S. currency, or a "basket" of securities representing a particular index. A Fund customarily enters into swap agreements that are based on the standard terms and conditions of an International Swaps and Derivatives Association ("ISDA") Master Agreement. ISDA is a voluntary industry association of participants in the over-the-counter ("OTC") derivatives markets that has developed standardized contracts used by such participants that have agreed to be bound by such standardized contracts.

The Fund will generally enter into swap agreements on a net basis, which means that the two payment streams that are to be made by a Fund and its counterparty are netted out, with a Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net difference in the two payments. A Fund's obligations (or rights) under a swap agreement that is entered into on a net basis will generally be the net amount to be paid or received under the agreement based on the relative values of the obligations of each party upon termination of the agreement or at set valuation dates. A Fund will accrue its obligations under a swap agreement daily (offset by any amounts the counterparty owes the Fund). If the Fund enters into a swap agreement on a net basis, it will segregate assets with a daily value at least equal to the excess, if any, of the Fund's accrued obligations under the swap agreement over the accrued amount the Fund is entitled to receive under the agreement. If the swap agreement does not provide for that type of netting, the full amount of a Fund's

obligations will be accrued on a daily basis. If the Fund enters into a swap agreement on other than a net basis, it will segregate assets with a value equal to the full amount of the Fund's accrued obligations under the agreement.

During the term of a swap agreement, a Fund is usually required to pledge to the swap counterparty, from time to time, an amount of cash and/or other assets equal to the total net amount (if any) that would be payable by a Fund to the counterparty if the swap were terminated on the date in question, including any early termination payments. Periodically, changes in the amount pledged are made to recognize changes in value of the contract resulting from, among other things, interest on the notional value of the contract, market value changes in the underlying investment, and/or dividends paid by the issuer of the underlying instrument. Likewise, the counterparty may be required to pledge cash or other assets to cover its obligations to a Fund. However, the amount pledged may not always be equal to or more than the amount due to the other party. Therefore, if a counterparty defaults in its obligations to a Fund, the amount pledged by the counterparty and available to the Fund may not be sufficient to cover all the amounts due to the Fund and the Fund may sustain a loss.

**Credit Default Swaps.** The Fund may invest in credit default swaps ("CDS"). The "buyer" of protection in a CDS agreement is obligated to pay the "seller" a periodic stream of payments over the term of the agreement in return for a payment by the "seller" that is contingent upon the occurrence of a credit event with respect to a specific underlying reference debt obligation (whether as a single debt instrument or as part of an index of debt instruments). The contingent payment by the seller generally is the face amount of the debt obligation, in return for the buyer's obligation to make periodic cash payments and deliver in physical form the reference debt obligation or a cash payment equal to the then-current market value of that debt obligation at the time of the credit event. If no credit event occurs, the seller would receive a fixed rate of income throughout the term of the contract, while the buyer would lose the amount of its payments and recover nothing. The buyer is also subject to the risk that the seller will not satisfy its contingent payment obligation, if and when due. Purchasing protection through a CDS may be used to attempt to hedge against a decline in the value of debt security or securities due to a credit event. The seller of protection under a CDS agreement receives periodic payments from the buyer but is exposed to the risk that the value of the reference debt obligation declines due to a credit event and that it will have to pay the face amount of the reference obligation to the buyer. Selling protection under a CDS may also permit the seller to gain exposure that is similar to owning the reference debt obligation directly. As the seller of protection, a Fund would effectively add leverage to its portfolio because, in addition to its total assets, the Fund would be subject to the risk that there would be a credit event and the Fund would have to make a substantial payment in the future.

Generally, a credit event means bankruptcy, failure to timely pay interest or principal, obligation acceleration, or modified restructuring of the reference debt obligation. There may be disputes between the buyer and seller of a CDS agreement or within the swaps market as a whole as to whether or not a credit event has occurred or what the payout should be which could result in litigation. In some instances where there is a dispute in the CDS market, a regional Determinations Committee set up by ISDA may make an official, binding determination regarding the existence of credit events under the terms of the ISDA Master Agreement. ISDA's Determination Committees are comprised principally of dealers in the OTC derivatives markets, which may have a conflicting interest in the determination regarding the existence of a particular credit event.

The buyer of protection in a CDS agreement is subject to the risk that certain occurrences, such as particular restructuring events affecting the value of the underlying reference debt obligation, may not be deemed credit events under the CDS agreement. The seller of protection in a CDS agreement is subject to the risk that certain occurrences may be deemed a credit event under the CDS agreement that under the

circumstances do not adversely impact the value or credit-worthiness of the underlying reference debt obligation.

**Risks of Swaps.** The use of swap transactions is a highly specialized activity, which involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. Whether the Fund is successful in using swap agreements to achieve its investment goals depends on the ability of the Adviser to correctly predict which types of investments are likely to produce greater returns. If the Adviser, in using swap agreements, is incorrect in its forecasts of market values, interest rates, currency exchange rates or other applicable factors, the investment performance of the Fund will be less than its performance would have been if it had not used the swap agreements.

The risk of loss to the Fund for swap transactions that are entered into on a net basis depends on which party is obligated to pay the net amount to the other party. If the counterparty is obligated to pay the net amount to a Fund, the risk of loss to a Fund is loss of the entire amount that a Fund is entitled to receive. If a Fund is obligated to pay the net amount, the Fund's risk of loss is limited to that net amount. If the swap agreement involves the exchange of the entire principal value of a security, the entire principal value of that security is subject to the risk that the other party to the swap will default on its contractual delivery obligations.

Because swap agreements are two-party contracts and may have terms of greater than seven days, they may be illiquid and, therefore, subject to the Fund's limitation on investments in illiquid securities. If a swap transaction is particularly large or if the relevant market is illiquid, the Fund may not be able to establish or liquidate a position at an advantageous time or price, which may result in significant losses. Participants in the swap markets are not required to make continuous markets in the swap contracts they trade. Participants could refuse to quote prices for swap contracts or quote prices with an unusually wide spread between the price at which they are prepared to buy and the price at which they are prepared to sell. However, the swap markets have grown substantially in recent years, with a large number of financial institutions acting as both principals and agents, utilizing standardized swap documentation. As a result, the swap markets have become increasingly liquid. Some swap agreements entail complex terms and may require a greater degree of subjectivity in their valuation.

Certain swap agreements are not exchange-traded instruments, but are traded OTC, while other more standardized swaps must be transacted through a Futures Commission Merchant and centrally cleared or exchanged-traded. As a result, certain swap participants are not as protected as participants on organized exchanges. Performance of a swap agreement is the responsibility only of the swap counterparty and not of any exchange or clearinghouse. As a result, the Fund is subject to the risk that a counterparty will be unable or will refuse to perform under such agreement, including because of the counterparty's bankruptcy or insolvency. No limitations on daily price movements or speculative position limits apply to swap transactions. Counterparties may, however, limit the size or duration of a swap agreement with a Fund because of credit considerations. The Fund risks the loss of the accrued but unpaid amounts under a swap agreement, which could be substantial, in the event of a default, insolvency, or bankruptcy by a swap counterparty. In such an event, the Fund will have contractual remedies pursuant to the swap agreements, but bankruptcy and insolvency laws could affect the Fund's rights as a creditor. If the counterparty's creditworthiness declines, the value of a swap agreement would likely decline, potentially resulting in losses. However, in unusual or extreme market conditions, a counterparty's creditworthiness and ability to perform may deteriorate rapidly, and the availability of suitable replacement counterparties may become limited.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act") and related regulatory developments requires the clearing and exchange-trading of certain standardized OTC derivative instruments the CFTC and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") have

defined as “swaps.” Mandatory exchange trading and clearing is occurring on a phased-in basis based on the type of market participant involved and the CFTC’s approval of the contracts for central clearing. While central clearing and exchange trading are intended to reduce counterparty credit and liquidity risk, they do not make a swap transaction risk-free. The Adviser will continue to monitor developments in this area, particularly to the extent regulatory changes affect the Fund’s ability to enter into swap agreements.

Certain Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) positions may limit the Fund’s ability to use swap agreements in a desired tax strategy. It is possible that developments in the swap markets and/or the laws relating to swap agreements, including potential government regulation, could adversely affect the Fund’s ability to benefit from using swap agreements, or could have adverse tax consequences.

**Credit Derivatives.** The Fund may engage in credit derivative transactions, such as those involving default price risks and market spreads. Default price risk derivatives are linked to the price of reference securities or loans after a default by the issuer or borrower, respectively. Market spread derivatives are based on the risk that changes in market factors, such as credit spreads, can cause a decline in the value of a security, loan, or index. There are three basic transactional forms for credit derivatives: swaps, options, and structured instruments. The use of credit derivatives is a highly specialized activity, which involves strategies and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio security transactions. If the Adviser is incorrect in its forecasts of default risks, market spreads or other applicable factors, the investment performance of the Fund would diminish compared with what it would have been if these techniques were not used. Moreover, even if the Adviser is correct in its forecasts, there is a risk that a credit derivative position may correlate imperfectly with the price of the asset or liability being hedged. The Fund’s risk of loss in a credit derivative transaction varies with the form of the transaction. For example, if a Fund purchases a default option on a security, and if no default occurs with respect to the security, a Fund’s loss is limited to the premium it paid for the default option. In contrast, if there is a default by the grantor of a default option, a Fund’s loss will include both the premium it paid for the option and the decline in value of the underlying security that the default option hedged.

**Equity Securities.** The Fund may invest in equity securities including common stock, preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock, and foreign stock. The Fund’s equity investments may include securities traded on domestic exchanges or on the OTC market. The prices of equity securities in which the Fund invests may fluctuate in response to many factors, including, but not limited to, the activities of the individual companies whose securities the Fund owns, general market and economic conditions, interest rates, and specific industry changes. Such price fluctuations subject the Fund to potential losses. In addition, regardless of any one company’s particular prospects, a declining stock market may produce a decline in prices for all equity securities, which could also result in losses for the Fund. Market declines may continue for an indefinite period of time, and investors should understand that during temporary or extended bear markets, the value of equity securities, including securities held by the Fund, will likely decline.

**Equity Securities/Convertible Securities.** In addition to common and preferred stocks, the Fund may invest in securities convertible into common stock such as convertible bonds, convertible preferred stocks, and warrants. Convertible bonds are fixed income securities that may be converted at a stated price within a specified period into a certain quantity of the common stock of the same or a different issuer. Convertible bonds are senior to common stocks in an issuer’s capital structure, but are usually subordinated to similar non-convertible securities. While providing a fixed income stream (generally higher in yield than the income derivable from common stock but lower than that afforded by a similar nonconvertible security), a convertible security also provides the investor the opportunity, through its conversion feature, to participate in the capital appreciation of the underlying common stock. Like other debt securities, the value of a convertible bond tends to vary inversely with the level of interest rates. However, to the extent that the market price of the underlying common stock approaches or exceeds the conversion price, the price of the

convertible bond will be increasingly influenced by its conversion value (the security's worth, at market value, if converted into the underlying common stock). Although to a lesser extent than with fixed-income securities, the market value of convertible bonds tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, tends to increase as interest rates decline. In addition, because of the conversion feature, the market value of convertible bonds tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying common stock. A unique feature of convertible securities is that as the market price of the underlying common stock declines, convertible securities tend to trade increasingly on a yield basis and so may not experience market value declines to the same extent as the underlying common stock. When the market price of the underlying common stock increases, the prices of the convertible securities tend to rise as a reflection of the value of the underlying common stock. While no securities investments are without risk, investments in convertible securities generally entail less risk than investments in common stock of the same issuer.

***Equity Securities/Preferred Stock.*** The Fund may invest in preferred stock. Preferred stocks are securities that represent an ownership interest providing the holder with claims on the issuer's earnings and assets before common stock owners but after bond owners. Unlike debt securities, the obligations of an issuer of preferred stock, including dividend and other payment obligations, may not typically be accelerated by the holders of such preferred stock on the occurrence of an event of default or other non-compliance by the issuer of the preferred stock. Preferred stocks may include the obligation to pay a stated dividend. The price of preferred stocks could depend more on the size of the dividend than on the company's performance. If a company fails to pay the dividend, its preferred stock is likely to drop in price. Changes in interest rates can also affect the price of preferred stock.

***Equity Securities/Small- and Mid-Cap Companies Risk.*** The Fund may invest in companies of all capitalizations, including those with medium and small market capitalizations ("mid-cap" and "small-cap" companies, respectively) Investing in the securities of mid-cap and small-cap companies presents some particular investment risks. Mid-cap and small-cap companies may have limited product lines and markets, as well as shorter operating histories, less experienced management and more limited financial resources than larger companies, and may be more vulnerable to adverse general market or economic developments. Securities of mid-cap and small-cap companies may be less liquid than those of larger companies, and may experience greater price fluctuations than larger companies. In addition, mid-cap or small-cap company securities may not be widely followed by investors, which may result in reduced demand.

***Illiquid Securities.*** The Fund may invest in illiquid securities, but will limit its investment in illiquid securities to no more than 15% of its net assets. Illiquid securities are securities that may be difficult to sell promptly (generally within seven days) at approximately their current value because of a lack of an available market and other factors. Under the supervision of the Board of Trustees (the "Board"), the Adviser determines the liquidity of the Fund's investments and, through reports from the Adviser, the Board monitors investments in illiquid instruments on an ongoing basis. If through a change in values, net assets, or other circumstances, the Fund were in a position where more than 15% of its net assets were invested in illiquid securities, it would seek to take appropriate steps to protect liquidity. The sale of some illiquid and other types of securities may be subject to legal restrictions.

If the Fund invests in securities for which there is no ready market, it may not be able to readily sell such securities. Such securities are unlike securities that are traded in the open market, which can be expected to be sold immediately if the market is adequate. The sale price of illiquid securities once realized may be lower or higher than the Adviser's most recent estimate of their fair market value. Generally, less public information is available about the issuers of such securities than about companies whose securities are publicly traded.

***Restricted Securities.*** Within its limitation on investment in illiquid securities, the Fund may purchase restricted securities that generally can be sold in privately negotiated transactions, pursuant to an

exemption from registration under the federal securities laws, or in a registered public offering. Where registration is required, the Fund may be obligated to pay all or part of the registration expense and a considerable period may elapse between the time it decides to seek registration and the time the Fund may be permitted to sell a security under an effective registration statement. If during such a period adverse market conditions were to develop, the Fund might obtain a less favorable price than prevailed when it decided to seek registration of the security.

Certain restricted securities are illiquid unless it is determined, based upon a review of the trading markets for a specific restricted security, that such restricted security is liquid because it is so-called “4(a)(2) commercial paper” or is otherwise eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (“Rule 144A Securities”). Investing in Rule 144A Securities may decrease the liquidity of the Fund’s portfolio to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become for a time uninterested in purchasing these restricted securities. The purchase price and subsequent valuation of restricted and illiquid securities normally reflect a discount, which may be significant, from the market price of comparable securities for which a liquid market exists. Subject to the oversight of the Board, Rule 144A Securities determined by the Adviser to be liquid in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board shall not be deemed “illiquid securities” and therefore will not apply towards the Fund’s 15% limit on such securities.

**Investment Companies.** The Fund may, from time to time, invest in securities of other investment companies, including, without limitation, money market funds and exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”). Generally, under the 1940 Act, a fund may not acquire shares of another investment company if, immediately after such acquisition, (i) a fund would hold more than 3% of the other investment company’s total outstanding shares, (ii) a fund’s investment in securities of the other investment company would be more than 5% of the value of the total assets of the fund, or (iii) more than 10% of a fund’s total assets would be invested in investment companies. Under certain conditions, a fund may invest in registered and unregistered money market funds in excess of these limitations. The Fund generally expects to rely on Rule 12d1-1 under the 1940 Act when purchasing shares of a money market fund. Under Rule 12d1-1, the Fund may generally invest without limitation in money market funds as long as the Fund pays no sales charge (“sales charge”), as defined in rule 2830(b)(8) of the Conduct Rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (“FINRA”), or service fee, as defined in rule 2830(b)(9) of the Conduct Rules of FINRA, charged in connection with the purchase, sale, or redemption of securities issued by the money market fund (“service fee”); or the Adviser waives its management fee in an amount necessary to offset any sales charge or service fee. The Fund generally expects to rely on Section 12(d)(1)(F) of the 1940 Act when purchasing shares of other investment companies that are not money market funds. Under Section 12(d)(1)(F), the Fund may generally acquire shares of another investment company unless, immediately after such acquisition, the Fund and its affiliated persons would hold more than 3% of the investment company’s total outstanding stock (the “3% Limitation”). To the extent the 3% Limitation applies to an investment the Fund wishes to make, it may be prevented from allocating its investments in the manner that the Adviser considers optimal. Also, under the 1940 Act, to the extent that the Fund relies upon Section 12(d)(1)(F) in purchasing securities issued by another investment company, the Fund must either seek instructions from its shareholders with regard to the voting of all proxies with respect to its investment in such securities and vote such proxies only in accordance with the instructions, or vote the shares held by it in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of the securities. In the event that there is a vote of investment company shares held by the Fund in reliance on Section 12(d)(1)(F), the Fund intends to vote such shares in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such securities. Investment in other investment companies subjects the Fund to additional operating and management fees and expenses. For example, Fund’s investors will indirectly bear fees and expenses charged by underlying investment companies in which the Fund invests, in addition to the Fund’s direct fees and expenses.

**Investment Companies/ ETFs.** The Fund may purchase shares of ETFs. An ETF is typically an investment company registered under the 1940 Act that holds a portfolio of securities designed to track the



performance of a particular index or market sector. Alternatively, ETFs may be actively managed pursuant to a particular investment strategy, similar to other non-index based investment companies. ETFs sell and redeem their shares at NAV in large blocks (typically 50,000 of its shares) called “creation units.” Shares representing fractional interests in these creation units are listed for trading on national securities exchanges and can be purchased and sold in the secondary market like ordinary stocks in lots of any size at any time during the trading day. ETFs are traded on a securities exchange based on their market value.

An investment in an ETF generally presents the same primary risks as an investment in a conventional registered investment company (*i.e.*, one that is not exchange traded), including the risk that the general level of stock prices, or that the prices of stocks within a particular sector, may increase or decline, thereby affecting the value of the shares of an ETF. In addition, ETFs are subject to the following risks that do not apply to conventional registered investment companies: (i) the market price of the ETF’s shares may trade at a discount to the ETF’s NAV; (ii) an active trading market for an ETF’s shares may not develop or be maintained; (iii) trading of an ETF’s shares may be halted if the listing exchange deems such action appropriate; and (iv) ETF shares may be delisted from the exchange on which they trade, or “circuit breakers” (which are tied to large decreases in stock prices) may halt trading temporarily. ETFs are also subject to the risks of the underlying securities or sectors that the ETF is designed to track.

Because ETFs bear various fees and expenses, the Fund will pay a proportionate share of these expenses, as well as transaction costs, such as brokerage commissions. As with traditional investment companies, ETFs charge asset-based fees, although these fees tend to be relatively low as compared to other types of investment companies. ETFs do not charge initial sales loads or redemption fees and investors pay only customary brokerage fees to buy and sell ETF shares.

The SEC has granted orders for exemptive relief to certain ETFs that permit investments in those ETFs by other investment companies (such as the Fund) in excess of the limits discussed above under the section entitled “Investment Companies”. The Fund may invest in ETFs that have received such exemptive orders from the SEC, pursuant to the conditions specified in such orders. In accordance with Section 12(d)(1)(F)(i) of the 1940 Act, the Fund may also invest in ETFs that have not received such exemptive orders and in other investment companies in excess of these limits, as long as the Fund (and all of its affiliated persons, including the Adviser) do not acquire more than 3% of the total outstanding stock of such ETF or other investment company, unless otherwise permitted to do so pursuant to permission granted by the SEC. In purchasing ETFs, the Fund will be subject to the 3% Limitation unless (i) the ETF or the Fund has received an order for exemptive relief from the 3% Limitation from the SEC that is applicable to the Fund; and (ii) the ETF and the Fund take appropriate steps to comply with any conditions in such order. The SEC has issued such exemptive orders to numerous ETFs and their investment advisers, which permit investment companies, including the Fund, to invest in such ETFs (“Exempted ETFs”) beyond the 3% Limitation, subject to certain terms and conditions, including that such investment companies enter into an agreement with the Exempted ETF. The Fund may enter into such agreements with one or more Exempted ETFs so that the Fund will be permitted to invest in such Exempted ETFs in excess of the 3% Limitation. If the Fund seeks to redeem shares of an ETF or other investment company purchased in reliance on Section 12(d)(1)(F), the investment company is not obligated to redeem an amount exceeding 1% of the investment company’s outstanding shares during a period of less than 30 days.

While the creation and redemption of creation units helps an ETF maintain a market value close to NAV, the market value of an ETF’s shares may differ from its NAV. This difference in price may be due to the fact that the supply and demand in the market for ETF shares at any point in time is not always identical to the supply and demand in the market for the ETF’s underlying basket of securities. Accordingly, there may be times when an ETF trades at a premium (creating the risk that the Fund pays more than NAV for an ETF when making a purchase) or discount (creating the risks that the Fund’s NAV is reduced for undervalued ETFs it holds, and that the Fund receives less than NAV when selling an ETF).

**Leveraged and Inverse ETF Risk.** The Fund may invest in leveraged and inverse ETFs. Leveraged and inverse ETFs involve additional risks and considerations not present in traditional ETFs. Typically, shares of an index-based ETF are expected to increase in value as the value of the underlying benchmark increases. However, in the case of inverse ETFs (also called “short ETFs” or “bear ETFs”), shares are expected to increase in value as the value of the underlying benchmark decreases, similar to holding short positions in the underlying benchmark. Leveraged ETFs seek to deliver multiples (e.g., 2X or 3X) of the performance of the underlying benchmark, typically by using derivatives in an effort to amplify returns (or decline, in the case of inverse ETFs) of the underlying benchmark. While leveraged ETFs may offer the potential for greater return, the potential for loss and the speed at which losses can be realized also are greater.

Leveraged and inverse ETFs “reset” over short periods of time, meaning they are designed to deliver their stated returns only for the length of their reset periods (typically daily), and are not designed to deliver their returns intraday or over periods longer than the stated reset period. Because of the structure of these products, their rebalancing methodologies and the math of compounding, extended holdings beyond the reset period can lead to results very different from a simple doubling, tripling, or inverse of the benchmark's average return over the same period of time. This difference in results can be magnified in volatile markets. Further, leveraged and inverse ETFs may have lower trading volumes or may be less tax efficient than traditional ETFs and may be subject to additional regulation. To the extent that leveraged or inverse ETFs invest in derivatives, investments in such ETFs will be subject to the risks of investments in derivatives. For these reasons, leveraged and inverse ETFs are typically considered to be riskier investments than traditional ETFs.

**Lending of Portfolio Securities.** In order to generate additional income, the Fund may lend portfolio securities in an amount up to 33% of its total assets to broker-dealers, major banks, or other recognized domestic institutional borrowers of securities that the Adviser has determined are creditworthy under guidelines established by the Trustees. In determining whether the Fund will lend securities, the Adviser will consider all relevant facts and circumstances. The Fund may not lend securities to any company affiliated with the Adviser. Each loan of securities will be collateralized by cash, securities, or letters of credit. The Fund might experience a loss if the borrower defaults on the loan.

The borrower at all times during the loan must maintain with the Fund cash or cash equivalent collateral, or provide to the Fund an irrevocable letter of credit equal in value to at least 100% of the value of the securities loaned. While the loan is outstanding, the borrower will pay the Fund any interest paid on the loaned securities, and the Fund may invest the cash collateral to earn additional income. Alternatively, the Fund may receive an agreed-upon amount of interest income from the borrower who has delivered equivalent collateral or a letter of credit. It is anticipated that the Fund may share with the borrower some of the income received on the collateral for the loan or the Fund will be paid a premium for the loan. Loans are subject to termination at the option of the Fund or the borrower at any time. The Fund may pay reasonable administrative and custodial fees in connection with a loan, and may pay a negotiated portion of the income earned on the cash to the borrower or placing broker. As with other extensions of credit, there are risks of delay in recovery or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower fail financially. If the Fund invests cash collateral from the borrower, there is the risk that such investment may result in a financial loss. In such an event, the Fund would be required to repay the borrower out of the Fund's assets.

Where voting rights with respect to the loaned securities pass with the lending of the securities, the Adviser intends to call the loaned securities to vote proxies, or to use other practicable and legally enforceable means to obtain voting rights, when the Adviser believes a material event affecting the loaned securities will occur or the Adviser otherwise believes it necessary to vote.

**Money Market Instruments.** The Fund may invest in money market instruments. Money market instruments include, without limitation, U.S. Government obligations or certain types of corporate debt obligations (including those subject to repurchase agreements), Banker's Acceptances and Certificates of Deposit of domestic branches of U.S. banks, Commercial Paper, and Variable Amount Demand Master Notes ("Master Notes"). Banker's Acceptances are time drafts drawn on and "accepted" by a bank. When a bank "accepts" such a time draft, it assumes liability for its payment. When a Fund acquires a Banker's Acceptance, the bank that "accepted" the time draft is liable for payment of interest and principal when due. The Banker's Acceptance carries the full faith and credit of such bank. Certificate of Deposit is an unsecured, interest bearing debt obligation of a bank. Commercial Paper is an unsecured, short-term debt obligation of a bank, corporation, or other borrower. Commercial Paper maturity generally ranges from 2 to 270 days and is usually sold on a discounted basis rather than as an interest-bearing instrument. The Fund may invest in Commercial Paper of any rating. Commercial Paper may include Master Notes of the same quality. Master Notes are unsecured obligations which are redeemable upon demand of the holder and which permit the investment of fluctuating amounts at varying rates of interest. Master Notes will be acquired by a Fund only through the Master Note program of the Fund's custodian bank, acting as administrator thereof. The Adviser will monitor, on a continuous basis, the earnings power, cash flow, and other liquidity ratios of the issuer of a Master Note held by a Fund.

**Short Selling of Securities.** The Fund may engage in short selling of securities. In a short sale of securities, the Fund sells stock that it does not own, making delivery with securities "borrowed" from a broker. The Fund is then obligated to replace the security borrowed by purchasing it at the market price at the time of replacement. This price may or may not be less than the price at which the security was sold by the Fund. Until the security is replaced, the Fund is required to pay the lender any dividends and/or interest, which accrues during the period that the short sale remains open. In order to borrow the security, the Fund may also have to pay a fee, which would increase the cost of selling a security short. The proceeds of the short sale may be retained by the broker, to the extent necessary to meet margin requirements, until the short position is closed out, or the proceeds may be released to the Fund and invested in additional securities.

The Fund will incur a loss because of the short sale if the price of the security increases between the date of the short sale and the date on which the Fund replaces the borrowed security. Excluding any dividend and/or interest payments, the Fund will realize a gain if the security declines in price between those two dates. The amount of any gain will be decreased and the amount of any loss will be increased by any dividends and/or interest the Fund may be required to pay in connection with the short sale.

In a short sale, the seller does not own the securities sold and is said to have a short position in those securities until the position is closed out. The Fund must deposit in a segregated account with the Fund's custodial bank an amount of cash and/or liquid assets sufficient to cover the Fund's short positions. While the short position is open, the Fund monitors daily the segregated account's balance to ensure that it meets the relevant collateral requirements.

The Fund may also engage in short sales if at the time of the short sale the Fund owns or has the right to obtain without additional cost an equal amount of the security being sold short. This investment technique is known as a short sale "against the box". The Fund does not intend to engage in short sales against the box for investment purposes. The Fund may, however, make a short sale against the box as a hedge, when the investment manager believes that the price of a security may decline, causing a decline in the value of a security owned by the Fund (or a security convertible or exchangeable for such security), or when the Fund wants to sell the security at an attractive current price. In such case, any future losses in the Fund's long position should be offset by a gain in the short position and, conversely, any gain in the long position should be reduced by a loss in the short position. The extent to which such gains or losses are reduced will depend upon the amount of the security sold short relative to the amount the Fund owns. There

will be certain additional transaction costs associated with short sales against the box, but the Fund will endeavor to offset these costs with the income from the investment of the cash proceeds of short sales.

**Repurchase Agreements.** The Fund may invest in repurchase agreements. A repurchase agreement transaction occurs when an investor purchases a security (normally a U.S. Government security), then resells it to the vendor (normally a member bank of the Federal Reserve or a registered government securities dealer) and is required to deliver the security (and/or securities substituted for them under the repurchase agreement) to the vendor on an agreed upon date in the future. The repurchase price exceeds the purchase price by an amount that reflects an agreed upon market interest rate effective for the period during which the repurchase agreement is in effect. Delivery pursuant to the resale normally will occur within one to seven days of the purchase. Repurchase agreements are considered “loans” under the 1940 Act, collateralized by the underlying security. The Trust has implemented procedures to monitor on a continuous basis the value of the collateral serving as security for repurchase obligations. The Adviser will consider the creditworthiness of the vendor. If the vendor fails to pay the agreed upon resale price on the delivery date, the Fund will retain or attempt to dispose of the collateral. The Fund’s risk is that such default may include any decline in value of the collateral to an amount, which is less than 100% of the repurchase price, any costs of disposing of such collateral, and any loss resulting from any delay in foreclosing on the collateral. The Fund will not enter into any repurchase agreement that would cause more than 15% of its net assets to be invested in repurchase agreements that extend beyond seven days.

**STRIPS.** The Fund may invest in stripped securities (“STRIPS”). STRIPS are created by separating the income and principal components of a debt instrument and selling them separately. U.S. Treasury Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities are created when the coupon payments and the principal payment are stripped from an outstanding Treasury bond by the Federal Reserve Bank. Zero coupon U.S. Government securities such as STRIPS are debt obligations that are issued or purchased at a significant discount from face value. The discount approximates the total amount of interest the security will accrue and compound over the period until maturity or the particular interest payment date at a rate of interest reflecting the market rate of the security at the time of issuance. STRIPS do not require the periodic payment of interest. These investments benefit the issuer by mitigating its need for cash to meet debt service, but generally require a higher rate of return to attract investors who are willing to defer receipt of cash. These investments may experience greater volatility in market value than U.S. Government securities that make regular payments of interest. If the Fund invests in STRIPS, it will accrue income on the investment for tax and accounting purposes, which is distributable to shareholders and which, because no cash is received at the time of accrual, may require the liquidation of other portfolio securities to satisfy the Fund’s distribution obligations, in which case the Fund would forgo the purchase of additional income producing assets with these funds. The value of these instruments tends to fluctuate more in response to changes in interest rates than the value of ordinary interest-paying debt securities with similar maturities. The risk is greater when the period to maturity is longer. The Fund’s investments may include stripped CMBS such as interest-only, inverse interest-only, principal-only securities.

**Warrants and Rights.** The Fund may purchase warrants and rights, or it may acquire ownership of such investments by virtue of its ownership of common stocks. Warrants are essentially options to purchase equity securities at specific prices and are valid for a specific period. Rights are similar to warrants but generally have a short duration and are distributed directly by the issuer to its shareholders. The holders of warrants and rights have no voting rights and receive no dividends from the equity interests underlying warrants or rights, and will have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer, until the warrant or right is exercised. Investments in warrants and rights involve certain risks, including the possible lack of a liquid market for resale, potential price fluctuations as a result of speculation or other factors, and failure of the price of the underlying security to reach or have reasonable prospects of reaching a level at which the warrant or right can be prudently exercised (in which event the warrant or right may expire without being exercised, resulting in a loss of the Fund’s entire investment therein).

**Zero Coupon Securities.** The Fund may purchase zero coupon securities. Zero coupon securities do not pay interest or principal until final maturity, unlike debt securities that provide periodic payments of interest (referred to as a coupon payment). Zero coupon securities are bought at a price below the amount payable at maturity. The difference between the purchase price and the amount paid at maturity represents interest on the zero coupon security. One must wait until maturity to receive interest and principal, which increases the market and credit risks of a zero coupon security. A zero coupon step-up security converts to a coupon security before final maturity.

**Borrowing Money.** The Fund may, to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, borrow money in order to meet redemption requests or for extraordinary or emergency purposes. Borrowing involves the creation of a liability that requires the Fund to pay interest. In the event the Fund should ever borrow money under these conditions, such borrowing could increase the Fund's costs and thus reduce the value of the Fund's assets. In an extreme case, if the Fund's current investment income were not sufficient to meet the interest expense of borrowing, it could be necessary for the Fund to liquidate certain of its investments at an inappropriate time.

**Temporary Defensive Positions.** The Fund may from time to time take temporary defensive positions that are inconsistent with its principal investment strategy. If the Adviser believes a temporary defensive position is warranted in view of market conditions, the Fund may hold cash or invest up to 100% of its assets in high-quality short-term government or corporate obligations, money market instruments or shares of money market mutual funds. Taking a temporary defensive position may prevent the Fund from achieving its investment objective.

#### **Additional Risk Factors**

***Additional Risk Factors/General Investment Risks.*** All investments in securities and other financial instruments involve a risk of financial loss. No assurance can be given that the Fund's investment program will be successful. Regardless of particular securities prospects, a declining stock market may produce a decline in prices for all securities, which could also result in losses to the Fund. Market declines may continue for an indefinite period of time, and investors should understand that during temporary or extended bear markets, the value of all types of securities, including securities held by the Fund, can decline. Investors should carefully review the description of the Fund's investments and their risks in this SAI and the Prospectus.

***Additional Risk Factors/Operational Risk.*** An investment in the Fund involves operational risk arising from factors such as processing errors, human errors, inadequate or failed internal or external processes, failures in systems and technology, changes in personnel and errors caused by third-party service providers. Any of these failures or errors could result in a loss or compromise of information, regulatory scrutiny, reputational damage or other events, any of which could have a material adverse effect on the Fund. While the Fund seeks to minimize such events through controls and oversight, there is no guarantee that the Fund will not suffer losses due to operational risk.

***Additional Risk Factors/Cybersecurity Risk.*** The Fund and its service providers may be subject to operational and information security risks resulting from breaches in cybersecurity. A breach in cybersecurity refers to both intentional and unintentional events that may cause the Fund to lose or compromise confidential or proprietary information, suffer data corruption or lose operational capacity. Breaches in cybersecurity include, among other things, stealing or corrupting data maintained online or digitally, denial of service attacks on websites, the unauthorized release of confidential information or various other operational disruptions. Successful cybersecurity breaches of the Fund and/or the Fund's investment adviser, distributor, custodian, transfer agent or other third party service providers may

adversely impact the Fund and its shareholders. For instance, a successful cybersecurity breach may interfere with the processing of shareholder transactions, impact the Fund’s ability to calculate its NAV, cause the release of private personal shareholder information, impede trading, subject the Fund to regulatory fines or financial losses, and/or cause reputational damage. The Fund relies on third-party service providers for many of the day-to-day operations, and is therefore subject to the risk that the protections and protocols implemented by those service providers will be ineffective in protecting the Fund from cybersecurity breaches. Similar types of cybersecurity risks are also present for issuers of securities in which the Fund may invest, which could result in material adverse consequences for such issuers and may cause the Fund’s investments in such companies to lose value. There is no guarantee the Fund will be successful in protecting against cybersecurity breaches.

**Additional Risk Factors/Economic and Regulatory Risks.** Although the U.S. economy has seen improvement over the years, economic growth has been slow and uneven. In response to the global financial crisis that began to unfold in 2007, the United States (the “U.S.”) and other governments and the Federal Reserve and other foreign central banks took steps to support financial markets, including by keeping interest rates at or near historically low levels. It is unclear how long this support will last and at what levels. The Federal Reserve been willing to allow interest rates to rise, if only moderately. Further reduction or withdrawal of support by the U.S. and the Federal Reserve and/or by other governments and their central banks, or investor perception that such efforts or support are not succeeding could negatively affect financial markets generally, as well as result in higher interest rates, increase market volatility and reduce the value and liquidity of certain securities, including securities held by the Fund.

In addition, policy and legislative changes in the U.S. and in other countries have been implemented that are affecting many aspects of the financial markets and imposing additional regulatory requirements. Given the broad scope, sweeping nature, and relatively recent enactment of some of these changes, the potential impact they could have on securities held by the Fund is unclear and may not be fully known for some time. These changes and any future regulatory change could adversely affect the Fund.

**Portfolio Turnover.** The portfolio turnover rate for the Fund is calculated by dividing the lesser of the Fund’s purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the year by the monthly average value of the securities. The Fund’s portfolio turnover rate may vary greatly from year to year as well as within a particular year, and may also be affected by cash requirements for redemption of shares. High portfolio turnover rates will generally result in higher transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, and may result in additional tax consequences to the Fund’s shareholders. For the fiscal period(s)/year(s) listed below, the portfolio turnover rates of the Fund were:

<b>Fiscal Period/Year Ended February 28</b>	<b>Portfolio Turnover Rate</b>
2018	85%
2017	91%

## **INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS**

The Fund has adopted the following fundamental investment limitations that may not be changed without the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund. As used in the Prospectus and this SAI, the term “majority” of the outstanding shares of the Fund means the lesser of (1) 67% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund present at a meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund are present or represented at such meeting; or (2) more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. Unless otherwise indicated, percentage limitations apply at the time of purchase of the applicable securities. See the Prospectus for more information about the Fund’s investment objective and investment strategies, each of which are not fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval.

**Fundamental Restrictions.** As a matter of fundamental policy:

1. Borrowing Money. The Fund will not borrow money except as permitted under the 1940 Act. For example, subject to the restrictions of the 1940 Act the Fund may borrow money from banks to meet redemption requests or for extraordinary or emergency purposes.

2. Senior Securities. The Fund will not issue senior securities, except as permitted by the 1940 Act, the rules, and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff.

3. Underwriting. The Fund will not act as underwriter, except to the extent that, in connection with the disposition of portfolio securities (including restricted securities), the Fund may be deemed an underwriter under certain federal securities laws or in connection with investments in other investment companies.

4. Real Estate. The Fund will not directly purchase or sell real estate. This limitation is not applicable to investments in marketable securities, which are secured by or represent interests in real estate. This limitation does not preclude the Fund from holding or selling real estate acquired because of the Fund's ownership of securities or other instruments, investing in mortgage-related securities or investing in companies engaged in the real estate business or that have a significant portion of their assets in real estate (including real estate investment trusts).

5. Commodities. The Fund will not purchase or sell commodities unless acquired because of ownership of securities or other investments. This limitation does not preclude the Fund from purchasing or selling options, forward contracts, or futures contracts, including those relating to indices, or options on futures contracts or indices, or from investing in securities or other instruments backed by commodities or from investing in companies which are engaged in a commodities business or have a significant portion of their assets in commodities.

6. Loans. The Fund will not make loans to other persons, provided that the Fund may lend its portfolio securities in an amount up to 33⅓% of total Fund assets, and provided further that, for purposes of this restriction, investment in U.S. Government obligations, short-term commercial paper, certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances, repurchase agreements and any other lending arrangement permitted by the 1940 Act, any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff shall not be deemed to be the making of a "loan". For purposes of this limitation, the term "loans" shall not include the purchase of a portion of an issue of publicly distributed bonds, debentures or other debt securities.

7. Concentration. The Fund will not invest more than 25% of the value of its total assets in securities of issuers in any industry, except that the Fund will, under normal market conditions, concentrate its investments (at the time of purchase) in the mortgage-backed securities industry, including, without limitation, commercial mortgage-backed securities.

With respect to the "fundamental" and investment restrictions above, if a percentage limitation or standard is adhered to at the time of investment, a later increase or decrease in percentage or departure from the standard resulting from any change in value or net assets or other factors will not result in a violation of such restriction (*i.e.*, percentage limitations are determined at the time of purchase); provided, however, that the treatment of the fundamental restrictions related to borrowing money and issuing senior securities are exceptions to this general rule and are monitored on an ongoing basis.

Senior securities may include any obligation or instrument issued by a fund evidencing indebtedness. The 1940 Act generally prohibits funds from issuing senior securities, although it does not

treat certain transactions as senior securities, such as certain borrowings, short sales, reverse repurchase agreements, firm commitment agreements standby commitments and trading practices which would be deemed to involve the issuance of a senior security, including options, futures and forward contracts, with appropriate earmarking or segregation of assets to cover such obligation.

The 1940 Act permits the Fund to borrow money from banks in an amount up to one-third of its total assets (including the amount borrowed) less its liabilities (not including any borrowings but including the fair market value at the time of computation of any other senior securities then outstanding). In general, the Fund may not issue any class of senior security, except that the Fund may (i) borrow from banks, provided that immediately following any such borrowing there is an asset coverage of at least 300% for all Fund borrowings and in the event such asset coverage falls below 300% the Fund will within three days (excluding holidays and Sundays) or such longer period as the SEC may prescribe by rules and regulation, reduce the amount of its borrowings to an extent that the asset coverage of such borrowings shall be at least 300%, and (ii) engage in trading practices which could be deemed to involve the issuance of a senior security, including options, futures, forward contracts and reverse repurchase agreements, provided that the Fund earmarks or segregates liquid assets in accordance with applicable SEC regulations and interpretations.

Under current SEC and SEC staff interpretation, the Fund would “concentrate” its investments if more than 25% of the Fund’s total assets would be invested in securities of issuers conducting their principal business activities in the same industry. For purposes of this limitation, there is no limit on: (1) investments in U.S. Government securities, in repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. Government securities, in tax-exempt securities issued by the states, territories or possessions of the United States (“municipal securities”) or in foreign government securities; or (2) investments in issuers domiciled in a single jurisdiction. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, if the Fund invests in other investment companies that concentrate their investments in a particular industry, the Fund will consider such investments to be issued by a member of the industry in which the other investment company invests.

## **CALCULATION OF SHARE PRICE**

The share price or NAV of shares of the Fund is determined as of the close of the regular session of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the “NYSE”) on each day the NYSE is open for trading. Currently, the NYSE is open for trading on every day except Saturdays, Sundays and the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents’ Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

For purposes of computing the Fund’s NAV, securities are valued at market value as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE (normally, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time) on each business day the NYSE is open. Securities listed on the NYSE or other exchanges are valued based on their last sale prices on the exchanges on which they are primarily traded. If there are no sales on that day, the securities are valued at the mean of the closing bid and ask prices on the NYSE or other primary exchange for that day. National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations (“NASDAQ”) listed securities are valued at the NASDAQ Official Closing Price. If there are no sales on that day, the securities are valued at the mean of the most recently quoted bid and ask prices as reported by NASDAQ. Securities traded in the OTC market are valued at the last sale price, if available, otherwise at the mean of the most recently quoted bid and ask prices. In the event that market quotations are not readily available or are considered unreliable due to market or other events, securities and other assets are valued at fair value as determined in good faith in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board. Fixed-income securities are normally valued based on prices obtained from independent third-party pricing services approved by the Board, which are generally determined with consideration given to institutional bid and last sale prices and take into account security prices, yield, maturity, call features, ratings, institutional sized trading in similar groups of securities, and developments



related to specific securities. One or more pricing services may be utilized to determine the value of securities held by the Fund. The methods used by independent pricing services and the quality of valuations so established are reviewed by the Adviser and the Fund's administrator under the general supervision of the Board. To the extent the assets of the Fund are invested in other open-end investment companies that are registered under the 1940 Act and not traded on an exchange, the Fund's NAV is calculated based upon the NAVs reported by such registered open-end investment companies, and the prospectuses for these companies explain the circumstances under which they will use fair value pricing and the effects of using fair value pricing.

## **ADDITIONAL PURCHASE AND REDEMPTION INFORMATION**

Shares of the Fund are offered for sale on a continuous basis. Shares are sold and redeemed at their NAV, as next determined after receipt of the purchase or redemption order in proper form.

The Fund may suspend the right of redemption or postpone the date of payment for shares during a period when: (a) trading on the NYSE is restricted by applicable rules and regulations of the SEC; (b) the NYSE is closed for other than customary weekend and holiday closings; (c) the SEC has by order permitted these suspensions; or (d) an emergency exists as a result of which: (i) disposal by the Fund of securities owned by it is not reasonably practicable, or (ii) it is not reasonably practicable for the Fund to determine the value of its assets.

The Fund reserves the right to make payment for a redemption in securities rather than cash, which is known as a "redemption in kind". Redemptions in kind will be made only under extraordinary circumstances and if the Fund deems it advisable for the benefit of all shareholders, such as a very large redemption that could affect Fund operations (for example, more than 1% of the Fund's net assets). A redemption in kind will consist of liquid securities equal in market value to the Fund shares being redeemed, using the same valuation procedures that the Fund uses to compute its NAV. Redemption in kind proceeds will typically be made by delivering a pro-rata amount of the Fund's holdings to the redeeming shareholder within 7 days after the Fund's receipt of the redemption order in proper form. If the Fund redeems your shares in kind, you will bear the market risks associated with maintaining or selling the securities paid as redemption proceeds. In addition, when you sell these securities, you bear the risk that the securities have become less liquid and are difficult to sell. You also will pay taxes and brokerage charges associated with selling the securities.

## **SPECIAL SHAREHOLDER SERVICES**

As noted in the Prospectus, the Fund offers the following shareholder services:

**Regular Account.** The regular account allows for voluntary investments to be made at any time. Available to individuals, custodians, corporations, trusts, estates, corporate retirement plans and others, investors are free to make additions to and withdrawals from their account as often as they wish. When an investor makes an initial investment in the Fund, a shareholder account is opened in accordance with the investor's registration instructions. Each time there is a transaction in a shareholder account, such as an additional investment or a redemption, the shareholder will receive a confirmation statement showing the current transaction.

**Automatic Investment Plan.** The automatic investment plan enables investors to make regular periodic investments in shares through automatic charges to their checking account. With shareholder authorization and bank approval, the Fund's transfer agent will automatically charge the checking account for the amount specified (\$100 minimum) which will be automatically invested in shares at the NAV on or

about the fifteenth or the last business day of the month, or both. The shareholder may change the amount of the investment or discontinue the plan at any time by writing to the Fund.

**Transfer of Registration.** To transfer shares to another owner, send a written request to Ladder Select Bond Fund, c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC, P.O. Box 46707, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246-0707. Your request should include the following: (i) the Fund name and existing account registration; (ii) signature(s) of the registered owner(s) exactly as the signature(s) appear(s) on the account registration; (iii) if it is for a new account, a completed account application, or if it is an existing account, the account number; (iv) Medallion signature guarantees (See the heading “How to Redeem Shares – Signature Guarantees” in the Prospectus); and (v) any additional documents that are required for transfer by corporations, administrators, executors, trustees, guardians, etc. If you have any questions about transferring shares, call or write the Fund.

## **MANAGEMENT OF THE TRUST**

Overall responsibility for management and supervision of the Fund and the Trust rests with the members of the Board (the “Trustees”) who are elected by the Trust’s shareholders or are existing members of the Board as permitted under the 1940 Act and the Trust’s Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the “Declaration of Trust”). The Trustees serve for terms of indefinite duration until death, resignation, retirement, or removal from office. The Trustees, in turn, elect the officers of the Trust to actively supervise the Trust’s day-to-day operations. The officers are elected annually. Certain officers of the Trust also may serve as Trustees.

The Trust will be managed by the Trustees in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio governing business trusts. There are currently four Trustees, three of whom are not “interested persons”, as defined by the 1940 Act, of the Trust (the “Independent Trustees”). The Independent Trustees receive compensation for their services as Trustees and attendance at meetings of the Board. Officers of the Trust receive no compensation from the Trust for performing the duties of their offices.

Attached in Appendix A is a list of the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust, their year of birth and address, their present position with the Trust, and their principal occupation during the past five years. Those Trustees who are “interested persons” as defined in the 1940 Act and those Trustees who are Independent Trustees are identified in the table.

### **Leadership Structure and Qualifications of Trustees**

The Board consists of four Trustees, three of whom are Independent Trustees. The Board is responsible for the oversight of the series, or funds, of the Trust. In addition to the Fund, the Trust currently consists of the following series:

- Alambic Mid Cap Growth Plus Fund, Alambic Mid Cap Value Plus Fund, Alambic Small Cap Growth Plus Fund, and Alambic Small Cap Value Plus Fund managed by Alambic Investment Management, L.P. of San Francisco, California;
- Barrow Value Opportunity Fund managed by Barrow Street Advisors LLC of Stamford, Connecticut;
- Blue Current Global Dividend Fund managed by Edge Advisors, LLC, of Atlanta, Georgia;
- Cincinnati Asset Management Funds: Broad Market Strategic Income Fund managed by Cincinnati Asset Management, Inc. of Cincinnati, Ohio;
- HVIA Equity Fund managed by Hudson Valley Investment Advisors, Inc. of Goshen, New York;

- Kempner Multi-Cap Deep Value Fund managed by Kempner Capital Management, Inc. of Galveston, Texas;
- Lyrical U.S. Value Equity Fund managed by Lyrical Asset Management LP of New York, New York;
- Marshfield Concentrated Opportunity Fund managed by Marshfield Associates, Inc. of Washington, District of Columbia;
- Meehan Focus Fund managed by Edgemoor Investment Advisors, Inc. of Bethesda, Maryland;
- Ryan Labs Core Bond Fund and Ryan Labs Long Credit Fund managed by Ryan Labs Asset Management, Inc. of New York, New York;
- Stralem Equity Fund managed by Stralem & Company, Inc. of New York, New York;
- Topturn OneEighty Fund managed by Topturn Fund Advisors, LLC of Monterey, California;
- Wavelength Interest Rate Neutral Fund managed by Wavelength Capital Management, LLC of New York, New York; and
- Waycross Long/Short Equity Fund managed by Waycross Partners, LLC of Louisville, Kentucky.

The Board has engaged the above-named investment advisers to oversee the day-to-day management of the Trust's series. The Board is responsible for overseeing these investment advisers and the Trust's other service providers in the operations of the Trust in accordance with the 1940 Act, other applicable federal and state laws, and the Declaration of Trust.

The Board meets at least four times throughout the year. The Board generally meets in person, but may meet by telephone as permitted by the 1940 Act. In addition, the Trustees may meet in person or by telephone at special meetings or on an informal basis at other times. The Independent Trustees also meet at least quarterly without the presence of any representatives of management.

**Board Leadership.** The Board is led by its Chairman, Mr. John J. Discepoli, who is also an Independent Trustee. The Chairman generally presides at all Board Meetings. The Chairman facilitates communication and coordination between the Trustees and management. The Chairman also reviews meeting agendas for the Board and the information provided by management to the Trustees. The Chairman works closely with Trust counsel and counsel to the Independent Trustees. The Chairman is also assisted by the Trust's President, who, with the assistance of the Trust's other officers, oversees the daily operations of the Fund, including monitoring the activities of all of the Fund's service providers.

The Board believes that its leadership structure, including having an Independent Trustee serve as Chairman and three out of four Trustees as Independent Trustees, is appropriate and in the best interests of the Trust. The Board also believes its leadership structure facilitates the orderly and efficient flow of information to the Independent Trustees from Trust management.

**Board Committee.** The Board has established a Committee of Independent Trustees (the "Committee"), the principal functions of which are: (i) to appoint, retain and oversee the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm; (ii) to meet separately with the independent registered public accounting firm and receive and consider a report concerning its conduct of the audit, including any comments or recommendations it deems appropriate; (iii) to select and nominate all persons to serve as Independent Trustees; (iv) to act as the Trust's qualified legal compliance committee ("QLCC"), as defined in the regulations under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act; and (v) to act as a proxy voting committee if called upon under the Trust's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures when a matter with respect to which a series of the Trust is entitled to vote presents a conflict between the interest of the series' shareholders, on the one hand, and those of the series' investment manager on the other hand. In selecting and nominating persons to serve as Independent Trustees, the Committee will not consider nominees recommended by shareholders of the

Trust. Messrs. David M. Deptula and Discepoli and Ms. Janine L. Cohen are the members of the Committee. Mr. Deptula is the Chairman of the Committee and presides at its meetings. The Committee met seven times during the Fund's prior fiscal year.

***Qualifications of the Trustees.*** The Committee reviews the experience, qualifications, attributes, and skills of potential candidates for nomination or election by the Board. In evaluating a candidate for nomination or election as a Trustee, the Committee takes into account the contribution that the candidate would be expected to make to the diverse mix of experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that the Committee believes contribute to the oversight of the Trust's affairs. The Board has concluded, based on each Trustee's experience, qualifications, attributes, or skills on both an individual basis and in combination with the other Trustees, that each Trustee is qualified to serve on the Board. The Board believes that the Trustees' ability to review critically, evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them, to interact effectively with the Adviser, other service providers, legal counsel and the independent registered public accounting firm, and to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties as Trustees support this conclusion. In determining that a particular Trustee is and will continue to be qualified to serve as a Trustee, the Board considers a variety of criteria, none of which, in isolation, is controlling.

In addition to the Trustee qualifications listed above, each of the Trustees has additional Trustee qualifications including, among other things, the experience identified in the "Trustees and Executive Officers" table included in Appendix A and as follows:

#### Interested Trustee

Robert G. Dorsey is a co-founder of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC ("Ultimus") and Ultimus Fund Distributors, LLC (the "Distributor"). Mr. Dorsey served as President and Managing Director of Ultimus and the Distributor since their founding in 1999 until April 2018 and is currently serving as Co-Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Ultimus. Mr. Dorsey has over 30 years of experience in the mutual fund servicing industry. He holds a B.S. from Christian Brothers University and is a Certified Public Accountant (inactive). Mr. Dorsey has been a Trustee since February 2012.

#### Independent Trustees

John J. Discepoli is the owner of Discepoli Financial Planning, LLC, a personal financial planning firm. He founded the firm in November 2004. Mr. Discepoli has over 15 years of experience in the financial services industry. He holds a B.B.A. in Accounting from the University of Notre Dame and received a certificate from the Executive Development Program of Northwestern University – Kellogg School of Management. Mr. Discepoli is a Certified Public Accountant and Personal Financial Specialist. Mr. Discepoli has been the Chairman since May 2016 and a Trustee since June 2012.

David M. Deptula has served as Vice President of Legal and Special Projects for Dayton Freight Lines, Inc. since February 1, 2016. Prior to that position, Mr. Deptula was Vice President of Tax Treasury for Standard Register, Inc. (a company that provides solutions for companies to manage their critical communications, previously The Standard Register Company) since November 2011. (Standard Register, Inc., a newly formed subsidiary of Taylor Corporation, purchased assets of The Standard Register Company on July 31, 2015.) Prior to joining Standard Register, Mr. Deptula was a Tax Partner at Deloitte Tax LLP ("Deloitte"). Mr. Deptula joined Deloitte in 1984 and remained with Deloitte until October of 2011. During his tenure at Deloitte, he was actively involved in providing tax accounting services to open-end mutual funds and other financial services companies. Mr. Deptula holds a B.S. in Accounting from Wright State University and a Juris Doctor from University of Toledo. He is also a Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Deptula has been a Trustee since June 2012.

Janine L. Cohen served as the Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”) from 2004 to 2013 and Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”) of AER Advisors, Inc. (“AER”) from 2008 through her retirement in 2013. During her tenure at AER, she was actively involved in developing financial forecasts, business plans, and SEC registrations. Prior to her tenure at AER, Ms. Cohen was a Senior Vice President at State Street Bank. Ms. Cohen has over 30 years of experience in the financial services industry. She holds a B.S. in Accounting and Math from the University of Minnesota and is a Certified Public Accountant. Ms. Cohen has been a Trustee since January 2016.

References above to the qualifications, attributes, and skills of Trustees are pursuant to requirements of the SEC, do not constitute holding out the Board or any Trustee as having any special expertise or experience, and shall not impose any greater responsibility on any such person or on the Board by reason thereof.

***Risk Oversight.*** The operation of a mutual fund, including its investment activities, generally involves a variety of risks. As part of its oversight of the Fund, the Board oversees risk through various regular board and committee activities. The Board, directly or through its Committee, reviews reports from, among others, the Adviser, the Trust’s CCO, the Trust’s independent registered public accounting firm, and outside legal counsel, regarding risks faced by the Fund and the risk management programs of the Adviser, with respect to the Fund’s investments and trading activities, and certain service providers. The actual day-to-day risk management with respect to the Fund resides with the Adviser, with respect to the Fund’s investment and trading activities, and other service providers to the Fund. Although the risk management policies of the Adviser and the service providers are designed to be effective, there is no guarantee that they will anticipate or mitigate all risks. Not all risks that may affect the Fund can be identified, eliminated, or mitigated and some risks simply may not be anticipated or may be beyond the control of the Board or the Adviser or other service providers. The Independent Trustees meet separately with the Trust’s CCO at least annually, outside the presence of management, to discuss issues related to compliance. Furthermore, the Board receives an annual written report from the Trust’s CCO regarding the operation of the compliance policies and procedures of the Trust and its primary service providers. As part of its oversight function, the Board also may hold special meetings or communicate directly with Trust management or the Trust’s CCO to address matters arising between regular meetings.

The Board also receives quarterly reports from the Adviser on the investments and securities trading of the Fund, including the Fund’s investment performance, as well as reports regarding the valuation of the Fund’s securities. The Board also receives quarterly reports from the Fund’s administrator (the “Administrator”), transfer agent (the “Transfer Agent”) and Distributor on regular quarterly items and, where appropriate and as needed, on specific issues. In addition, in its annual review of the Fund’s investment advisory agreement (the “Advisory Agreement”), the Board will review information provided by the Adviser relating to its operational capabilities, financial condition, and resources. The Board also conducts an annual self-evaluation that includes a review of its effectiveness in overseeing, among other things, the number of funds in the Trust and the effectiveness of the Board’s committee structure.

**Trustees’ Ownership of Fund Shares.** The following table shows each Trustee’s beneficial ownership of shares of the Fund and, on an aggregate basis, of shares of all funds within the Trust overseen by the Trustee. Information is provided as of December 31, 2017.

Name of Trustee	Dollar Range of Shares of the Fund Owned by Trustee	Aggregate Dollar Range of Shares Owned of All Funds in Trust Overseen by Trustee
<i>Interested Trustee</i>		
Robert G. Dorsey	None	Over \$100,000
<i>Independent Trustees</i>		
John J. Discepoli	None	None
David M. Deptula	None	None
Janine L. Cohen	None	None

**Ownership in Fund Affiliates.** As of the date of this SAI, none of the Independent Trustees, nor members of their immediate families, owned, beneficially or of record, securities of the Adviser, the Distributor or any affiliate of the Adviser or the Distributor.

**Trustee Compensation.** No director, officer, or employee of the Adviser or the Distributor receives any compensation from the Trust for serving as an officer or Trustee of the Trust. Each Independent Trustee receives a \$500 per meeting fee and a \$1,000 annual retainer for each series of the Trust, except Mr. Discepoli who receives a \$1,200 annual retainer for serving as Chairman. The Trust reimburses each Trustee and officer for his or her travel and other expenses incurred by attending meetings. The following table provides the amount of compensation paid to each Trustee during the Fund's fiscal year ended February 28, 2018:

Name of Trustee	Aggregate Compensation From the Fund	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued As Part of Fund Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation From all Funds Within the Trust
<i>Interested Trustee</i>				
Robert G. Dorsey	None	None	None	None
<i>Independent Trustees</i>				
John J. Discepoli	\$3,200	None	None	\$86,300
David M. Deptula	\$3,000	None	None	\$81,000
Janine L. Cohen	\$3,000	None	None	\$81,000

**Principal Holders of Voting Securities.** As of June 8, 2018, the Trustees and officers of the Trust as a group owned beneficially (i.e., had direct or indirect voting or investment power) less than 1% of the then-outstanding shares of the Fund. On the same date, the following shareholders owned of record more than 5% of the outstanding shares of beneficial interest of the Fund:

Name and Address of Record Owner	Percentage Ownership
Ladder Capital Finance Portfolio II 345 Park Avenue, 8 <sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10154	78.17%
TD Ameritrade Inc FBO/Our Clients P.O. Box 2226 Omaha, Nebraska 68103-2226	8.03%

A shareholder owning of record or beneficially more than 25% of the Fund’s outstanding shares may be considered a controlling person. That shareholder’s vote could have a more significant effect on matters presented at a shareholders’ meeting than the vote of other shareholders.

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

Ladder Capital Asset Management LLC, located at 345 Park Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10154, serves as the investment adviser to the Fund pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, dated August 1, 2016. Subject to the Fund’s investment objective and policies approved by the Board, the Adviser is responsible for providing the Fund with a continuous program of investing the Fund’s assets and determining the composition of the Fund’s portfolio. The Adviser is a limited liability company organized under the laws of Delaware and began operations in February 2011; it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ladder Capital Corp (NYSE: LADR) (collectively with its affiliates, “Ladder”). In addition to managing the Fund, Ladder operates a publicly-traded, internally managed REIT, Ladder conducts its business through three commercial real estate-related businesses; loans, securities, and real-estate investments.

The Advisory Agreement is effective for an initial two-year period and will be renewed for periods of one year only so long as such renewal and continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board or by vote of a majority of the applicable Fund’s outstanding voting securities, provided the continuance is also approved by a majority of the Independent Trustees. The Advisory Agreement is terminable without penalty on 60 days’ notice by the Trustees or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. The Advisory Agreement provides that it will terminate automatically in the event of its “assignment”, as such term is defined in the 1940 Act.

For its services, the Fund pays the Adviser a monthly investment advisory fee (the “Management Fee”) computed at the annual rate of 0.75% of its average daily net assets. Under an expense limitation agreement (the “Expense Limitation Agreement”), the Adviser has agreed to reduce its Management Fee and reimburse Other Expenses to the extent necessary to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses for each class of shares of the Fund (exclusive of portfolio transaction and other investment-related costs (including brokerage costs); taxes; interest, costs to organize the Fund; Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses; extraordinary expenses such as litigation and merger or reorganization costs and other expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of the Fund’s business; and amounts, if any, payable pursuant to a distribution or service plan adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1 under 1940 Act) to an amount not exceeding 1.20% and 0.95% of the average daily net assets of the Advisor Class and Institutional Class shares, respectively, until July 31, 2019. Prior to July 31, 2019, the Expense Limitation Agreement may be modified or terminated only with the approval of the Board. Management Fee reductions and expense reimbursements by the Adviser are subject to repayment by the Fund for a period of three years after such fees and expenses were incurred, provided that the repayments do not cause Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses (exclusive of such reductions and reimbursements) to exceed (i) the expense limitation then in effect, if any, and (ii) the expense limitation in effect at the time the expenses to be repaid were incurred.

The table below provides the compensation paid to the Adviser by the Fund and Management Fee reductions and expense reimbursements made by the Adviser during the fiscal period(s)/year(s) indicated:

<b>Fiscal Period/Year Ended February 28</b>	<b>Management Fees Accrued</b>	<b>Management Fee Reductions</b>	<b>Expense Reimbursements</b>	<b>Net Advisory Fees Received By Adviser</b>
2018	\$92,998	\$92,998	\$58,762	\$0
2017	\$33,179	\$33,179	\$25,037	\$0

The Adviser manages the Fund’s investments in accordance with the stated investment objective and policies of the Fund, subject to the oversight of the Board. The Adviser is responsible for investment decisions, and provides the Fund with a portfolio manager to execute purchases and sales of securities and investments. The Advisory Agreement provides that the Adviser shall not be liable for any error of judgment or for any loss suffered by the Trust or the Fund in connection with the performance of its duties, except a loss resulting from a breach of fiduciary duty with respect to receipt of compensation for services (in which case any award of damages shall be limited to the period and the amount set forth in Section 36(b)(3) of the 1940 Act) or a loss resulting from willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on the part of the Adviser in the performance of its duties, or from reckless disregard of its duties and obligations thereunder.

**Portfolio Managers.** The Fund is managed by Brian Harris and Craig Sedmak (the “Portfolio Managers”), who have joint responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of investment strategies for the Fund.

Other Accounts Managed by Portfolio Managers

In addition to the Fund, the Portfolio Managers may be responsible for the day-to-day management of certain other accounts. The table below shows the number of, and total assets in such other accounts as of February 28, 2018.

<b>Portfolio Manager</b>	<b>Type of Accounts</b>	<b>Total Number of Other Accounts Managed</b>	<b>Total Assets of Other Accounts Managed (million)</b>	<b>Number of Accounts Managed with Advisory Fee Based on Performance</b>	<b>Total Assets of Accounts Managed with Advisory Fee Based on Performance (million)</b>
Brian Harris	Registered Investment Companies	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Other Accounts	0	\$0	0	\$0
Craig Sedmak	Registered Investment Companies	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Other Accounts	0	\$0	0	\$0

Potential Conflicts of Interest

The Portfolio Managers may provide investment advice to other accounts, including accounts of Ladder and third-party clients of the Adviser (“Other Accounts”). A Portfolio Manager’s management of Other Accounts may give rise to potential conflicts of interest in connection with their management of the Fund’s investments, on the one hand, and the investments of the Other Accounts, on the other. A potential conflict of interest may arise when a particular investment may be suitable for both the Fund and the Other Accounts, whereby the Portfolio Manager could favor one account over another. This conflict may be particularly present with respect to investments suitable for both the Fund and a Ladder account. However,



the Adviser has established policies and procedures to ensure that such investments will be allocated between the Fund and the Other Accounts pro rata based on each account's available funding or otherwise in a manner determined to be fair and equitable over time. Generally, when it is determined that it would be appropriate for both the Fund and the Other Accounts to participate in an investment or trading opportunity, and when there is only a limited supply of an opportunity in which both the Fund and the Other Accounts is to participate, the Adviser will use reasonable efforts to allocate the investment or trading opportunity among the participating accounts in a manner deemed equitable, in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Adviser's "Allocation Policy."

Another potential conflict could include the Adviser rendering investment management services to qualified clients for a performance-based fee. That fee could be an incentive for the Adviser to make riskier or more speculative investments than would be the case absent of a performance-based fee. The Adviser has established policies and procedures to ensure that any recommendations made are in the best interest of the clients regardless of the fee.

Additionally, Mr. Harris also serves as an officer of Ladder, which may create conflicts between his duties to the Fund and his duties to, and interests in, Ladder, which will not be obligated to dedicate any of its other executive officers or personnel exclusively to the Fund, and its executive officers and other personnel will not be obligated to dedicate any specific portion of its or their time to the Fund. As a result, these individuals will have competing interest for their business time and attention.

Further, during distress in the real estate or credit markets, the attention of the Portfolio Managers and the resources of Ladder may also be required by other affiliates. The Fund will compete with Ladder in the future for the time and attention of these officers.

The Portfolio Managers and the Adviser's other personnel are required to adhere to the fiduciary standards set forth in the Adviser's Compliance Manual and as required under Federal Securities Law. Under the Adviser's Compliance Manual, conflicts of interest that involve clients or investors are required to be resolved in a way that favors the interests of investors over the interests of the Adviser or its affiliates.

The Fund is prohibited from purchasing securities issued by, or entering into any primary market transaction with, any securitizations (i) to which the Adviser or its affiliates had sold loans or other securities; (ii) in which the Adviser or its affiliates owned any of the securities representing the controlling class of such securitization; (iii) for which the Adviser or its affiliates served as a trustee or servicer; or (iv) that the Adviser or its affiliates otherwise had a controlling influence over its operations or management (each such transaction an "Affiliated Securitization").

The Fund is permitted to purchase CMBS securities issued by such a securitization only in the secondary market after a 30 calendar day cooling offer period has passed from the settlement date of the securitization. The Adviser and its affiliates are prohibited from seeking to have any person hold securities issued by an Affiliated Securitization for the purpose of having such securities purchased by the Fund following the cooling off period. The Fund also is prohibited from purchasing securities issued by, or entering into any transactions with, the Adviser or its affiliates, unless the CCO has reviewed the transaction to determine that it complies with the Trust's compliance policies and procedures and the requirements of the Investment Company Act.

### Compensation

The Portfolio Managers are not compensated directly by the Fund. The Portfolio Managers are, however, compensated by Ladder based on a combination of company and individual performance. Compensation is generally comprised of a base salary and a company-standard benefits package, together

with an annual discretionary bonus, which, for certain annual income thresholds, is subject to mandatory investment in the company's equity program (with a three-year vesting schedule).

#### Ownership of Fund Shares

The table below shows the value of shares of the Fund beneficially owned by the Portfolio Managers of the Fund as of February 28, 2018 stated as one of the following ranges: A = None; B = \$1-\$10,000; C = \$10,001-\$50,000; D = \$50,001-\$100,000; E = \$100,001-\$500,000; F = \$500,001-\$1,000,000; and G = over \$1,000,000.

<u>Name of Portfolio Manager</u>	<u>Dollar Range of Shares of the Fund</u>
Brian Harris	F
Craig Sedmak	E

#### **PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS**

Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser determines, subject to the general supervision of the Board and in accordance with the Fund's investment objective, policies, and restrictions, which securities are to be purchased and sold by the Fund and which brokers are eligible to execute the Fund's portfolio transactions.

Purchases and sales of portfolio securities that are debt securities usually are principal transactions in which portfolio securities are normally purchased directly from the issuer or from an underwriter or market maker for the securities. Purchases from underwriters of portfolio securities generally include a commission or concession paid by the issuer to the underwriter, and purchases from dealers serving as market makers may include the spread between the bid and asked prices. Transactions on stock exchanges involve the payment of negotiated brokerage commissions. Transactions in the OTC market are generally principal transactions with dealers. With respect to the OTC market, the Fund, where possible, will deal directly with the dealers who make a market in the securities involved except under those circumstances where better price and execution are available elsewhere.

Allocation of transactions, including their frequency, to various brokers and dealers is determined by the Adviser in its best judgment consistent with its obligation to seek best execution and in a manner deemed fair and reasonable to shareholders. The primary consideration is prompt execution of orders in an effective manner at the most favorable price. Subject to this consideration, brokers who provide investment research to the Adviser may receive orders for equity transactions on behalf of the Fund. Information so received is in addition to and not in lieu of services required to be performed by the Adviser and does not reduce the fees payable to the Adviser by the Fund. Such information may be useful to the Adviser in serving both the Fund and other clients and, conversely, supplemental information obtained by the placement of brokerage orders of other clients may be useful to the Adviser in carrying out its obligations to the Fund. While the Adviser generally seeks competitive commissions, the Fund may not necessarily pay the lowest commission available on each brokerage transaction for the reasons discussed above.

Consistent with the foregoing, under Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Adviser is authorized to pay a brokerage commission in excess of that which another broker might have charged for effecting the same transaction, in recognition of the value of brokerage and/or research services provided by the broker. The research received by the Adviser may include, without limitation: information on the U.S. and other world economies; information on specific industries, groups of securities, individual companies, political and other relevant news developments affecting markets and specific securities; technical and quantitative information about markets; analysis of proxy proposals affecting specific companies; accounting and performance systems that allow the Adviser to determine and

track investment results; and trading systems that allow the Adviser to interface electronically with brokerage firms, custodians and other providers. Research is received in the form of written reports, telephone contacts, personal meetings, research seminars, software programs, and access to computer databases. In some instances, research products or services received by the Adviser may also be used by the Adviser for functions that are not research related (*i.e.*, not related to the making of investment decisions). Where a research product or service has a mixed use, the Adviser will make a reasonable allocation according to its use and will pay for the non-research function in cash using its own funds.

Subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act and procedures adopted by the Board, the Fund may execute portfolio transactions through any broker or dealer and pay brokerage commissions to a broker (i) which is an affiliated person of the Trust, or (ii) which is an affiliated person of such person, or (iii) an affiliated person of which is an affiliated person of the Trust, the Adviser or the Trust’s principal underwriter.

The following table provides the brokerage commissions the Fund paid during the fiscal period(s)/year(s) indicated:

<b>Fiscal Period/Year Ended February 28,</b>	<b>Brokerage Commissions</b>
2018	\$472
2017	\$32

The Adviser is affiliated with Ladder Capital Securities LLC (“LCS”), a broker-dealer registered with the SEC and in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (“FINRA”). As such, LCS is subject to regulations that cover all aspects of its business, including sales methods, trade practices, use and safekeeping of clients’ funds and securities, its capital structure, recordkeeping, the financing of clients’ purchases and the conduct of directors, officers and employees. The Fund is prohibited from participation in any transactions with LCS without the pre-approval of the Adviser’s CCO. The Adviser’s CCO must determine whether the Fund and Other Accounts of the adviser may or may not take part in the proposed transaction, considering a number of factors, including but not limited to, whether the transaction complies with applicable law, the Adviser’s policies relating to affiliated broker trades, and specific instructions from the Fund and Other Accounts regarding eligibility.

Any transactions of the Fund that are effected through LCS, or in offerings of securities in which LCS participates, must comply with Rule 17e-1 and Rule 10f-3 under the 1940 Act, as applicable, and the Trust’s compliance policies and procedures with respect thereto.

## **THE DISTRIBUTOR**

The Distributor, located at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, is the exclusive agent for distribution of shares of the Fund pursuant to a Distribution Agreement (the “Distribution Agreement”). The Distributor is obligated to sell shares of the Fund on a best efforts basis only against purchase orders for the shares. Shares of the Fund are offered to the public on a continuous basis. The Distributor is compensated for its services to the Trust under a written agreement for such services. The Distributor is an affiliate of Ultimus. Robert G. Dorsey is a Managing Director of the Distributor and a Trustee of the Trust.

By its terms, the Distribution Agreement is for an initial term of two years and will continue in effect year-to-year thereafter so long as such renewal and continuance is approved at least annually by (1) the Board or (2) a vote of the majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting shares; provided that in either event

continuance is also approved by a majority of the Independent Trustees, by a vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Distribution Agreement may be terminated at any time, on sixty days written notice, without payment of any penalty, by the Trust or by the Distributor. The Distribution Agreement automatically terminates in the event of its assignment, as defined by the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder. Under the Distribution Agreement, the Distributor is paid \$6,000 per annum for its services by the Fund and/or the Adviser to the Fund.

## **OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS**

### **Administrator, Fund Accountant and Transfer Agent**

Ultimus, located at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, serves as the Administrator, fund accountant (the “Fund Accountant”) and Transfer Agent to the Fund pursuant to the Administration Agreement, a Fund Accounting Agreement and a Transfer Agent and Shareholder Services Agreement (collectively, the “Service Agreements”).

As Administrator, Ultimus assists in supervising all operations of the Fund (other than those performed by the Adviser under the Advisory Agreement). Ultimus has agreed to perform or arrange for the performance of the following services (under the Service Agreements, Ultimus may delegate all or any part of its responsibilities thereunder):

- prepare and assemble reports required to be sent to the Fund’s shareholders and arrange for the printing and dissemination of such reports;
- assemble reports required to be filed with the SEC and file such completed reports with the SEC;
- file the Fund’s federal income and excise tax returns and the Fund’s state and local tax returns;
- assist and advise the Fund regarding compliance with the 1940 Act and with its investment policies and limitations; and
- make such reports and recommendations to the Board as the Board reasonably requests or deems appropriate.

As Fund Accountant, Ultimus maintains the accounting books and records for the Fund, including journals containing an itemized daily record of all purchases and sales of portfolio securities, all receipts and disbursements of cash and all other debits and credits, general and auxiliary ledgers reflecting all asset, liability, reserve, capital, income and expense accounts, including interest accrued and interest received, and other required separate ledger accounts. Ultimus also maintains a monthly trial balance of all ledger accounts; performs certain accounting services for the Fund, including calculation of the NAV per share, calculation of the dividend and capital gain distributions, reconciles cash movements with the custodian, verifies and reconciles with the custodian all daily trade activities; provides certain reports; obtains dealer quotations or prices from pricing services used in determining NAV; and prepares an interim balance sheet, statement of income and expense, and statement of changes in net assets for the Fund.

As Transfer Agent, Ultimus performs the following services in connection with the Fund’s shareholders: maintains records for the Fund’s shareholders of record; processes shareholder purchase and redemption orders; processes transfers and exchanges of shares of the Fund on the shareholder files and records; processes dividend payments and reinvestments; and assists in the mailing of shareholder reports and proxy solicitation materials.

Ultimus receives fees from the Fund for its services as Administrator, Fund Accountant, and Transfer Agent, and is reimbursed for certain expenses assumed pursuant to the Service Agreements.

The Service Agreements between the Trust, on behalf of the Fund, and Ultimus, unless otherwise terminated as provided in the Service Agreements, are renewed automatically for successive one-year periods.

The Service Agreements provide that Ultimus shall not be liable for any error of judgment or mistake of law or any loss suffered by the Trust in connection with the matters to which the Service Agreements relate, except a loss from willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties, or from the reckless disregard by Ultimus of its obligations and duties thereunder.

During the fiscal period(s)/year(s) listed below, Ultimus received the following fees from the Fund for its services as Administrator, Fund Accountant, and Transfer Agent:

<b>Fiscal Period/Year Ended February 28</b>	<b>Administration</b>	<b>Fund Accounting</b>	<b>Transfer Agent</b>
2018	\$25,000	\$26,236	\$12,000
2017	\$8,903	\$9,345	\$4,452

### **Custodian**

U.S. Bank, N.A. (the “Custodian”), located at 425 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, serves as custodian to the Fund pursuant to a Custody Agreement. The Custodian’s responsibilities include safeguarding and controlling the Fund’s cash and securities, handling the receipt and delivery of securities, and collecting interest and dividends on the Fund’s investments.

### **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Cohen & Company, Ltd., located at 1350 Euclid Avenue, Suite 800, Cleveland, Ohio 44115, serves as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Fund for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2018, audits the annual financial statements of the Fund, and assists in preparing the Fund’s federal, state and excise tax returns for the fiscal year ending February 28, 2019.

### **Legal Counsel**

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, located at 4208 Six Forks Road, Suite 1400, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609, serves as legal counsel to the Trust and the Trust’s Independent Trustees.

### **Compliance Consulting Agreement**

Under the terms of a Compliance Consulting Agreement with the Trust, Ultimus provides an individual with the requisite background and familiarity with the Federal securities laws to serve as the Trust’s CCO and to administer the Trust’s compliance policies and procedures. For these services, the Fund pays Ultimus a base fee of \$12,000 per annum, plus an asset-based fee computed at the annual rate of 0.01% of the average net assets of the Fund in excess of \$100 million. In addition, the Fund reimburses Ultimus for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses relating to these compliance services.

### **Consulting Agreement**

Under the terms of a Consulting Agreement with the Trust, John C. Davis (the “Consultant”) provides expertise and advice to the Trust, as reasonably requested by the Board, regarding investment advisory and service provider oversight, contract monitoring and renewal, business continuity, compliance and compliance officer oversight, disclosure, distribution, new fund and adviser due diligence, risk

oversight and other matters that are responsibilities of a board of trustees of a mutual fund family to review or monitor.

## **DISTRIBUTION PLAN**

The Fund has adopted a Distribution Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act (the “Plan”) for the Advisor Class of shares. See the section entitled “Distribution Plan” in the Prospectus for additional information on the specifics of the Plan. As required by Rule 12b-1, the Plan was approved by the Board and separately by a majority of the Independent Trustees who have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the Plan. The Plan provides that the Trust’s Distributor or Treasurer shall provide to the Board, at least quarterly, a written report of the amounts expended pursuant to the Plan and the purposes of such expenditures. The Board will take into account the expenditures for purposes of reviewing operation of the Plan and in connection with their annual consideration of the renewal of the Plan.

Under the Plan, the Fund on behalf of the Advisor Class shares, may annually expend up to 0.25% of the Fund’s average daily net assets to pay for any activity primarily intended to result in the sale of those shares and the servicing of shareholder accounts, provided that the Board has approved the category of expenses for which payment is being made. In connection therewith, the Advisor Class shares of the Fund may pay up to 0.25% of their average daily net assets to the Distributor, as compensation for services or other activities that are primarily intended to result in the sale of shares, or reimbursement for expenses incurred in connection with services or other activities that are primarily intended to result in the sale of shares. The Distributor may enter into selling agreements with one or more selling agents under which such agents may receive compensation for distribution-related services from the Distributor, including, but not limited to, commissions or other payments to such agents based on the average daily net assets of the Investor Class shares attributable to them. The Fund does not participate in any joint distribution activities with other investment companies. Robert G. Dorsey, as an owner of the Distributor, may be deemed to receive an indirect benefit from the operation of the Plan.

As of the date of this SAI, the Advisor Class shares are not being offered.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Other Payments by the Fund**

The Fund may enter into agreements with financial intermediaries pursuant to which the Fund may pay financial intermediaries for non-distribution-related sub-transfer agency, administrative, sub-accounting, and other shareholder services. Payments made pursuant to such agreements are generally based on either (1) a percentage of the average daily net assets of Fund shareholders serviced by a financial intermediary, or (2) the number of Fund shareholders serviced by a financial intermediary. Any payments made pursuant to such agreements may be in addition to, rather than in lieu of, distribution fees the Fund may pay to financial intermediaries pursuant to the Fund’s distribution plan.

### **Other Payments by the Adviser**

The Adviser and/or its affiliates, in their discretion, may make payments from their own resources and not from Fund assets to affiliated or unaffiliated brokers, dealers, banks (including bank trust departments), trust companies, registered investment advisers, financial planners, retirement plan administrators, insurance companies, and any other institution having a service, administration, or any similar arrangement with the Fund, their service providers or their respective affiliates, as incentives to help market and promote the Fund and/or in recognition of their distribution, marketing, administrative services, and/or processing support.

These additional payments may be made to financial intermediaries that sell Fund shares or provide services to the Fund, the Distributor or shareholders of the Fund through the financial intermediary's retail distribution channel and/or fund supermarkets. Payments may also be made through the financial intermediary's retirement, qualified tuition, fee-based advisory, wrap fee bank trust, or insurance (e.g., individual or group annuity) programs. These payments may include, but are not limited to, placing the Fund in a financial intermediary's retail distribution channel or on a preferred or recommended fund list; providing business or shareholder financial planning assistance; educating financial intermediary personnel about the Fund; providing access to sales and management representatives of the financial intermediary; promoting sales of Fund shares; providing marketing and educational support; maintaining share balances and/or for sub-accounting, administrative or shareholder transaction processing services. A financial intermediary may perform the services itself or may arrange with a third party to perform the services.

The Adviser and/or its affiliates may also make payments from their own resources to financial intermediaries for costs associated with the purchase of products or services used in connection with sales and marketing, participation in and/or presentation at conferences or seminars, sales or training programs, client and investor entertainment and other sponsored events. The costs and expenses associated with these efforts may include travel, lodging, sponsorship at educational seminars and conferences, entertainment and meals to the extent permitted by law.

Revenue sharing payments may be negotiated based on a variety of factors, including the level of sales, the amount of Fund assets attributable to investments in the Fund by financial intermediaries' customers, a flat fee or other measures as determined from time to time by the Adviser and/or its affiliates. A significant purpose of these payments is to increase the sales of Fund shares, which in turn may benefit the Adviser through increased fees as Fund assets grow.

Investors should understand that some financial intermediaries may also charge their clients fees in connection with purchases of shares or the provision of shareholder services.

## **Description of Shares**

The Trust is an unincorporated business trust that was organized under Ohio law on February 28, 2012. The Declaration of Trust authorizes the Board to divide shares into series, each series relating to a separate portfolio of investments, and to further divide shares of a series into separate classes. The shares of the Fund are currently divided into two classes, the Advisor Class shares and the Institutional Class shares, which are described in the Prospectus. Additional classes of shares may be created at any time. In the event of a liquidation or dissolution of the Trust or an individual series or class, shareholders of a particular series or class would be entitled to receive the assets available for distribution belonging to such series or class. Shareholders of a series or class are entitled to participate equally in the net distributable assets of the particular series or class involved on liquidation, based on the number of shares of the series or class that are held by each shareholder. If any assets, income, earnings, proceeds, funds, or payments are not readily identifiable as belonging to any particular series or class, the Trustees shall allocate them among any one or more series or classes as they, in their sole discretion, deem fair and equitable. Subject to the Declaration of Trust, determinations by the Board as to the allocation of liabilities, and the allocable portion of any general assets, with respect to the Fund and each class of the Fund is conclusive.

Shares of the Fund, when issued, are fully paid and non-assessable. Shares have no subscription, preemptive or conversion rights. Shares do not have cumulative voting rights. Shareholders are entitled to one vote for each full share held and a fractional vote for each fractional share held. Shareholders of all series and classes of the Trust, including the Fund, will vote together and not separately, except as otherwise required by law or when the Board determines that the matter to be voted upon affects only the interests of

the shareholders of a particular series or class. Rule 18f-2 under the 1940 Act provides, in substance, that any matter required to be submitted to the holders of the outstanding voting securities of an investment company such as the Trust shall not be deemed to have been effectively acted upon unless approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of each series or class affected by the matter. A series or class is affected by a matter unless it is clear that the interests of each series or class in the matter are substantially identical or that the matter does not affect any interest of the series or class. Under Rule 18f-2, the approval of an investment advisory agreement, a distribution plan or any change in a fundamental investment policy would be effectively acted upon with respect to a series or class only if approved by a majority of the outstanding shares of such series or class. However, the Rule also provides that the ratification of the appointment of independent accountants and the election of Trustees may be effectively acted upon by shareholders of the Trust voting together, without regard to a particular series or class.

### **Trustee Liability**

The Declaration of Trust provides that the Board will not be liable in any event in connection with the affairs of the Trust, except as such liability may arise from his or her own bad faith, willful misfeasance, gross negligence, or reckless disregard of their duties to the Trust and its holders of beneficial interest. It also provides that all third parties shall look solely to the Trust's property for satisfaction of claims arising in connection with the affairs of the Trust. With the exceptions stated, the Declaration of Trust provides that a Trustee or officer is entitled to be indemnified against all liability in connection with the affairs of the Trust.

### **Trust Liability**

Under Ohio law, liabilities of the Trust to third persons, including the liabilities of any series, extend to the whole of the trust estate to the extent necessary to discharge such liabilities. However, the Declaration of Trust contains provisions intended to limit the liabilities of each series to the applicable series and the Trustees and officers of the Trust intend that notice of such limitation be given in each contract, instrument, certificate, or undertaking made or issued on behalf of the Trust by the Trustees or officers. There is no guarantee that the foregoing steps will prove effective or that the Trust will be successful in preventing the assets of one series from being available to creditors of another series.

### **Code of Ethics**

The Trust, the Adviser and the Distributor have each adopted a code of ethics (each a "Code" and, collectively, the "Codes") that is designed to prevent their respective personnel subject to the Code from engaging in deceptive, manipulative, or fraudulent activities in connection with securities held or to be acquired by the Fund (which securities may also be held by persons subject to the Codes). These Codes may permit personnel subject to the Codes to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund, but prohibit such personnel from engaging in personal investment activities that compete with or attempt to take advantage of the Fund's planned portfolio transactions. Each of these parties monitors compliance with its respective Code.

### **Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures**

The Trust and the Adviser have adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures that describe how the Fund intends to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities. The Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures of the Trust and the Adviser are attached to this SAI as Appendix B and Appendix C, respectively. No later than August 31 of each year, information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the prior twelve-month period ended June 30<sup>th</sup> is available without charge upon request by calling 1-888-859-5867, or on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).



## Portfolio Holdings Disclosure Policy

The Board has adopted a policy to govern the circumstances under which disclosure regarding securities purchased, sold, and held by the Fund (“Portfolio Securities”), and disclosure of purchases and sales of such securities, may be made to shareholders of the Fund or other persons. The Trust’s CCO is responsible for monitoring the use and disclosure of information relating to Portfolio Securities. Although no material conflicts of interest are believed to exist that could disadvantage the Fund or its shareholders, various safeguards have been implemented to protect the Fund and its shareholders from conflicts of interest, including: the adoption of the Codes pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act designed to prevent fraudulent, deceptive or manipulative acts by officers and employees of the Trust, the Adviser and the Distributor in connection with their personal securities transactions; the adoption by the Adviser and the Distributor of insider trading policies and procedures designed to prevent their employees’ misuse of material non-public information; and the adoption by the Trust of a Code of Ethics for officers that requires the Chief Executive Officer and CFO of the Trust to report to the Board any affiliations or other relationships that could potentially create a conflict of interest with the Fund.

Public disclosure regarding Portfolio Securities is made:

- Following the end of each fiscal quarter, the Fund generally will publicly disclose information regarding Portfolio Securities as of such quarter-end either in a complete and uncertified schedule, or a list of the top 10 holdings, posted on the Fund’s website or in advertising material that is posted on the Fund’s website. This information is generally available after 30 to 40 days of the end of the quarter and will remain available until the posting of the next quarterly Portfolio Securities report.
- In the Fund’s Annual Reports and Semi-Annual Reports to shareholders, and in quarterly holdings reports on Form N-Q (“Official Reports”), which are available on the SEC’s website at <http://www.sec.gov> and may be reviewed and copied at the SEC’s Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Except for such Official Reports and as otherwise expressly permitted by the Trust’s policy, shareholders and other persons may not be provided with information regarding Portfolio Securities held, purchased or sold by the Fund. Official Reports are available to shareholders at no charge, by calling toll-free 1-888-5867 or by visiting the Fund’s website at [www.ladderfunds.com/ladder-select-bond-fund](http://www.ladderfunds.com/ladder-select-bond-fund).
- Information regarding Portfolio Securities and other information regarding the investment activities of the Fund, may be disclosed to rating and ranking organizations for use in connection with their rating or ranking of the Fund, but only if such disclosure is approved and monitored by the Trust’s CCO. Each disclosure arrangement has been authorized by the Fund and/or the Adviser in accordance with the Fund’s disclosure of portfolio holdings policy upon a determination that this disclosure serves a legitimate business purpose of the Fund and that each organization is subject to a duty of confidentiality.
- The Trust’s CCO may approve the disclosure of holdings of or transactions in Portfolio Securities that is made on the same basis to all shareholders of the Fund.
- The Fund’s policy relating to disclosure of holdings of Portfolio Securities does not prohibit disclosure of information to the Adviser or to other Trust service providers, including the Trust’s administrator, distributor, custodian, legal counsel, accountants and printers/typesetters, or to

brokers and dealers through which the Fund purchases and sells Portfolio Securities. Below is a table that lists each service provider that may receive non-public portfolio information along with information regarding the frequency of access to, and limitations on use of, portfolio information.

<b>Type of Service Provider</b>	<b>Typical Frequency of Access to Portfolio Information</b>	<b>Restrictions on Use</b>
Adviser	Daily	Contractual and Ethical
Administrator and Distributor	Daily	Contractual and Ethical
Custodian	Daily	Ethical
Accountants	During annual audit	Ethical
Legal counsel	Regulatory filings, board meetings, and if a legal issue regarding the portfolio requires counsel's review	Ethical
Printers/Typesetters	Twice a year – printing of semi-annual and annual reports	No formal restrictions in place – typesetter or printer would not receive portfolio information until at least 30 days old
Broker/dealers through which the Fund purchases and sells portfolio securities	Daily access to the relevant purchase and/or sale – no broker/dealer has access to the Fund's entire portfolio	Contractual and Ethical
Consultant	Board meetings	Contractual

Such disclosures may be made without approval of the Trust's CCO because the Board has determined that the Fund and its shareholders are adequately protected by the restrictions on use in those instances listed above.

- The Trust's CCO may approve other arrangements under which information relating to Portfolio Securities held by the Fund, or purchased or sold by the Fund (other than information contained in Official Reports), may be disclosed. The Trust's CCO shall approve such an arrangement only if he or she concludes (based on a consideration of the information to be disclosed, the timing of the disclosure, the intended use of the information and other relevant factors) that the arrangement is reasonably necessary to aid in conducting the ongoing business of the Trust and is unlikely to affect adversely the Fund or any shareholder of the Fund. The Trust's CCO must inform the Board of any such arrangements that are approved by the Trust's CCO, and the rationale supporting approval, at the next regular quarterly meeting of the Board following such approval.
- Neither the Adviser nor the Trust (or any affiliated person, employee, officer, trustee or director of the Adviser or the Trust) may receive any direct or indirect compensation in consideration of the disclosure of information relating to Portfolio Securities held, purchased, or sold by the Fund.

### **Other Expenses**

In addition to the Management Fee and the Plan fees for the Advisor Class of shares (if any), the Fund pays all expenses not expressly assumed by the Adviser, including, without limitation, the fees and

expenses of its independent registered public accounting firm and of its legal counsel; fees of the Administrator, Distributor and Transfer Agent, the costs of printing and mailing to shareholders annual and semi-annual reports, proxy statements, prospectuses, SAIs and supplements thereto; bank transaction charges and custody fees; any costs associated with shareholder meetings, including proxy solicitors' fees and expenses; registration and filing fees; federal, state or local income or other taxes; interest; membership fees of the Investment Company Institute and similar organizations; fidelity bond and liability insurance premiums; and any extraordinary expenses, such as indemnification payments or damages awarded in litigation or settlements made.

## **Benchmark Descriptions**

The Fund compares its performance to standardized indices or other measurements of investment performance. Specifically, the Fund compares its performance to the Barclays Intermediate Government/Credit Bond Index, which is a broad-based index that measures the performance of U.S. Dollar denominated U.S. Treasuries, government-related and investment grade U.S. corporate securities that have a remaining maturity of greater than one year and less than ten years. Comparative performance may also be expressed by reference to a ranking prepared by a mutual fund monitoring service or by one or more newspapers, newsletters, or financial periodicals.

## **ADDITIONAL TAX INFORMATION**

The following summarizes certain additional tax considerations generally affecting the Fund and its shareholders that are not described in the Prospectus. No attempt is made to present a detailed explanation of the tax treatment of the Fund or its shareholders. The discussions here and in the Prospectus are not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning and are based on tax laws and regulations that are in effect on the date hereof; such laws and regulations may be changed by legislative, judicial, or administrative action. Investors are advised to consult their tax advisors with specific reference to their own tax situations.

The Fund intends to qualify and remain qualified as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). In order to so qualify, the Fund must elect to be a regulated investment company or have made such an election for a previous year and must satisfy certain requirements relating to the amount of distributions and source of its income for a taxable year. At least 90% of the gross income of the Fund must be derived from dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans, gains from the sale or other disposition of stocks, securities, or foreign currencies, and other income derived with respect to the Fund's business of investing in such stock, securities, or currencies, and net income derived from an investment in a "qualified publicly traded partnership" as defined in section 851(h) of the Code (the "source-of-income test"). Any income derived by the Fund from a partnership (other than a "qualified publicly traded partnership") or trust is treated as derived with respect to the Fund's business of investing in stock, securities, or currencies only to the extent that such income is attributable to items of income that would have been qualifying income if realized by the Fund in the same manner as by the partnership or trust.

The Fund may not qualify as a regulated investment company for any taxable year unless it satisfies certain requirements with respect to the diversification of its investments at the close of each quarter of the taxable year (the "asset diversification tests"). In general, at least 50% of the value of the Fund's total assets must be represented by cash, cash items, government securities, securities of other regulated investment companies, and other securities which, with respect to any one issuer, do not represent more than 5% of the total assets of the Fund nor more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer. In addition, not more than 25% of the value of the Fund's total assets may be invested in the securities (other than government securities or the securities of other regulated investment companies) of any one issuer; the

securities of two or more issuers (other than securities of another regulated investment company) if the issuers are controlled by the Fund and they are, pursuant to Treasury Regulations, engaged in the same or similar or related trades or businesses; or the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships.

The Fund intends to satisfy all of the requirements of the source-of-income test and the asset diversification tests on an ongoing basis for continued qualification as a regulated investment company.

If the Fund fails to meet either the asset diversification test with respect to a taxable quarter or the source-of-income test with respect to a taxable year, the Code provides several remedies, provided certain procedural requirements are met, which will allow the Fund to retain its status as a “regulated investment company”. There is a remedy for failure to satisfy the asset diversification tests, if the failure was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, subject to certain divestiture and procedural requirements and the payment of a tax. In addition, there is a remedy for a de minimis failure of the asset diversification tests, which would require corrective action but no tax. In addition, the Code allows for the remedy of a failure of the source-of-income test, if the failure was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, subject to certain procedural requirements and the payment of a tax.

Under current tax law, qualifying corporate dividends are taxable at long-term capital gains tax rates. The long-term capital gains rate for individual taxpayers is currently at a maximum rate of 20%, with lower rates potentially applicable to taxpayers depending on their income levels. For 2018, individual taxpayers with taxable incomes above \$425,800 (\$479,000 for married taxpayers filing jointly and \$452,400 for heads of households) are subject to a 20% rate of tax on long-term capital gains and qualified dividends. For individual taxpayers with taxable incomes not in excess of \$38,000 (\$77,200 for married taxpayers filing jointly and \$51,700 for heads of household), the long-term capital gains rate and rate on qualified dividends is 0%. All other taxpayers are subject to a minimum 15% rate of tax on long-term capital gains and qualified dividends. The above income thresholders are subject to adjustment for inflation beginning in taxable years after 2018

If the Fund designates a dividend as a capital gains distribution, it generally will be taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains, regardless of how long the shareholders have held their Fund shares or whether the dividend was received in cash or reinvested in additional shares. All taxable dividends paid by the Fund other than those designated as qualified dividend income or capital gains distributions will be taxable as ordinary income to shareholders, whether received in cash or reinvested in additional shares. To the extent the Fund engages in increased portfolio turnover, short-term capital gains may be realized, and any distribution resulting from such gains will be considered ordinary income for federal tax purposes.

Shareholders who hold Fund shares in a tax-deferred account, such as a retirement plan, generally will not have to pay tax on Fund distributions until they receive distributions from their account.

The Fund will designate (1) any distribution that constitutes a qualified dividend as qualified dividend income; (2) any tax-exempt distribution as an exempt-interest dividend; (3) any distribution of long-term capital gains as a capital gain dividend; and (4) any dividend eligible for the corporate dividends received deduction as such in a written notice provided to shareholders after the close of the Fund’s taxable year. Shareholders should note that, upon the sale or exchange of Fund shares, if the shareholder has not held such shares for at least six months, any loss on the sale or exchange of those shares will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of the capital gain dividends received with respect to the shares.

Foreign currency gains or losses on non-U.S. dollar denominated bonds and other similar debt instruments and on any non-U.S. dollar denominated futures contracts, options and forward contracts that are not Section 1256 contracts generally will be treated as ordinary income or loss.

To the extent that a distribution from the Fund is taxable, it is generally included in a shareholder's gross income for the taxable year in which the shareholder receives the distribution. However, if the Fund declares a dividend in October, November, or December but pays it in January, it will be taxable to shareholders as if the dividend was received in the year it was declared. Each year, shareholders will receive a statement detailing the tax status of any Fund distributions for that year.

The Fund's net realized capital gains from securities transactions will be distributed only after reducing such gains by the amount of any available capital loss carryforwards. Capital losses may be carried forward to offset any capital gains.

A 4% nondeductible excise tax is imposed on regulated investment companies that fail to currently distribute an amount equal to specified percentages of their ordinary taxable income and capital gain net income (excess of capital gains over capital losses). The Fund intends to make sufficient distributions or deemed distributions of its ordinary taxable income and any capital gain net income prior to the end of each calendar year to avoid liability for this excise tax.

If for any taxable year the Fund does not qualify for the special federal income tax treatment afforded regulated investment companies, all of its taxable income will be subject to federal income tax at regular corporate rates (without any deduction for distributions to its shareholders). Such distributions will be taxable to the shareholders as dividends to the extent of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits. Such distributions may be eligible for (i) the dividends-received deduction in the case of corporate shareholders or (ii) treatment as "qualified dividend income" in the case of noncorporate shareholders.

In general, a shareholder who sells or redeems shares will realize a capital gain or loss, which will be long-term or short-term depending upon the shareholder's holding period for Fund shares. An exchange of shares is treated as a sale and any gain may be subject to tax.

The Fund will be required in certain cases to withhold and remit to the U.S. Treasury a percentage (currently 24%) of taxable dividends or of gross proceeds realized upon sale paid to shareholders who have failed to provide a correct taxpayer identification number in the manner required, who are subject to withholding by the Internal Revenue Service for failure to include properly on their return payments of taxable interest or dividends, or who have failed to certify to the Fund that they are not subject to backup withholding when required to do so, or that they are "exempt recipients."

Depending upon the extent of the Fund's activities in states and localities in which its offices are maintained, in which its agents or independent contractors are located, or in which it is otherwise deemed to be conducting business, the Fund may be subject to the tax laws of such states or localities. In addition, in those states and localities that have income tax laws, the treatment of the Fund and its shareholders under such laws may differ from their treatment under federal income tax laws.

Certain U.S. shareholders, including individuals and estates and trusts, will be subject to an additional 3.8% Medicare tax on all or a portion of their "net investment income", which should include dividends from the Fund and net gains from the disposition of shares of the Fund. U.S. shareholders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the implications of the additional Medicare tax resulting from an investment in the Fund.

The Fund will send shareholders information each year on the tax status of dividends and distributions. A dividend or capital gains distribution paid shortly after shares have been purchased, although in effect a return of investment, is subject to federal income taxation. Dividends from net investment income, along with capital gains, will be taxable to shareholders, whether received in cash or

reinvested in Fund shares and no matter how long the shareholder has held Fund shares, even if they reduce the NAV of shares below the shareholder's cost, and thus, in effect, result in a return of a part of the shareholder's investment.

Withholding taxes may be imposed on certain types of payments made to "foreign financial institutions" (as specifically defined in the Code) and certain other non-United States entities (including financial intermediaries). A 30% withholding tax is imposed on "withholdable payments" to a foreign financial institution or to a foreign non-financial entity, unless (i) the foreign financial institution undertakes certain diligence and reporting obligations or (ii) the foreign non-financial entity either certifies it does not have any substantial United States owners or furnishes identifying information regarding each substantial United States owner.

For these purposes, a "withholdable payment" includes any United States source payments of interest, dividends, rents, compensation and other fixed or determinable annual or periodical gains, profits and income. If the payee is a foreign financial institution, it must enter into an agreement with the United States Department of the Treasury requiring, among other things, that it undertake to identify accounts held by certain United States persons or United States-owned foreign entities, annually report certain information about such accounts, and withhold 30% on payments to account holders whose actions prevent it from complying with these reporting and other requirements. Non-U.S. investors should consult their tax advisors regarding this legislation and the potential implications of this legislation on their particular circumstances.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Fund's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2018, including the Financial Highlights appearing in the Prospectus, are incorporated by reference and made a part of this document. You may request a copy of the Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to shareholders at no charge by calling the Fund at 1-888-859-5867 or by visiting the Fund's website at [www.ladderfunds.com](http://www.ladderfunds.com).

**APPENDIX A - TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS**

The address of each Trustee and executive officer of the Trust, unless otherwise indicated, is 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246:

<b>Name and Year of Birth</b>	<b>Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Trust</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>	<b>Number of Funds in Trust Overseen by Trustee</b>	<b>Directorships of Public Companies Held by Trustee During Past 5 Years</b>
<b><i>Interested Trustees:</i></b>					
Robert G. Dorsey* <sup>^</sup> Year of Birth: 1957	Since February 2012	Trustee (February 2012 to present)  President (June 2012 to October 2013)	Managing Director (1999 to present), Co-CEO (April 2018 to present), and President (1999 to April 2018) of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC and its subsidiaries (except as otherwise noted for FINRA-regulated broker-dealer entities)	19	Interested Trustee of Capitol Series Trust (10 funds)
<b><i>Independent Trustees:</i></b>					
John J. Discepoli Year of Birth: 1963	Since June 2012	Chairman (May 2016 to present)  Trustee (June 2012 to present)	Owner of Discepoli Financial Planning, LLC (personal financial planning company) (November 2004 to present)	19	n/a
David M. Deptula Year of Birth: 1958	Since June 2012	Trustee	Vice President of Legal and Special Projects at Dayton Freight Lines, Inc. since February 2016; Vice President of Tax Treasury at Standard Register, Inc. (November 2011 to January 2016)	19	n/a
Janine L. Cohen Year of Birth: 1952	Since January 2016	Trustee	Retired since 2013; previously Chief Financial Officer from 2004 to 2013 and Chief Compliance Officer from 2008 to 2013 at AER Advisors, Inc.	19	n/a

\* Mr. Dorsey is considered an “interested person” of the Trust within the meaning of Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act because of his relationship with the Trust’s administrator, transfer agent, and distributor. Mr. Dorsey was President of the Trust from June 2012 to October 2013.

Name and Year of Birth	Length of Time Served	Position(s) Held with Trust	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
<i>Executive Officers:</i>			
David R. Carson^ Year of Birth: 1958	Since April 2013	<p>President of the Trust (October 2013 to present)</p> <p>Vice President Of the Trust (April 2013 to October 2013);</p> <p>Principal Executive Officer of Alambic Mid Cap Growth Plus Fund, Alambic Mid Cap Value Plus Fund, Alambic Small Cap Growth Plus Fund, and Alambic Small Cap Value Plus Fund (April 2017 to present)</p> <p>Principal Executive Officer of Barrow Value Opportunity Fund (April 2017 to present)</p> <p>Principal Executive Officer of Blue Current Global Dividend Fund (April 2017 to present)</p> <p>Principal Executive Officer of Cincinnati Asset Management Funds: Broad Market Strategic Income Fund (April 2017 to present)</p> <p>Principal Executive Officer of HVIA Equity Fund (April 2017 to present)</p>	Vice President and Director of Client Strategies of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC ( since 2013); Chief Compliance Officer, The Huntington Funds (2005 to 2013), The Flex-Funds (2006 to 2011), Meeder Financial (2007 to 2011), Huntington Strategy Shares (2012 to 2013), and Huntington Asset Advisors (2013); Vice President, Huntington National Bank (2001 to 2013).



Principal Executive  
Officer of the  
Kempner Multi-Cap  
Deep Value Fund  
(April 2017 to present)

Principal Executive  
Officer of Ladder  
Select Bond Fund  
(April 2017 to present)

Principal Executive  
Officer of Lyrical U.S.  
Value Equity Fund  
(April 2017 to present)

Principal Executive  
Officer of Marshfield  
Concentrated  
Opportunity Fund  
(April 2017 to present)

Principal Executive  
Officer of Meehan  
Focus Fund  
(May 2017 to present)

Principal Executive  
Officer of Ryan Labs  
Core Bond Fund and  
Ryan Labs Long Credit  
Fund (October 2014 to  
present);

Principal Executive  
Officer of Stralem  
Equity Fund  
(October 2016 to  
present);

Principal Executive  
Officer of Topturn  
OneEighty Fund  
(April 2017 to present)

Principal Executive  
Officer of Wavelength  
Interest Rate Neutral  
Fund  
(April 2017 to present)

		Principal Executive Officer of Waycross Long/Short Equity Fund (April 2017 to present)	
Jennifer L. Leamer^ Year of Birth: 1976	Since April 2014	Treasurer (October 2014 to present)  Assistant Treasurer (April 2014 to October 2014)	Mutual Fund Controller of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (since 2014); Business Analyst (2007 to 2014)
Frank L. Newbauer^ Year of Birth: 1954	Since February 2012	Secretary (July 2017 to present)  Assistant Secretary (2015 to July 2017)  Secretary (2012 to 2015)	Assistant Vice President of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2010 to present)
Charles C. Black^ Year of Birth: 1979	Since April 2015	Chief Compliance Officer (January 2016 to present) Assistant Chief Compliance Officer (April 2015 to January 2016)	Chief Compliance Officer of The Caldwell & Orkin Funds, Inc. (October 2016 to present); Senior Compliance Officer of Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (April 2015 to present); Senior Compliance Manager at Touchstone Mutual Funds (2013 to 2015)

^ Address is 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, OH 45246

## **APPENDIX B – ULTIMUS MANAGERS TRUST- Proxy Voting Policy**

### **1. PURPOSE; DELEGATION**

The purpose of this memorandum is to describe the policies and procedures for voting proxies received from issuers whose securities are held by each series (individually, a “Fund” and collectively, the “Funds”) of Ultimus Managers Trust (the “Trust”). The Board of Trustees of the Trust (the “Board”) believes that each Fund’s Investment Adviser is in the best position to make individual voting decisions for such Fund. Therefore, subject to the oversight of the Board, each Fund’s Investment Adviser is hereby delegated the duty to make proxy voting decisions for such Fund, and to implement and undertake such other duties as set forth in, and consistent with, these Policies and Procedures.

### **2. DEFINITIONS**

Proxy. A proxy permits a shareholder to vote without being present at annual or special meetings. A proxy is the form whereby a person who is eligible to vote on corporate matters transmits written instructions for voting or transfers the right to vote to another person in place of the eligible voter. Proxies are generally solicited by management, but may be solicited by dissident shareholders opposed to management’s policies or strategies.

Proxy Manager. Proxy manager, as used herein, refers to the individual, individuals or committee of individuals appointed by the investment advisers to each Fund (each, an “Investment Adviser”) as being responsible for supervising and implementing these Policies and Procedures.

### **3. POLICY FOR VOTING PROXIES RELATED TO EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS AND OTHER INVESTMENT COMPANIES.**

Pursuant to Section 12(d)(1)(E)(iii) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, all proxies from Exchange Traded Funds (“ETFs”) or other Investment Companies voted by a Fund, registered in the name of the Fund, will have the following voting instructions typed on the proxy form: “Vote these shares in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such shares. The beneficial owner of these shares is a registered investment company.”

### **4. POLICY FOR VOTING PROXIES RELATED TO OTHER PORTFOLIO SECURITIES**

Fiduciary Considerations. Proxies with respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies are voted solely in the interests of the shareholders of the Trust. Any conflict of interest must be resolved in the way that will most benefit the shareholders.

Management Recommendations. Since the quality and depth of management is a primary factor considered when investing in a company, the recommendation of management on any issue should be given substantial weight. The vote with respect to most issues presented in proxy statements should be cast in accordance with the position of the company’s management, unless it is determined that supporting management’s position would adversely affect the investment merits of owning the stock. However, each issue should be considered on its own merits, and the position of the company’s management should not be supported in any situation where it is found not to be in the best interests of the Trust’s shareholders.

### **5. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Trust recognizes that under certain circumstances an Investment Adviser may have a conflict of interest in voting proxies on behalf of a Fund. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, situations

where an Investment Adviser or one or more of its affiliates, including officers, directors or employees, has or is seeking a client relationship with the issuer of the security that is the subject of the proxy vote. The Investment Adviser shall periodically inform its employees that they are under an obligation to be aware of the potential for conflicts of interest on the part of the Investment Adviser with respect to voting proxies on behalf of a Fund, both as a result of the employee's personal relationships and due to circumstances that may arise during the conduct of the Investment Adviser's business, and to bring any conflict of interest of which they become aware to the attention of the proxy manager. With respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies, the Investment Adviser shall not vote proxies relating to such issuers on behalf of a Fund until it has determined that the conflict of interest is not material or a method of resolving such conflict of interest has been determined in the manner described below. A conflict of interest will be considered material to the extent that it is determined that such conflict has the potential to influence the Investment Adviser's decision-making in voting a proxy. Materiality determinations will be based upon an assessment of the particular facts and circumstances. If the proxy manager determines that a conflict of interest is not material, the Investment Adviser may vote proxies notwithstanding the existence of a conflict. If the conflict of interest is determined to be material, either (i) the conflict shall be disclosed to the Trust's Committee of Independent Trustees (the "Committee") and the Investment Adviser shall follow the instructions of the Committee or (ii) the Investment Adviser shall vote the issue in question based upon the recommendation of an independent third party under a contractual arrangement approved by the Committee. The proxy manager shall keep a record of all materiality decisions and report them to the Committee on an annual basis.

#### 6. ROUTINE PROPOSALS

Proxies for routine proposals (such as election of directors, selection of independent public accountants, stock splits, and increases in capital stock) with respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies should generally be voted in favor of management.

#### 7. PROXY MANAGER APPROVAL

Votes on non-routine matters and votes against a management's recommendations with respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies are subject to approval by the proxy manager.

#### 8. PROXY VOTING PROCEDURES

Proxy voting will be conducted in compliance with the policies and practices described herein and is subject to the proxy manager's supervision. A reasonable effort should be made to obtain proxy material and to vote in a timely fashion. Each Investment Adviser shall maintain records regarding the voting of proxies under these Policies and Procedures.

#### 9. FORM N-PX

A record of each proxy vote will be entered on Form N-PX. A copy of each Form N-PX will be signed by the President of the Trust. The Form is to be filed by August 31 each year. Each reporting period covered by the Form N-PX runs from July 1 to June 30. The Trust will disclose in its annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders and in its registration statement (in the SAI) filed with the SEC on or after August 31 that each Fund's proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 is available without charge upon request and is also available on the SEC's Website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

#### 10. INVESTMENT ADVISERS' VOTING PROCEDURES

The Trust acknowledges that the Investment Advisers to the various Funds have adopted voting policies

and procedures for their clients that have been delivered to the Trust. To the extent that an Investment Adviser's policies and procedures are consistent with these Policies and Procedures, the Investment Adviser may implement them with respect to voting proxies on behalf of each Fund managed by such Investment Adviser. However, the provisions of paragraph 5 of these Policies and Procedures relating to conflicts of interest shall supersede any comparable provisions of any Investment Adviser's policies and procedures.

## **APPENDIX C - LADDER CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT LLC (“LADDER ADVISER”) - Proxy Voting Policy**

Due to the nature of Ladder Adviser’s investments primarily in CMBS securities and other types of investments made on behalf of Clients, Ladder Adviser is rarely requested to vote the proxies of traditional operating companies (*e.g.*, publicly traded securities). For purpose of this section, “proxies” and “proxy voting” are deemed to include decisions with respect to approving amendments or granting waivers with respect to loans and debt securities.

Ladder Adviser have adopted proxy voting policies and procedures set forth below, which are designed to ensure that in cases where Ladder Adviser does vote proxies with respect to Securities or loans held by or on behalf of Clients, such proxies are voted in the Client’s best interest, to the extent reasonably practicable, in the judgment of Ladder Adviser. As registered investment advisers, Ladder Adviser are fiduciaries that owe each Client a duty of care and loyalty with respect to all services undertaken on the Client’s behalf including proxy voting. The proxy voting procedures also require Ladder Adviser to identify and address conflicts of interest between Ladder Adviser and its Clients. If a material conflict of interest is identified, Ladder Adviser will determine whether voting in accordance with the guidelines set forth in these procedures is in the best interest of its Clients or whether taking some other action may be more appropriate.

### **Proxy Voting Procedures**

Ladder Adviser’s proxy voting procedures are as follows:

- All Employees will forward any proxy materials received on behalf of Clients to the Portfolio Managers; and
- Absent material conflicts, the Portfolio Manager has primary responsibility to determine how Ladder Adviser should vote the proxy in the best interests of Clients and will submit the proxy and vote the proxy in a timely and appropriate manner.

Decisions on voting proxies are based on a number of factors which may vary depending on a proxy’s subject matter, but are guided by the general policies described in this document. In addition, the Portfolio Manager, who has authority to vote a proxy, may determine not to vote a proxy after consideration of the vote’s expected benefit to Clients and the cost of voting the proxy. This exception, however, will not apply to a mutual fund as all proxies must be voted. Ladder Adviser will vote proxies in the overall interest of its Clients. Consideration will be given to both short-term and long-term implication of the proposal to be voted on when considering the optimal vote.

In voting Client proxies, Ladder Adviser will seek to avoid material conflicts of interest between the interests of Ladder Adviser, on the one hand, and the interests of its Clients, on the other. Employees must notify the CCO if they are aware of any potential material conflict of interest associated with a proxy vote.

If the CCO and/or Portfolio Manager detect a material conflict of interest in connection with a proxy solicitation, the CCO will have a meeting with the COO or GC, as needed. The vote under consideration and the perceived conflict of interest will be discussed and a consensus and recommendation will be made regarding the proxy vote. The CCO will record the recommendation and the Portfolio Manager or his designee will then vote the proxy according to the consensus recommendation.

If the proxy is for a mutual fund and the conflict of interest is not resolved, it will be referred to the Board of the mutual fund for further resolution.

## **Disclosures to Clients**

If applicable, Ladder Adviser includes a description of its proxy voting policies and procedures in Part 2 of Form ADV along with a statement that Clients can contact the CCO to obtain a copy of these policies and procedures and information about how Ladder Adviser voted with respect to the Client's Securities.

Any request for information about proxy voting should be promptly forwarded to the CCO, who will respond to any such requests.

Except for a mutual fund, Ladder Adviser does not disclose as a matter of policy how it expects to vote on upcoming proxies or the way it voted proxies to parties who are not Clients. A record of each proxy vote for a mutual fund will be disclosed to the public in the annual Form N-PX filed by the mutual fund with the SEC.

## APPENDIX D

### DESCRIPTION OF RATINGS

The Fund may acquire from time to time fixed income or debt securities as described in the Prospectus and this SAI. The Fund is not restricted with respect to yield, maturity, or credit quality of any fixed income or debt securities, so that the Fund may purchase fixed income or debt securities that are of high quality “investment grade” (“Investment-Grade Debt Securities”) or of lower quality with significant risk characteristics (e.g., “junk bonds”). The various ratings used by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (each an “NRSRO”) are described below.

A rating by an NRSRO represents the organization’s opinion as to the credit quality of the security being rated. However, the ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality or guarantees as to the creditworthiness of an issuer. Consequently, the Adviser believes that the quality of Investment-Grade Debt Securities in which the Fund may invest should be continuously reviewed and that individual analysts give different weightings to the various factors involved in credit analysis. A rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell, or hold a security, because it does not take into account market value or suitability for a particular investor. When a security has received a rating from more than one NRSRO, each rating is evaluated independently. Ratings are based on current information furnished by the issuer or obtained by the NRSROs from other sources that they consider reliable. Ratings may be changed, suspended, or withdrawn as a result of changes in or unavailability of such information, or for other reasons.

**STANDARD & POOR’S® GLOBAL RATINGS.** The following summarizes the highest four ratings used by Standard & Poor’s Global Ratings (“S&P”), a division of McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., for bonds which are deemed to be Investment-Grade Debt Securities by the Adviser:

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

**AA** – An obligation rated AA differs from AAA obligations only to a small degree. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.

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

**BBB** – An obligation rated BBB exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

Bonds rated BB, B, CCC, CC, C, and D are not considered by the Adviser to be Investment-Grade Debt Securities and are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. BB indicates the least degree of speculation and D the highest. While such obligations may likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major risk exposures to adverse conditions.

The ratings from AA to CCC may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) designation to show relative standing within the major rating categories.

Short-term obligations rated A-1 by S&P indicates that the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus



sign (+) designation. This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on these obligations is extremely strong. A short-term obligation rated A-2 is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is satisfactory.

The rating SP-1 is the highest rating assigned by S&P to short term municipal notes and indicates strong capacity to pay principal and interest. An issue determined to possess a very strong capacity to pay debt service is given a plus (+) designation. The rating SP-2 indicates a satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes. The rating SP-3 indicates a speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

**MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE, INC.** Rating assigned on Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") global long-term and short-term rating scales are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations issued by non-financial corporates, financial institutions, structured finance vehicles, project finance vehicles, and public sector entities. Long-term ratings are assigned to issuers or obligations with an original maturity of one year or more and reflect both on the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default. The highest four ratings are deemed to be Investment-Grade Securities by the Adviser:

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

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

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

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

Obligations which are rated Ba, B, Caa, Ca or C by Moody's are not considered "Investment-Grade Debt Securities" by the Adviser. Obligations rated Ba are judged to be speculative and are subject to substantial credit risk. Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk. Obligations rated Caa are judged to be speculative of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

Note: Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category. Additionally, a "(hyb)" indicator is appended to all ratings of hybrid securities issued by banks, insurers, finance companies, and securities firms.

### **Short-Term Ratings**

Moody's short-term ratings are assigned to obligations with an original maturity of thirteen months or less and reflect both on the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default.

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

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

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

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

#### US Municipal Short-Term Debt And Demand Obligation Ratings

Short-Term Obligation Ratings – While the global short-term ‘prime’ rating scale is applied to U.S. municipal tax-exempt commercial paper, these programs are typically backed by external letters of credit or liquidity facilities and their short-term prime ratings usually map to the long-term rating of the enhancing bank or financial institution and not to the municipality’s rating. Other short-term municipal obligations, which generally have different funding sources for repayment, are rated using two additional short-term rating scales (i.e., the MIG and VMIG scales discussed below).

The Municipal Investment Grade (MIG) scale is used to rate U.S. municipal bond anticipation notes of up to three years maturity. Municipal notes rated on the MIG scale may be secured by either pledged revenues or proceeds of a take-out financing received prior to note maturity. MIG ratings expire at the maturity of the obligation, and the issuer’s long-term rating is only one consideration in assigning the MIG rating. MIG ratings are divided into three levels—MIG 1 through MIG 3—while speculative grade short-term obligations are designated SG.

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

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

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

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

Demand Obligation Ratings – In the case of variable rate demand obligations (VRDOs), a two-component rating is assigned; a long or short-term debt rating and a demand obligation rating. The first element represents Moody’s evaluation of risk associated with scheduled principal and interest payments. The second element represents Moody’s evaluation of risk associated with the ability to receive purchase price upon demand ("demand feature"). The second element uses a rating from a variation of the MIG scale called the Variable Municipal Investment Grade (VMIG) scale. VMIG ratings of demand obligations with unconditional support are mapped from the short-term debt rating (or counterparty assessment) of the support provider, or the underlying obligor in the absence of third party liquidity support, with VMIG 1 corresponding to P-1, VMIG 2 to P-2, VMIG 3 to P-3 and SG to not prime. For example, the VMIG rating for an industrial revenue bond with Company XYZ as the underlying obligor would normally have the same numerical modifier as Company XYZ’s prime rating. Transitions of VMIG ratings of demand obligations with conditional liquidity support differ from transitions on the Prime scale to reflect the risk that external liquidity support will terminate if the issuer’s long-term rating drops below investment grade.

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

payment of purchase price upon demand.

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

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

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

**FITCH RATINGS.** The following summarizes the highest four ratings used by Fitch, Inc. (“Fitch”):

#### National Long-Term Credit Ratings

AAA –AAA National Ratings denote the highest rating assigned by the agency in its National Rating scale for that country. The rating assigned to issuers or obligations with the lowest expectation of default risk relative to all other issuers or obligations in the same country.

AA – AA National Ratings denote expectations of very low default risk to other issuers or obligations in the same country. The default risk inherent differs only slightly from that of the country’s highest rated issuers or obligations.

A - A National Ratings denote expectation of low default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. However, changes in circumstances or economic conditions may affect the capacity for timely repayment to a greater degree than is the case for financial commitments denoted by a higher rated category.

BBB –BBB National Ratings denote a moderate default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. However, changes in circumstances or economic conditions are more likely to affect the capacity for timely repayment than is the case for financial commitments denoted by a higher rated category.

Long-term securities rated below BBB by Fitch are not considered by the Adviser to be Investment-Grade Debt Securities. Securities rated BB have an elevated default risk, and securities rated B have a significantly elevated default risk. A rating CCC denotes that default is a real possibility while a rating CC denotes that a default of some kind appears probable, and a rating C denotes that default is imminent. RD ratings indicate an issuer that in Fitch Ratings’ opinion has experienced an uncured payment default on a bond, loan or other material financial obligations but which has not entered into bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation or other formal winding-up procedure and which has not otherwise ceased operating. D ratings denote an issuer or instrument that is currently in default.

Note: (+) or (-) suffixes may be appended to a National Rating to denote relative status within a major rating category. Such suffixes are not added to the AAA Long-Term National Rating category or to categories below CCC.

## National Short-Term Credit Ratings

F1 –Indicates the strongest capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. Under the agency’s National Rating scale, this rating is assigned to the lowest default risk relative to others in the same country. Where the liquidity profile is particularly strong, a + is added to the assigned rating.

F2 –Indicates a good capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. However, the margin of safety is not as great as in the case of the higher ratings.

F3 –Indicates an adequate capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. However, such capacity is more susceptible to near-term adverse changes than for financial commitments in higher-rated categories.

B –Indicates an uncertain capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. Such capacity is highly susceptible to near-term adverse change.

Short-term rates B, C, RD and D by Fitch are considered by the Adviser to be below Investment-Grade Debt Securities. Short-term securities rated C have a highly uncertain capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. Short-term securities rated RD indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Short-term securities rated D indicate actual or imminent payment default.

Note: (+) or (-) suffixes may be appended to a National Rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to Short-Term National Ratings other than F-1.

While the foregoing descriptions of the ratings systems used by the Adviser distinguish between Investment-Grade Debt Securities and more speculative debt securities, as stated above the Fund is not limited with respect to the yield, maturity or credit quality of the debt securities in which it invests. Accordingly, the Fund’s portfolio may be invested in Investment-Grade Debt Securities or debt securities that are not Investment-Grade Debt Securities in any proportion.