

**LKCM FUNDS**

**LKCM SMALL CAP EQUITY FUND**

**Adviser Class (LKSAX)  
Institutional Class (LKSCX)**

**LKCM SMALL-MID CAP EQUITY FUND**

**Adviser Class (LKSDX)  
Institutional Class (LKSMX)**

**LKCM EQUITY FUND**

**Adviser Class (LKEAX)  
Institutional Class (LKEQX)**

**LKCM BALANCED FUND**

**Institutional Class (LKBAX)**

**LKCM FIXED INCOME FUND**

**Institutional Class (LKFIX)**

**301 COMMERCE STREET, SUITE 1600**

**FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102**

**STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

May 1, 2018

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) is not a prospectus and should be read in conjunction with the Prospectuses of each of the above series of LKCM Funds (each a “Fund” and collectively the “Funds”) dated May 1, 2018, as such Prospectuses may be supplemented or revised from time to time. A copy of the Prospectuses may be obtained without charge by calling the Funds at (800) 688-LKCM or by visiting [www.lkcmfunds.com](http://www.lkcmfunds.com).

The Funds’ audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017 are incorporated herein by reference to the Funds’ 2017 Annual Report. A copy of the Annual Report may be obtained without charge by calling the Funds at (800) 688-LKCM or by visiting [www.lkcmfunds.com](http://www.lkcmfunds.com).

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In deciding whether to invest in one or more Funds, you should rely on information in this SAI and the Prospectuses. The Funds have not authorized others to provide additional information in any state or jurisdiction in which such offering may not legally be made.

Luther King Capital Management Corporation (the “Adviser”) serves as the investment adviser for the Funds.

## **FUND ORGANIZATION**

### **DESCRIPTION OF SHARES AND VOTING RIGHTS**

The LKCM Funds (the “Trust”) is an open-end, diversified, management investment company. Each Fund is a diversified and separate series of the Trust, a Delaware statutory trust that was established by a Declaration of Trust dated February 10, 1994 (as amended, the “Declaration of Trust”). The Declaration of Trust permits the Trustees of the Trust to issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest, without par value, from an unlimited number of series. Currently, the Trust offers six series, five of which are the LKCM Small Cap Equity Fund (“Small Cap Equity Fund”), LKCM Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund (“Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund”), LKCM Equity Fund (“Equity Fund”), LKCM Balanced Fund (“Balanced Fund”) and LKCM Fixed Income Fund (“Fixed Income Fund”) (the “Funds”) and described more fully herein. The Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity and Equity Funds each has registered two classes of shares — the Institutional Class and the Adviser Class. The Balanced Fund and the Fixed Income Fund each offers only Institutional Class shares. Adviser Class shares of the Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund and Equity Fund have not commenced operations at the time of this SAI.

Pursuant to the Declaration of Trust, the Trustees may also authorize the creation of additional series (the proceeds of which would be invested in separate, independently managed funds with distinct investment objectives and policies and share purchase, redemption and net asset valuation procedures) with such preferences, privileges, limitations and voting and dividend rights as the Trustees may determine. All consideration received by the Trust for shares of any additional series, and all assets in which such consideration is invested, would belong to that series only and would be subject to the liabilities related thereto.

The Trustees have authorized the division of shares of the Funds into different classes permitting shares of different classes to be distributed by different methods. Although shareholders of different classes will have an interest in the same Fund’s assets, shareholders of different classes may bear different expenses in connection with different methods of distribution.

When issued, the shares of the Funds are fully paid and non-assessable, have no preemptive or subscription rights and are fully transferable. There are no conversion rights. Each share of a Fund is entitled to participate equally in dividends and capital gain distributions and in the assets of the Fund in the event of liquidation. The shares of the Funds have non-cumulative voting rights, which means that the holders of more than 50% of the shares voting for the election of Trustees can elect 100% of the Trustees if they choose to do so. A shareholder is entitled to one vote for each full share held (and a fractional vote for each fractional share held), then standing in the shareholder’s name on the books of a Fund.

The Funds are not required, and do not intend, to hold regular annual shareholder meetings. The Funds may hold special meetings for consideration of proposals requiring shareholder approval, such as changing fundamental policies. The Trust will assist in shareholder communication in such matters to the extent required by law.

The Trust has adopted a Multiple Class Plan pursuant to Rule 18f-3 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), which details the attributes of the Institutional and Adviser Classes of the Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity and Equity Funds. Generally, Adviser Class shares are subject to a Rule 12b-1 fee, as described in the Adviser Class Prospectus. Shares of the Institutional Class do not currently charge a Rule 12b-1 fee. More information regarding the Rule 12b-1 Plans can be found under the sub-heading “Distribution Plans.”

### **SHAREHOLDER AND TRUSTEE LIABILITY**

The Declaration of Trust contains an express disclaimer of shareholder liability for acts or obligations of the Trust and requires that notice of such disclaimer be given in each agreement, obligation, or instrument entered into or executed by the Trust or the Trustees, but this disclaimer may not be effective in some jurisdictions or as to certain types of claims. The Declaration of Trust further provides for indemnification out of the Trust’s property of any shareholder held personally liable for the obligations of the Trust. The Declaration of Trust also provides that the Trust shall, upon request, assume the defense of any claim made against any shareholder for any act or obligation of the Trust and satisfy any judgment thereon. Thus, the risk of a shareholder incurring financial loss on account of shareholder liability is limited to circumstances in which the Trust itself would be unable to meet its obligations.

The Declaration of Trust further provides that the Trustees will not be liable for errors of judgment or mistakes of fact or law, but nothing in the Declaration of Trust protects a Trustee against any liability to which he would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence, or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of the office.

## INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS

### ALL FUNDS

The Funds are subject to the following restrictions, which are fundamental policies and may not be changed without the approval of a majority of a Fund's outstanding voting securities. As used herein, a "majority of a Fund's outstanding voting securities" means the lesser of: (1) at least 67% of the voting securities of a Fund present at a meeting if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund are present or represented by proxy, or (2) more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of a Fund.

As a matter of fundamental policy, each Fund will not:

- (1) invest in physical commodities or contracts on physical commodities;
- (2) purchase or sell real estate, although it may purchase and sell securities of companies that deal in real estate, other than real estate limited partnerships, and may purchase and sell marketable securities that are secured by interests in real estate;
- (3) make loans except: (i) by purchasing debt securities in accordance with its investment objective and policies or entering into repurchase agreements; or (ii) with respect to the Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, Balanced and Fixed Income Funds, by lending their portfolio securities to banks, brokers, dealers and other financial institutions, so long as such loans are not inconsistent with the 1940 Act, or the rules and regulations or interpretations of the SEC thereunder;
- (4) with respect to 75% of its assets, purchase more than 10% of any class of the outstanding voting securities of any issuer;
- (5) with respect to 75% of its assets, invest more than 5% of its total assets in the securities of any single issuer (other than obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or any of its agencies or instrumentalities);
- (6) borrow money, except (i) from banks and as a temporary measure for extraordinary or emergency purposes (not for leveraging or investment) or (ii) with respect to the Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, Balanced and Fixed Income Funds in connection with reverse repurchase agreements provided that (i) and (ii) in combination do not exceed 33 1/3% of the Fund's total assets (including the amount borrowed) less liabilities (exclusive of borrowings); and the Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, and Equity Funds cannot buy additional securities if they borrow more than 5% of their total assets;
- (7) underwrite the securities of other issuers (except to the extent that the Fund may be deemed to be an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") in the disposition of restricted securities);
- (8) acquire any securities of companies within one industry if, as a result of such acquisition, more than 25% of the Fund's total assets would be invested in securities of companies within such industry; provided, however, that there shall be no limitation on the purchase of obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities; and

- (9) issue senior securities, except that this limitation shall not apply to: (i) evidence of indebtedness which the Fund is permitted to incur; (ii) shares of the separate classes or series of the Trust; or (iii) collateral arrangements with respect to currency-related contracts, futures contracts, options or other permitted investments, including deposits of initial and variation margin.

With the exception of fundamental investment limitation (6) above if a percentage limitation on the investment or utilization of assets as set forth above is adhered to at the time an investment is made, a later change in percentage resulting from changes in the value of the investment or a Fund's assets will not require the sale of securities.

The Funds are also subject to the following restrictions, which are non-fundamental policies and may be changed by the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the "Board of Trustees") without shareholder approval. As a matter of non-fundamental policy, each Fund will not:

- (1) purchase securities on margin, except for use of short-term credit as may be necessary for the clearance of purchases and sales of securities, but it may make margin deposits in connection with transactions in options, futures, and options on futures; or sell securities short unless, by virtue of its ownership of other securities, it has the right to obtain securities equivalent in kind and amount to the securities sold and, if the right is conditional, the sale is made upon the same conditions. Transactions in futures contracts, options and options on futures are not deemed to constitute selling securities short;
- (2) pledge, mortgage, or hypothecate any of its assets to an extent greater than 33 1/3% of its total assets at fair market value;
- (3) invest more than an aggregate of 15% of the net assets of a Fund in securities deemed to be illiquid, including securities which are not readily marketable, the disposition of which is restricted (excluding securities that are not registered under the Securities Act but which can be sold to qualified institutional investors in accordance with Rule 144A under the Securities Act and commercial paper sold in reliance on Section 4(2) of the Securities Act), repurchase agreements having maturities of more than seven days and certain over-the-counter options;
- (4) invest its assets in securities of any investment company, except by purchase in the open market involving only customary brokers' commissions or in connection with mergers, acquisitions of assets or consolidations, or except as may otherwise be permitted by the 1940 Act;
- (5) write or acquire options or interests in oil, gas or other mineral exploration or development programs or leases;
- (6) with respect to each of the Small Cap Equity Fund, Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund, Equity Fund and Fixed Income Fund, make any change in its investment policy of investing at least 80% of its net assets in the investments suggested by the Fund's name without first providing the Fund's shareholders with at least 60 days' prior notice.

### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

The investment objectives and policies of the Funds are described in detail in the summary prospectuses under the caption "Principal Investment Strategies" and in the statutory prospectuses under the caption "Additional Information Regarding the Investment Objectives and Principal Investment Strategies of the Funds." These sections provide a description of the securities in which a Fund principally may invest to achieve its investment objective, the principal strategies it may employ and the corresponding risks of such securities and strategies. The greatest risk of investing in a Fund is that its returns will fluctuate and you could lose money. Past events in the financial sector have resulted, and may continue to result, in an unusually high degree of volatility in the financial markets. Both domestic and foreign equity markets could experience volatility and turmoil.

Reduced liquidity in equity, credit and fixed income markets may adversely affect many issuers worldwide. Market turbulence may have an adverse effect on the Funds.

## EQUITY RELATED SECURITIES

The equity securities in which the Funds may invest include American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), common stocks, securities convertible into common stock (“convertible securities”), preferred stocks, shares of real estate investment trusts (“REITs”), rights and warrants.

**ADRs.** ADRs are not considered to be foreign securities when calculating a Fund’s foreign securities limitations, but such securities may be subject to many of the same risks as foreign securities. The Funds may invest in ADRs, which are receipts issued by an American bank or trust company evidencing ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign issuer. ADRs may be listed on a national securities exchange or may trade in the over-the-counter market. ADR prices are denominated in U.S. dollars; the underlying security is denominated in a foreign currency. The issuers of unsponsored depository receipts generally are not obligated to disclose material information about the underlying securities to investors in the United States. Ownership of unsponsored depository receipts may not entitle a Fund to the same benefits and rights as ownership of a sponsored depository receipt or the underlying security.

**Common Stocks.** Common stocks represent the residual ownership interest in the issuer and are generally subordinate to all of its other obligations, including preferred stock. Common stocks generally have voting rights. Common stocks fluctuate in price in response to many factors including historical and prospective earnings of the issuer, the value of its assets, general economic conditions, interest rates, investor perceptions and market liquidity. The price of a company’s stock may also be affected by changes in financial markets that are relatively unrelated to the particular company, such as currency exchange rates or industry regulation. Companies that elect to pay dividends on their common stock generally only do so after they invest in their own business and make required payments to bondholders and on other debt and preferred stock. Therefore, the value of a company’s common stock will usually be more volatile than its bonds, other debt and preferred stock. Common stock may be exchange-traded or traded over-the-counter (“OTC”). OTC stock may be less liquid than exchange-traded stock.

**Convertible Securities.** A convertible security is a bond, debenture, note or other security that entitles the holder to acquire common stock or other equity securities of the same or a different issuer. A convertible security generally entitles the holder to receive interest paid or accrued until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. Before conversion, convertible securities have characteristics similar to nonconvertible debt securities. Convertible securities rank senior to common stock in a corporation’s capital structure and, therefore, may entail less risk than the corporation’s common stock, although the extent to which such risk is reduced depends in large measure upon the degree to which the convertible security sells above its value as a fixed income security. A convertible security may be subject to redemption at the option of the issuer at a predetermined price. If a convertible security held by a Fund is called for redemption, the Fund would be required to permit the issuer to redeem the security and convert it to underlying common stock, or would sell the convertible security to a third party.

**Preferred Stocks.** Preferred stock generally offers a stated dividend rate payable from the corporation’s earnings. These preferred stock dividends may be cumulative or non-cumulative, participating, or auction rate. If interest rates rise, the fixed dividend on preferred stocks may be less attractive, causing the price of preferred stocks to decline. Preferred stock may have mandatory sinking fund provisions, as well as call/redemption provisions prior to maturity, a negative feature when interest rates decline. The rights of preferred stocks are generally subordinate to rights associated with a corporation’s debt securities. Dividends on some preferred stock may be “cumulative” if stated dividends from prior periods have not been paid. Preferred stock also generally has a preference over common stock on the distribution of a corporation’s assets in the event of liquidation of the corporation, and may be “participating,” which means that it may be entitled to a dividend exceeding the stated dividend in certain cases.

**Real Estate Investment Trusts.** The Funds may invest in shares of REITs. Equity REITs invest in income-producing real estate. They produce income from rental and lease payments as well as occasional sales of property. Mortgage REITs make construction, development, and long-term mortgage loans. They produce income from repayment of the loans and sales of the loan obligations. Hybrid REITs may invest in both real estate and real estate loans.

Unlike most corporations (and trusts and associations otherwise taxable as such for federal tax purposes), REITs do not have to pay federal income tax on net income and net realized gains they distribute to their shareholders if they meet certain requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. To qualify for that treatment, a REIT must, among other things, (1) distribute to its shareholders for each taxable year at least 90% of the sum of its “real estate investment trust taxable income” (which includes all net realized capital gains) and certain other income and (2) derive at least 75% of its gross income each taxable year from rents from real property, interest on mortgages secured by real property, gains from the disposition of real property or such mortgages, and certain other real estate related income. The failure of a company in which a Fund invests to qualify for treatment as a REIT under federal tax law may have an adverse impact on the Fund. REITs generally offer investors greater liquidity and diversification than direct ownership of real estate, as well as greater income potential than an investment in common stocks.

REITs are subject to real estate industry risk. These risks may include the following: declines in the value of real estate; risks related to general and local economic conditions; possible lack of availability of mortgage funds; lack of ability to access the credit or capital markets; overbuilding; extended vacancies of properties; defaults by borrowers or tenants, particularly during an economic downturn; increasing competition; increases in property taxes and operating expenses; changes in zoning laws; losses due to costs resulting from the clean-up of environmental problems; liability to third parties for damages resulting from environmental problems; casualty or condemnation losses; limitations on rents; changes in market and sub-market values and the appeal of properties to tenants; and changes in interest rates. In general, real estate values can be affected by a variety of factors, including supply and demand for properties, the economic health of the country as well as different regions, and the strength of specific industries that rent properties. Ultimately, an individual REIT’s performance depends on the types and locations for the properties it owns and on how well the REIT manages its properties. For instance, rental income could decline because of extended vacancies, increased competition from nearby properties, tenants’ failures to pay rent, or incompetent management. Property values could decrease because of overbuilding in the area, environmental liabilities, uninsured damages caused by natural disasters, a general decline in the neighborhood, losses due to casualty or condemnation, increases in property taxes, or changes in zoning laws. Loss of federal tax treatment as a REIT will also affect an individual REIT’s after-tax performance.

REITs are also subject to interest rate risk. REIT stock prices overall will decline over short or even long periods in an environment of rising interest rates. In general, during periods of high interest rates, REITs may lose some of their appeal for investors who may be able to obtain higher yields from other income-producing investments. Higher interest rates also mean that financing for real estate purchases and improvements may be more costly and difficult to obtain.

REITs tend to be small or medium-size companies. Because small and mid-cap stocks are typically less liquid than large-cap stocks, REIT stocks may sometimes experience greater share-price fluctuation than the stocks of larger companies. REITs are pooled investment vehicles with their own fees and expenses and a Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of those fees and expenses, which can be significant.

**Rights and Warrants.** Rights and warrants are options to purchase equity securities at specific prices valid for a specific period of time. Their prices do not necessarily move parallel to the prices of the underlying securities. Rights are similar to warrants but normally have a short duration and are distributed by the issuer to its shareholders. Warrants and rights have no voting rights, receive no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer. The market for warrants or rights may be very limited and it may be difficult to sell them promptly at an acceptable price.

**Securities Subject to Special Situations.** The Funds may invest in equity securities for which a tender or exchange offer has been made or announced and in securities of companies for which a merger, consolidation, liquidation or reorganization proposal has been announced or is anticipated. Generally, securities which are the subject of such an offer or proposal sell at a premium to their historic market price immediately prior to the announcement of the offer or may also discount what the stated or appraised value of the security would be if the contemplated transaction were approved or consummated. Such investments may be advantageous when the discount significantly overstates the risk of the contingencies involved, significantly undervalues the securities, assets or cash to be received by shareholders of the target company as a result of the contemplated transaction, or fails adequately to recognize the possibility that the offer or proposal may be replaced or superseded by an offer or proposal of greater value. The evaluation of such contingencies requires broad knowledge and experience on the

part of the Adviser which must appraise not only the value of the issuer and its component businesses as well as the assets or securities to be received as a result of the contemplated transaction but also the financial resources and business motivation of the offeror and the dynamics and business and regulatory climate when the offer or proposal is in process. Since such investments are ordinarily short-term in nature, they will tend to increase the turnover ratio of a Fund thereby increasing its brokerage and other transaction expenses and be more speculative.

## **FOREIGN SECURITIES**

The Funds may invest in securities of foreign issuers. The Balanced Fund may invest up to 10% of its total assets in foreign securities. Investing in foreign issuers involves certain special considerations that are not typically associated with investing in securities of U.S. issuers. Since the securities of foreign issuers are frequently denominated in foreign currencies, and since the Funds may temporarily hold invested reserves in bank deposits in foreign currencies, the Funds will be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in currency rates and in exchange control regulations, and may incur costs in connection with conversions between various currencies.

Investing in emerging markets can have more risk than investing in developed foreign markets. The risks of investing in these markets may be exacerbated relative to investments in foreign markets. In addition, emerging markets may impose capital restrictions and thus, may adversely affect the operations of the Fund and certain emerging markets impose constraints on currency exchange and some currencies in emerging markets may have been devalued significantly against the U.S. dollar. For these and other reasons, the prices of securities in emerging markets can fluctuate more significantly than the prices of securities of companies in developed countries. The less developed the country, the greater effect these risks may have on your investment in a Fund.

As foreign companies are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and practices comparable to those applicable to domestic companies, there may be less publicly available information about certain foreign companies than about domestic companies. Securities of some foreign companies are generally less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable domestic companies. There is generally less government supervision and regulation of stock exchanges, brokers and listed companies than in the U.S. In addition, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is the possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, political or social instability, or diplomatic developments that could affect U.S. investments in those countries. Although each Fund will endeavor to achieve most favorable execution costs in its portfolio transactions, fixed commissions on many foreign stock exchanges are generally higher than negotiated commissions on U.S. exchanges. In addition, it is expected that the expenses for custodian arrangements of the Funds' foreign securities will be somewhat greater than the expenses for the custodian arrangements for handling U.S. securities of equal value, especially for emerging market securities.

Certain foreign governments levy withholding or other taxes against dividend and interest income paid by citizens or corporations operating therein to investors from other countries. Although in some countries a portion of these taxes are recoverable, the non-recovered portion of those taxes will reduce a Fund's income received from an issuer subject thereto.

In a 2016 referendum, citizens of the United Kingdom ("UK") voted to withdraw from the European Union ("EU"), which caused significant volatility in global financial markets. In March 2017, the UK formally notified the European Council of its intention to withdraw from the EU (commonly referred to as "Brexit") by invoking Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, which triggered a two-year period of negotiations on the terms of Brexit. There is significant uncertainty regarding the consequences and timeframe for Brexit. During this period of uncertainty, the UK and European economies and the broader global economy may experience increased volatility and illiquidity, and companies that conduct a significant amount of business in the UK or Europe may experience lower revenue and/or profit growth, all of which may adversely affect the value of a Fund's investments. Brexit also may cause additional member states to contemplate departing the EU, which would likely perpetuate political and economic instability in the region and cause additional market disruption in global financial markets.

## **FIXED INCOME SECURITIES**

The fixed income securities in which the Funds may invest include securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities, and securities issued by domestic or foreign corporations and



other entities. The Fixed Income Fund invests under normal circumstances at least 80% of its net assets in a portfolio of investment grade corporate fixed income securities and fixed income securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities.

**Recent Fixed Income Market Events.** The U.S. Government implemented various measures designed to stabilize the U.S. economy following the recession during the late 2000s, including by keeping the federal funds rate at or near zero percent and purchasing large quantities of securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies and instrumentalities on the open market (quantitative easing). The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System has ended quantitative easing and begun to unwind the purchases made under its quantitative easing program and may continue raising the federal funds rate. These policy changes may expose debt instrument and related markets to heightened volatility and may reduce liquidity for certain Fund investments, which could cause the value of a Fund's investments and share price to decline. To the extent that a Fund experiences high redemptions because of these policy changes, the Fund may experience increased portfolio turnover, which will increase the costs that the Fund incurs and may lower the Fund's performance, and have trouble selling investments to meet shareholder redemptions.

**Ratings.** As noted above, all of the Funds may invest in various fixed income securities, including fixed income securities that are rated at the time of purchase as investment grade by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO"), such as S&P Global Ratings ("S&P"), Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"), or Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch"), or of equivalent quality as determined by the Adviser. Investment grade fixed income securities include:

- Securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities;
- Bonds or bank obligations rated in one of the four highest categories (such as BBB- or higher by S&P);
- Short-term notes rated in one of the two highest categories (such as SP-2 or higher by S&P); and
- Commercial paper or short-term bank obligations rated in one of the three highest categories (such as A-3 or higher by S&P).

Investment grade fixed income securities are generally perceived to have a lower degree of credit risk. However, certain investment grade securities with lower ratings are considered medium quality and may be subject to greater credit risk than the highest rated securities. If a security's rating falls below that required at the time of purchase, the Adviser will consider what action, if any, should be taken consistent with the Fund's investment objective. Additional information concerning securities ratings is contained in Appendix A to this SAI.

**U.S. Government Agency Securities.** U.S. Government agency securities are issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities. Some obligations issued by U.S. Government agencies and instrumentalities are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury; others by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; others by discretionary authority of the U.S. Government to purchase certain obligations of the agency or instrumentality; and others only by the credit of the agency or instrumentality. U.S. Government securities bear fixed, floating or variable rates of interest. While the U.S. Government may provide financial support to certain U.S. Government-sponsored agencies or instrumentalities, no assurance can be given that it will do so, since it is not so obligated by law. U.S. Government agency obligations and repurchase agreements secured thereby are primarily subject to market risk, credit risk and interest rate risk.

**U.S. Treasury Obligations.** U.S. Treasury obligations include bills (initial maturities of one year or less), notes (initial maturities between two and ten years), and bonds (initial maturities over ten years) issued by the U.S. Treasury, Separately Traded Registered Interest and Principal component parts of such obligations known as STRIPS and inflation-indexed securities. The prices of these securities (like all debt securities) change between issuance and maturity in response to fluctuating market interest rates. U.S. Treasury obligations are subject to credit risk and interest rate risk.

The Funds may invest in component parts of U.S. Treasury notes or bonds, namely either the principal of such Treasury obligations or one of the interest payments scheduled to be paid on such obligations. These obligations may take the form of: (1) Treasury obligations from which the interest coupons have been stripped; (2) the interest coupons that are stripped; (3) book-entries at a Federal Reserve member bank representing ownership of Treasury obligation components; or (4) receipts evidencing the component parts (principal or coupons) of Treasury obligations that have not actually been stripped. Such receipts evidence ownership of component parts of Treasury obligations (principal or coupons) purchased by a third party (typically an investment banking firm) and held on behalf of the third party in physical or book-entry form by a major commercial bank or trust company pursuant to a custody agreement with the third party. These custodial receipts are known by various names, including “Treasury Receipts,” “Treasury Investment Growth Receipts” (“TIGRs”) and “Certificates of Accrual on Treasury Securities” (“CATs”), and are not issued by the U.S. Treasury; therefore they are not U.S. Government securities, although the underlying bonds represented by these receipts are debt obligations of the U.S. Treasury.

**Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities.** The Funds may invest in fixed income securities of domestic or foreign issuers (corporate bonds, debentures, notes and other similar corporate debt instruments) rated as investment grade at the time of purchase by a NRSRO.

Even fixed income securities rated investment grade by a NRSRO possess some speculative characteristics. There are risks involved in applying credit ratings as a method for evaluating fixed income securities in that credit ratings evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments, not market value risk. In addition, credit ratings may not be correct and credit rating agencies may not change credit ratings on a timely basis to reflect changes in economic or company conditions that affect a security’s market value. Changes in economic conditions or other circumstances may lead to a weakened capacity of the issuer to make principal and interest payments on such securities.

The Funds will rely on the judgment, analysis and experience of the Adviser in evaluating the creditworthiness of an issuer. In this evaluation, the Adviser may take into consideration, among other things, the issuer’s financial resources and ability to cover its interest and fixed charges, factors relating to the issuer’s industry and its sensitivity to economic conditions and trends, its operating history, the quality of the issuer’s management and regulatory matters. The rate of return or return of principal on some debt obligations may be linked or indexed to the level of exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and a foreign currency or currencies.

The risk of loss due to default by the issuer is significantly greater for the holders of lower quality fixed income securities because such securities are generally unsecured and are often subordinated to other obligations of the issuer. During an economic downturn or a sustained period of rising interest rates, highly leveraged issuers of lower quality fixed income securities may experience financial stress and may not have sufficient revenues to meet their interest payment obligations. An issuer’s ability to service its debt obligations may also be adversely affected by specific corporate developments, its inability to meet specific projected business forecasts, or the unavailability of additional financing.

Factors adversely affecting the market value of fixed income securities may adversely affect the net asset value of a Fund if it invests in such securities. Interest rates across the U.S. economy have recently increased and may continue to increase, perhaps significantly and/or rapidly, thereby heightening a Fund’s exposure to the risks associated with rising interest rates. In addition, a Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek recovery upon a default in the payment of principal of or interest on its portfolio holdings.

The secondary trading market for lower-quality fixed income securities is generally not as liquid as the secondary market for higher-quality fixed income securities and is very thin for some fixed income securities. The relative lack of an active secondary market may have an adverse impact on market price and a Fund’s ability to dispose of particular issues when necessary to meet the Fund’s liquidity needs or in response to a specific economic event such as a deterioration in the creditworthiness of the issuer. The relative lack of an active secondary market for certain securities may also make it more difficult for a Fund to obtain information for purposes of valuing the Fund’s portfolio. Pricing data is generally available on many high yield issues only from a limited number of dealers and may not necessarily represent firm bids of such dealers or prices for actual sales. During such times, the ability to value the securities becomes more difficult and judgment plays a greater role in valuation because there is less reliable, objective data available.

**Variable and Floating Rate Obligations.** The interest rates payable on certain fixed income securities in which a Fund may invest are not fixed and may fluctuate based upon changes in market rates. A variable rate obligation has an interest rate which is adjusted at predesignated periods in response to changes in the market rate of interest on which the interest rate is based. Variable and floating rate obligations are generally less effective than fixed rate instruments at locking in a particular yield. Nevertheless, such obligations may fluctuate in value in response to interest rate changes if there is a delay between changes in market interest rates and the interest reset date for the obligation, or for other reasons.

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

**Non-Investment Grade Fixed Income Securities.** The Funds may invest in non-investment grade fixed income securities (commonly known as “junk bonds”). The Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, Equity and Balanced Funds may only invest up to 5% of their respective total assets in non-investment grade fixed income securities. Investments in such securities are inherently speculative. The lower ratings reflect a greater possibility that adverse changes in the financial condition of the issuer or in general economic conditions, or both, or an unanticipated rise in interest rates, may impair the ability of the issuer to make payments of interest and principal. The inability (or perceived inability) of issuers to make timely payment of interest and principal would likely make the values of such securities held by the Fund more volatile and could limit the Fund’s ability to sell its securities at prices approximating the values the Fund had placed on such securities. In the absence of a liquid trading market for securities held by a Fund, it may be difficult to establish a fair value of such securities. If the issuer defaults on its obligation, the value of the security would fall and the Fund’s income also would decline.

Securities ratings are based largely on the issuer’s historical financial condition and the rating agencies’ analysis at the time of rating. Consequently, the rating assigned to any particular security is not necessarily a reflection of the issuer’s current financial condition, which may be better or worse than the rating would indicate. In addition, the rating assigned to a security by an NRSRO does not reflect an assessment of the volatility of the security’s market value or the liquidity of an investment in the security.

Like those of other fixed income securities, the values of non-investment grade securities generally go up and down in response to changes in interest rates. A decrease in interest rates generally will result in an increase in the value of fixed income securities. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, the value of the Fund’s fixed income securities generally will decline. The values of non-investment grade fixed income securities often may be affected to a greater extent by changes in general economic conditions and business conditions affecting the issuers of such securities and their industries. Negative publicity or investor perceptions also may adversely affect the values of non-investment grade fixed income securities. Changes by NRSROs in their ratings of any fixed income security and changes in the ability of an issuer to make payments of interest and principal also may affect the value of these investments. Changes in the value of portfolio securities generally will not affect income derived from these securities, but will affect the Fund’s net asset value.

Issuers of lower rated securities often are highly leveraged, so that their ability to service their debt obligations during an economic downturn or during sustained periods of rising interest rates may be impaired. Such issuers may not have more traditional methods of financing available to them and may be unable to repay outstanding obligations at maturity by refinancing. The risk of loss due to default in payment of interest or repayment of principal by such issuers is significantly greater because such securities frequently are unsecured and subordinated to the prior payment of senior indebtedness.

**Mortgage Pass-Through Securities.** The Balanced and Fixed Income Funds may invest in residential and commercial mortgage pass-through securities. Mortgage pass-through securities represent interests in pools of mortgages in which payments of both principal and interest on the securities are generally made monthly, in effect “passing through” monthly payments made by borrowers in the residential or commercial mortgage loans which underlie the securities (net of any fees paid to the issuer or guarantor of the securities). Mortgage pass-through securities differ from other forms of debt securities, which normally provide for periodic payment of interest

in fixed amounts with principal payments at maturity or specified call dates. Early repayment of principal on mortgage pass-through securities (arising from prepayments of principal due to the sale of underlying property, refinancing, or foreclosure, net of fees and costs which may be incurred) may expose a Fund to a lower rate of return upon reinvestment of principal. Also, if a security subject to repayment has been purchased at a premium, in the event of prepayment, the value of the premium would be lost.

There are currently three types of mortgage pass-through securities: (1) those issued by the U.S. Government, one of its agencies or instrumentalities or a government sponsored enterprise, such as Government National Mortgage Association (“GNMA”), Fannie Mae (“FNMA”), and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC”); (2) those issued by private issuers that represent an interest in or are collateralized by pass-through securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or one of its agencies or instrumentalities; and (3) those issued by private issuers that represent an interest in or are collateralized by whole mortgage loans or pass-through securities without a government guarantee but may have some form of private credit enhancement.

GNMA is authorized to guarantee, with the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, the timely payment of principal and interest on securities issued by institutions approved by GNMA (such as savings and loan institutions, commercial banks and mortgage banks), and backed by pools of FHA-insured or VA-guaranteed mortgages. Obligations of FNMA and FHLMC are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. In the case of obligations not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, the Fund must look principally to the agency issuing or guaranteeing the obligation for ultimate repayment. FNMA and FHLMC may attempt to borrow from the U.S. Treasury to meet their obligations, but the U.S. Treasury is under no obligation to lend to FNMA or FHLMC.

The FHFA and the U.S. Treasury have imposed strict limits on the size of FNMA and FHLMC’s mortgage portfolios. Discussions among policymakers continue, however, as to whether FNMA and FHLMC should be nationalized, privatized, restructured, or eliminated altogether. FNMA and FHLMC also are the subject of several continuing legal actions and investigations over certain accounting, disclosure or corporate governance matters, which (along with any resulting financial restatements) may continue to have an adverse effect on the guaranteeing entities. Importantly, the future of FNMA and FHLMC remains in question as the U.S. Government considers multiple options.

Private mortgage pass-through securities are structured similarly to GNMA, FNMA, and FHLMC mortgage pass-through securities and are issued by originators of and investors in mortgage loans, including depository institutions, mortgage banks, investment banks and special purpose subsidiaries of the foregoing.

Pools created by private mortgage pass-through issuers generally offer a higher rate of interest than government and government-related pools to compensate for the fact that there are no direct or indirect government or agency guarantees of payments in the private pools. However, timely payment of interest and principal of these pools may be supported by various forms of insurance or insured by governmental entities, private insurers and the mortgage poolers.

## **WHEN-ISSUED SECURITIES**

The Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, Balanced and Fixed Income Funds may purchase securities on a “when-issued” basis. In buying “when-issued” securities, a Fund commits to buy securities at a certain price even though the securities may not be delivered for up to 120 days. No payment or delivery is made by the Fund in a “when-issued” transaction until the Fund receives payment or delivery from the other party to the transaction. Although the Fund receives no income from the above-described securities prior to delivery, the market value of such securities is still subject to change. As a consequence, it is possible that the market price of the securities at the time of delivery may be higher or lower than the purchase price. When a Fund purchases securities on a when-issued basis, it will maintain with its custodian cash or liquid securities having an aggregate value equal to the amount of its purchase commitment until payment is made. The purpose and effect of such maintenance is to prevent the Fund from gaining investment leverage from when-issued transactions. When-issued securities may decline or increase in value during the period from the Fund’s investment commitment to the settlement of the purchase.

## INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERINGS

The Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, Equity and Balanced Funds may invest in initial public offerings (“IPOs”). By definition, IPOs have not traded publicly until the time of their offerings. Special risks associated with IPOs may include a limited number of shares available for trading, unseasoned trading, lack of investor knowledge of the company, and limited operating history, all of which may contribute to price volatility. Many IPOs are issued by undercapitalized companies of small or microcap size. Investments in IPOs may have a magnified performance impact relative to other investments.

Pursuant to the Adviser’s allocation policies and procedures, the Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, Equity and Balanced Funds generally will be eligible to participate on a rotating basis in any applicable IPOs that may come available to eligible clients of the Adviser.

## ILLIQUID INVESTMENTS, RESTRICTED SECURITIES AND PRIVATE PLACEMENT OFFERINGS

**Illiquid Investments.** Illiquid investments are investments that cannot be sold or disposed of within seven days in the ordinary course of business at approximately the prices at which they are valued. Under the supervision of the Board of Trustees, the Adviser determines the liquidity of a Fund’s investments and, through reports from the Adviser and the Funds’ administrator, the Board monitors investments in illiquid securities. In determining the liquidity of the Funds’ investments, the Adviser may consider various factors, including the frequency of trades and quotations, the number of dealers and prospective purchasers in the marketplace, dealer undertakings to make a market, the nature of the security, and the nature of the marketplace for trades. Investments currently considered by the Funds to be illiquid include restricted securities, other than certain foreign securities, restricted securities pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act and commercial paper sold in reliance on Section 4(2) of the Securities Act. The absence of a trading market can make it difficult to ascertain a market value for illiquid investments. When no market quotations are available, illiquid investments are priced at fair value as determined in good faith by the Adviser using guidelines approved by the Board of Trustees. Disposing of these investments may involve time-consuming negotiation and legal expenses, and it may be difficult or impossible for the Funds to sell them promptly at an acceptable price. If through a change in values, net assets, or other circumstances, any of the Funds were in a position where more than 15% of its net assets were invested in illiquid securities, the Fund would take appropriate steps to protect liquidity.

**Restricted Securities.** Restricted securities can generally be sold in privately negotiated transactions, pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act or in a registered public offering. Where registration is required, a Fund may be obligated to pay all or part of the registration expense and a considerable period may elapse between the time the Fund 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, a Fund might obtain a less favorable price than prevailed at the time it decided to seek registration of the security.

**Private Placement Offerings.** The Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, Balanced and Fixed Income Funds may invest in private placement offerings. Investments in private placement offerings are made in reliance on the “private placement” exemption from registration afforded by Section 4(2) or Regulation D of the Securities Act (“Section 4(2) securities”). Section 4(2) securities are restricted as to disposition under the federal securities law and generally are sold to institutional investors such as the Funds that agree they are purchasing the securities for investment and not with an intention to distribute to the public.

## OTHER INVESTMENT COMPANIES

The Funds may invest in shares of other investment companies, including open-end funds, closed-end funds, business development companies, exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), exchange-traded notes, and unit investment trusts. Investments in the securities of other investment companies may involve duplication of advisory fees and certain other expenses. By investing in another investment company, a Fund becomes a shareholder of that investment company. As a result, Fund shareholders indirectly will bear a Fund’s proportionate share of the fees and expenses paid by shareholders of the other investment company, in addition to the fees and expenses Fund shareholders directly bear in connection with the Fund’s own operations, and are indirectly exposed to the risks of the investments held by the other investment company. These other fees and expenses would be reflected as

Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and would be included in the Fees and Expenses Table in the Prospectuses, if applicable. Investment in other investment companies may involve the payment of substantial premiums above the value of such issuer's portfolio securities or a Fund may have to sell such investments at a discount to the issuer's portfolio securities. Exchange-traded and closed-end funds may trade at premiums or discounts to their net asset values and be subject to trading halts.

## **SECURITIES LENDING**

The Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, Balanced and Fixed Income Funds may lend securities to qualified brokers, dealers, banks and other financial institutions. Securities lending would allow a Fund to retain ownership of the securities loaned and, at the same time, to earn additional income. Since there may be delays in the recovery of loaned securities, or even a loss of rights in collateral supplied should the borrower fail financially, loans would be made only to parties deemed by the Adviser to be of good standing. In addition, they would only be made if, in the Adviser's judgment, the consideration to be earned from such loans would justify the risk. Such loans would not be made if, as a result, the aggregate of all outstanding loans of a Fund exceed one-third of the value of its total assets (including the value of all assets received as collateral for the loan). The Funds do not currently engage in securities lending activities.

## **TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS**

The temporary investments that the Funds may make include:

(1) Cash, time deposits, certificates of deposit (including marketable variable rate certificates of deposit) and bankers' acceptances issued by a commercial bank or savings and loan association. Time deposits are non-negotiable deposits maintained in a banking institution for a specified period of time at a stated interest rate. Time deposits maturing in more than seven days will not be purchased by the Funds. Certificates of deposit are negotiable short-term obligations issued by commercial banks or savings and loan associations against funds deposited in the issuing institution. Variable rate certificates of deposit are certificates of deposit on which the interest rate is periodically adjusted prior to their stated maturity based upon a specified market rate. A bankers' acceptance is a time draft drawn on a commercial bank by a borrower usually in connection with an international commercial transaction (to finance the import, export, transfer or storage of goods).

The Funds may invest in obligations of U.S. banks, foreign branches of U.S. banks (Eurodollars), and U.S. branches of foreign banks (Yankee dollars). Euro and Yankee dollar investments will involve the same risks of investing in foreign securities discussed previously. Although the Adviser carefully considers these factors when making investments, the Funds do not limit the amount of its assets which can be invested in any one type of instrument or in any foreign country in which a branch of a U.S. bank or the parent of a U.S. branch is located.

The Funds will not invest in any security issued by a commercial bank unless (i) the bank has total assets of at least \$1 billion, or the equivalent in other currencies, or, in the case of a domestic bank that does not have total assets of at least \$1 billion, the aggregate investment made in any one such bank is limited to \$250,000 and the principal amount of such investment is insured in full by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and (ii) in the case of U.S. banks, it is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

(2) Commercial paper that at the time of purchase is rated in the highest rating category by a NRSRO or, if not rated, issued by a corporation having an outstanding unsecured debt issue that meets such rating requirement at time of purchase;

(3) Short-term corporate obligations rated in the highest rating category by a NRSRO at time of purchase;

(4) U.S. Government obligations, including bills, notes, bonds and other debt securities issued by the U.S. Treasury. These are direct obligations of the U.S. Government and differ mainly in interest rates, maturities and dates of issue;

(5) U.S. Government agency securities issued or guaranteed by U.S. Government sponsored instrumentalities and federal agencies. These include securities issued by the Federal Home Loan Banks, Federal Land Bank, Farmers Home Administration, Farm Credit Banks, Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, Fannie Mae, Federal Financing Bank, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and others; and

(6) Repurchase agreements.

## **REGULATORY EVENTS**

The U.S. Government, the Federal Reserve, the Treasury, the SEC, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and other governmental and regulatory bodies have taken and continue to consider actions in response to economic events. Given the broad scope, sweeping nature, and continuing enactment of various statutes and regulatory measures, the potential impact they could have on securities held by a Fund currently is unknown. There can be no assurance that these measures will not have an adverse effect on the value or marketability of securities held by the Funds. There is a risk that policy changes by the U.S. Government and/or Federal Reserve, such as continuing to raise interest rates, could cause increased volatility in financial markets and higher levels of Fund redemptions, which could have a negative impact on the Funds. Furthermore, no assurance can be made that the U.S. Government or any U.S. regulatory body (or other authority or regulatory body) will refrain from taking further legislative or regulatory action. The effect of any such actions, if taken, cannot be known.

Since the financial crisis that started in 2008, the U.S. and many foreign economies continue to experience its after-effects, which have resulted, and may continue to result, in an unusually high degree of volatility in the financial markets, both domestic and foreign. In addition, global economies and financial markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, which increases the possibilities that conditions in one country or region might adversely impact issuers in a different country or region. The severity or duration of adverse economic conditions may also be affected by policy changes made by governments or quasi-governmental organizations. In addition, political events within the U.S. and abroad may affect investor and consumer confidence and may adversely impact financial markets and the broader economy, perhaps suddenly and to a significant degree. High public debt in the U.S. and other countries creates ongoing systemic and market risks and policymaking uncertainty. Because the impact on the markets has been widespread, it may be difficult to identify both risks and opportunities using past models of the interplay of market forces, or to predict the duration of these market conditions. Interest rates have been unusually low in recent years in the U.S. and abroad. Because there is little precedent for this situation, it is difficult to predict the impact of a rate increase on various markets. In addition, there is a risk that the prices of goods and services in the U.S. and many foreign economies may decline over time, known as deflation (the opposite of inflation). Deflation may have an adverse effect on stock prices and creditworthiness and may make defaults on debt more likely.

## **CYBERSECURITY**

With the increased use of technologies such as the internet and the dependence on computer systems to perform necessary business functions, the Funds and their service providers and third-party fund distribution platforms may have become more susceptible to operational and related risks through breaches in cybersecurity. A cybersecurity incident may refer to intentional or unintentional events that allow an unauthorized party to gain access to Fund assets, customer data, or proprietary information, or cause a Fund or Fund service providers (including, but not limited to, the Adviser, distributor, fund accountants, custodian, transfer agent, sub-advisers (if applicable), and financial intermediaries), as well as securities trading venues and their service providers, to suffer data corruption or lose operational functionality. A cybersecurity incident could, among other things, result in the loss or theft of customer data or funds, customers or employees being unable to access electronic systems (“denial of services”), loss or theft of proprietary information or corporate data, interference with the Fund’s ability to calculate its net asset value, impediments to trading, physical damage to a computer or network system, or remediation costs associated with system repairs.

Any of these results could have a substantial adverse impact on a Fund and its shareholders. For example, if a cybersecurity incident results in a denial of service, Fund shareholders could lose access to their electronic accounts and be unable to buy or sell Fund shares for an unknown period of time, and employees could be unable to access electronic systems to perform critical duties for the Fund, such as trading, NAV calculation, shareholder

accounting or fulfilment of Fund share purchases and redemptions. Cybersecurity incidents could cause a Fund or Fund service provider to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures, or financial loss of a significant magnitude and could result in allegations that a Fund or Fund service provider violated privacy and other laws. Similar adverse consequences could result from cybersecurity incidents affecting issuers of securities in which the Fund invests, counterparties with which a Fund engages in transactions, governmental and other regulatory authorities, exchange and other financial market operators, banks, brokers, dealers, insurance companies, and other financial institutions and other parties. Risk management systems and business continuity plans seek to reduce the risks associated with cybersecurity in the event there is a cybersecurity breach, but there are inherent limitations in these systems and plans, including the possibility that certain risks may not have been identified, in large part because different or unknown threats may emerge in the future. Furthermore, the Funds do not control the cybersecurity systems and plans of the issuers of securities in which the Funds invest or the Funds' third party service providers or trading counterparties or any other service providers whose operations may affect the Funds or their shareholders.

## TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE LKCM FUNDS

### **The Board of Trustees**

The Trust is governed by its Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for and oversees the overall management and operations of the Trust and the Funds, which includes the general oversight and review of the Funds' investment activities, in accordance with federal law and the law of the State of Delaware, as well as the stated policies of the Funds. The Board oversees the Trust's officers and service providers, including the Adviser, which is responsible for the management of the day-to-day operations of the Funds based on policies and agreements reviewed and approved by the Board. In carrying out these responsibilities, the Board regularly interacts with and receives reports from senior personnel of service providers, including the Adviser's personnel and the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer ("CCO"). The Board also is assisted by the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm (who reports directly to the Trust's Audit and Compliance Committee), independent counsel and other experts as appropriate, all of whom are selected by the Board. The Board met four times during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

#### *Risk Oversight*

Consistent with its responsibility for oversight of the Trust and the Funds, the Board oversees the management of risks relating to the administration and operation of the Trust and the Funds. The Adviser, as part of its responsibilities for the day-to-day operations of the Funds, is responsible for day-to-day risk management for the Funds. The Board, in the exercise of its reasonable business judgment, also separately considers potential risks that may impact the Funds. The Board performs this risk management oversight directly and, as to certain matters, through its committees and through the Independent Trustees. The following provides an overview of the principal, but not all, aspects of the Board's oversight of risk management for the Trust and the Funds.

In general, a Fund's risks include, among others, investment risk, credit risk, liquidity risk, valuation risk and operational risk. The Board has adopted, and periodically reviews, policies and procedures designed to address risks to the Trust and the Funds. In addition, under the general oversight of the Board, the Adviser and other service providers to the Funds have adopted a variety of policies, procedures and controls designed to address particular risks to the Funds. Different processes, procedures and controls are employed with respect to different types of risks.

The Board also oversees risk management for the Trust and the Funds through review of regular reports, presentations and other information from officers of the Trust and other persons. The Funds' CCO and senior officers of the Adviser regularly report to the Board on a range of matters, including those relating to risk management. The Board also regularly receives reports from the Adviser with respect to the Funds' investments. In addition to regular reports from the Adviser, the Board also receives reports regarding other service providers to the Trust, either directly or through the Adviser or the Funds' CCO, on a periodic or regular basis. At least annually, the Board receives a report from the Funds' CCO regarding the effectiveness of the Funds' compliance program. Also, on an annual basis, the Board receives reports, presentations and other information from the Adviser in connection with the Board's consideration of the renewal of the Trust's advisory agreement with the Adviser and the Trust's distribution plans under Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act.



The CCO also reports regularly to the Board on Fund valuation matters. In addition, the Audit and Compliance Committee receives regular reports from the Trust’s independent registered public accounting firm on internal control and financial reporting matters. On at least a quarterly basis, the Independent Trustees meet with the Funds’ CCO to discuss matters relating to the Funds’ compliance program.

*Board Structure and Related Matters*

Board members who are not “interested persons” of the Funds as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act (“Independent Trustees”) constitute two-thirds of the Board. H. Kirk Downey, an Independent Trustee, serves as Chairman of the Board. As Chairman, Mr. Downey’s responsibilities include: setting an agenda for each meeting of the Board; presiding at all meetings of the Board and Independent Trustees; and serving as a liaison with other Trustees, the Trust’s officers and other management personnel, and counsel to the Funds. As Chairman, Mr. Downey also performs such other duties as the Board may from time to time determine.

The Trustees discharge their responsibilities collectively as a Board, as well as through Board committees, each of which operates pursuant to a charter approved by the Board that delineates the specific responsibilities of that committee. The Board has established three standing committees: the Audit and Compliance Committee, the Nominating Committee and the Qualified Legal Compliance Committee. The members and responsibilities of each Board committee are summarized below.

The Board periodically evaluates its structure and composition as well as various aspects of its operations. The Board believes that its leadership structure, including its independent Chairman and Board committees, is appropriate for the Trust in light of, among other factors, the asset size and nature of the Funds, the number of Funds overseen by the Board, the arrangements for the conduct of the Funds’ operations, the number of Trustees, and the Board’s responsibilities. On an annual basis, the Board conducts a self-evaluation that considers, among other matters, whether the Board and its committees are functioning effectively and whether, given the size and composition of the Board and each of its committees, the Trustees are able to oversee effectively the number of Funds in the complex.

The Board holds four regularly scheduled meetings each year. The Board may hold special meetings, as needed, either in person or by telephone, to address matters arising between regular meetings. During a portion of each regular meeting, the Independent Trustees meet outside of management’s presence. The Independent Trustees may hold special meetings, as needed, either in person or by telephone.

The Trustees of the Trust are identified in the tables below, which provide information as to their year of birth and positions with the Trust, term of office with the Trust and length of time served, their principal occupations for the past five years and other directorships held in public companies during the past five years.

**Independent Trustees**

<u>Name, Address and Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with the Trust</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</u>	<u># of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>	<u>Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years</u>
H. Kirk Downey 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1942	Chairman of the Board of Trustees  Trustee	Since 2005  Since 1994	President and CEO, Texas Systems, LLC and CEO, Texas learning systems LLC since 1999 (education companies); Dean, M.J. Neeley School of Business, Texas Christian University Business School from 1987 to 1999.	6	AZZ  Incorporated

<u>Name, Address and Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with the Trust</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</u>	<u># of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>	<u>Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years</u>
Earle A. Shields, Jr. 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1920	Trustee	Since 1994	Consultant; formerly Consultant for NASDAQ Corp. and Vice President, Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.	6	None
Richard J. Howell 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1942	Trustee  Chairman of the Audit and Compliance Committee	Since 2005  Since 2008	CPA; Adjunct Faculty at SMU Cox School of Business from 2004 to 2009; Consulting Services, since 2002; Audit Partner, Arthur Andersen LLP from 1974 to 2002.	6	Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc.
Larry J. Lockwood 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1953	Trustee	Since 2013	C. R. Williams Professor of Finance, Stan Block Endowed Chair in Finance, Department of Finance, Neeley School of Business, Texas Christian University since 1994.	6	None

(1) Each Trustee holds office during the lifetime of the Trust until that individual resigns, retires or is otherwise removed or replaced.

#### Interested Trustees

<u>Name, Address and Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with the Trust</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</u>	<u># of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>	<u>Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years</u>
J. Luther King, Jr. <sup>(2)</sup> 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1940	Trustee, President and Chief Executive Officer	Since 1994	Chairman, President and Director, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 1979.	6	Tyler Technologies, Inc.
Steven R. Purvis <sup>(2)</sup> 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1964	Trustee Vice President	Since 2013  Since 2000	Principal, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 2004, Vice President and Portfolio Manager, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 1996.	6	AZZ Incorporated

(1) Each Trustee holds office during the lifetime of the Trust until that individual resigns, retires or is otherwise removed or replaced.

(2) Messrs. King and Purvis are each considered to be an “interested person” of the Trust (as defined in the 1940 Act) because of their affiliation with the Adviser.

In addition to the information set forth in the tables above and other relevant qualifications, experience, attributes or skills applicable to a particular Trustee, the following provides further information about the qualifications and experience of each Trustee.

*H. Kirk Downey:* Mr. Downey has extensive organizational and business experience as president and chief executive officer of a private company, service as the dean of a private university's business school, service as the non-executive chairman of the board of a publicly held corporation, and multiple years of service as a Trustee.

*Earle A. Shields, Jr.:* Mr. Shields has extensive experience in the investment management industry as a consultant for a financial services industry corporation, service as vice president for a global financial services firm, service as a member to numerous charitable boards, and multiple years of service as a Trustee.

*Richard J. Howell:* Mr. Howell has extensive audit and business experience as a certified public accountant, service as a partner in a global accounting firm, service as a faculty member at a private university's business school, service as a director of a publicly held corporation and multiple years of service as a Trustee.

*J. Luther King, Jr.:* Mr. King has extensive experience in the investment management industry as chairman, president and director of an investment management firm, service on the board of numerous public and private corporations and foundations, and multiple years of service as a Trustee.

*Steven R. Purvis:* Mr. Purvis has extensive experience as principal of an investment management firm and service as a portfolio manager, director of research and senior analyst, and multiple years of service as a Trustee.

*Larry J. Lockwood:* Mr. Lockwood has extensive experience in finance as professor of finance at the business school of a private university and service as a chartered financial analyst, business consultant and lecturer, and multiple years of service as a Trustee.

The table below sets forth the compensation paid by the Trust to each Trustee of the Trust during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017:

#### COMPENSATION TABLE

Name of Person	Aggregate Compensation from the Funds	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued As Part of Fund Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation from all Funds in the Trust Complex <sup>(1)</sup>
<b><u>Interested Trustees</u></b>				
J. Luther King, Jr.	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Steven R. Purvis	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b><u>Disinterested Trustees</u></b>				
H. Kirk Downey	\$ 72,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 72,000
Richard J. Howell	\$ 68,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 68,000
Earle A. Shields, Jr.	\$ 62,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 62,000
Larry J. Lockwood	\$ 62,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 62,000

<sup>(1)</sup> There are currently six series comprising the Trust, one of which is offered in a separate prospectus and SAI.

The Independent Trustees receive an annual retainer of \$40,000, with the Chairman of the Board receiving an additional \$10,000 retainer and the Chairman of the Audit and Compliance Committee receiving an additional \$6,000 retainer. Each Independent Trustee also receives a meeting fee of \$4,500 for each Board meeting attended in person and a meeting fee of \$2,000 for each telephonic meeting, and is reimbursed for their reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred in attending Board meetings. Independent Trustees may also receive a meeting fee for each Board committee meeting attended in person or by telephone if so determined by the chairman of the applicable Board committee.

## Board Ownership in the Funds

The table below sets forth the dollar range of the value of the shares of each Fund, and the dollar range of the aggregate value of the shares of all Funds overseen by a Trustee, owned beneficially by each Trustee as of December 31, 2017. For purposes of this table, beneficial ownership is defined to mean a direct or indirect pecuniary interest. Exact dollar amounts of securities held are not listed in the table. Rather, the ranges are identified according to the following key:

### Key

- A. None
- B. \$1 - \$10,000
- C. \$10,001 - \$50,000
- D. \$50,001 - \$100,000
- E. over \$100,000

<u>Name of Trustee</u>	<u>Small Cap Equity Fund</u>	<u>Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund</u>	<u>Equity Fund</u>	<u>Balanced Fund</u>	<u>Fixed Income Fund</u>	<u>Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in Trust Complex<sup>(1)</sup></u>
H. Kirk Downey, Independent Trustee	A	A	C	E	A	E
Richard J. Howell, Independent Trustee	D	C	D	A	C	E
Earle A. Shields, Jr. Independent Trustee	D	A	A	A	A	D
Larry J. Lockwood Independent Trustee	A	A	C	A	A	C
J. Luther King, Jr. <sup>(2)</sup> Interested Trustee, President and Chief Executive Officer	E	A	E	A	E	E
Steven R. Purvis <sup>(2)</sup> Interested Trustee, Vice President	E	E	A	A	A	E

(1) There are currently six series comprising the Trust, one of which is offered in a separate prospectus and SAI.

(2) Messrs. King and Purvis are Principals of the Adviser and participants in the Adviser's profit sharing plan, each of which own shares of the Funds as indicated under "Portfolio Managers – Ownership of Securities."

### *Board Committees*

*Audit and Compliance Committee.* The Trust has an Audit and Compliance Committee, consisting of Messrs. Downey, Howell, Shields and Lockwood. The members of the Audit and Compliance Committee are Independent Trustees. The primary responsibilities of the Audit and Compliance Committee are to make recommendations to the Board as to: the engagement or discharge of the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm (including the audit fees charged by the accounting firm); the supervision of investigations into matters relating to audits; the review with the independent registered public accounting firm of the results of audits; oversight of the Trust's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, internal control over financial reporting and independent audits; and addressing any other matters regarding audits and compliance. The Audit and Compliance Committee met four times during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

*Nominating Committee.* The Trust has a Nominating Committee, consisting of Messrs. Downey, Howell, Shields and Lockwood. The Nominating Committee is responsible for the selection and nomination for appointment of candidates to serve as Trustees of the Trust. The Nominating Committee will review shareholders' nominations to fill vacancies on the Board. Shareholders can submit recommendations in writing addressed to the attention of the chair of the Nominating Committee, 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600, Fort Worth, Texas 76102. A shareholder's recommendation must include the following information about the nominee: (1) name; (2) date of birth; (3) education; (4) business, professional or other relevant experience and areas of expertise; (5) current business, professional or other relevant experience and areas of expertise; (6) current business and home addresses and contact information; (7) other board positions or prior experience; and (8) any knowledge and experience relating to investment companies and investment company governance. The Nominating Committee met once during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

With respect to the criteria the Nominating Committee uses for selecting nominees, a successful candidate should have certain uniform characteristics, such as a very high level of integrity, appropriate experience, and a commitment to fulfill the fiduciary duties inherent in Board membership. The Nominating Committee also will consider the extent to which potential candidates possess sufficiently diverse skill sets and diversity characteristics that would contribute to the Board's overall effectiveness.

*Qualified Legal Compliance Committee.* The Trust has a Qualified Legal Compliance Committee, consisting of Messrs. Downey, Howell, Shields and Lockwood. The members of the Qualified Legal Compliance Committee are Independent Trustees. The primary responsibility of the Trust's Qualified Legal Compliance Committee is to receive, review and take appropriate action with respect to any report made or referred to the Qualified Legal Compliance Committee by an attorney of evidence of a material violation of applicable U.S. federal or state securities law, material breach of a fiduciary duty under U.S. federal or state law or a similar material violation by the Trust or by any officer, director, employee, or agent of the Trust. The Qualified Legal Compliance Committee did not meet during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

The Trust does not hold annual shareholder meetings and, therefore, does not have a policy with respect to Trustees' attendance at such meetings.

### Principal Officers of the Trust

The officers of the Trust conduct and supervise its daily business. As of the date of this SAI, the officers of the Trust are identified in the following table, which provides information as to their year of birth and positions with the Trust, term of office with the Trust and length of time served, their principal occupations for the past five years and, for officers who also serve as Trustees, other directorships held in public companies during the past five years.

<u>Name, Address and Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with the Trust</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</u>	<u>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</u>	<u># of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>	<u>Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years</u>
J. Luther King, Jr. <sup>(1)</sup> 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1940	Trustee, President and Chief Executive Officer	Since 1994	Chairman, President and Director, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 1979.	6	Tyler Technologies, Inc.

<u>Name, Address and Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with the Trust</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</u>	<u>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</u>	<u># of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>	<u>Other Directorships Held by Trustee During the Past Five Years</u>
Steven R. Purvis <sup>(1)</sup> 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1964	Trustee  Vice President	Since 2013  Since 2000	Principal, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 2004, Vice President and Portfolio Manager, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 1996.	6	AZZ Incorporated
Paul W. Greenwell 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1950	Vice President	Since 1996	Principal, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 1986, Vice President and Portfolio Manager, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 1983.	N/A	N/A
Richard Lenart 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1966	Secretary and Treasurer	Since 2006	Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 2005.	N/A	N/A
Jacob D. Smith 301 Commerce Street Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Year of Birth: 1974	Chief Financial Officer Chief Compliance Officer	Since 2010  Since 2006	General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 2006; Principal, Luther King Capital Management Corporation since 2013.	N/A	N/A

<sup>(1)</sup> Messrs. King and Purvis are each considered to be an “interested person” of the Trust (as defined in the 1940 Act) because of their affiliation with the Adviser.

### **CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS**

A principal shareholder is any person who owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of any of the Funds. A control person is one who owns beneficially or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledges the existence of control. A person who controls a Fund may be able to determine the outcome of any matter submitted to a vote of shareholders. As of March 31, 2018, the following persons owned of record or are known by the Funds to own beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the Funds.

**PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS**  
**SMALL CAP EQUITY FUND – Institutional Class**

Name and Address	Number of Shares	Percent of Class	Percent of Total Fund	Record or Beneficial
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody A/C FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	2,902,540	27.87%	27.80%	Record
National Financial Services LLC For The Exclusive Benefit Of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Department, 4 <sup>th</sup> Fl 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	1,169,944	11.23%	11.36%	Record
Capinco c/o U.S. Bank, NA 1555 North RiverCenter Drive, Suite 302 Milwaukee, WI 53212	1,002,999	9.63%	9.60%	Record
Arkansas Children’s Hospital Foundation c/o Luther King Capital Management Corporation 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	987,272	9.50%	9.50%	Beneficial
Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Inc. For The Exclusive Benefit Of Its Customers Attn: Service Team 4800 Deer Lake Drive East, Floor 2 Jacksonville, FL 32246	927,310	8.90%	8.90%	Record

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Percent of Class</u>	<u>Percent of Total Fund</u>	<u>Record or Beneficial</u>
Arkansas Chapter NECA-IBEW c/o Luther King Capital Management Corporation 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	747,190	7.20%	7.20%	Beneficial
SEI Private Trust Company FBO Its Customers ONE Freedom Valley Drive Oaks PA 19456-9989	727,956	6.99%	6.97%	Record

**PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS  
SMALL CAP EQUITY FUND – Adviser Class**

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Percent of Class</u>	<u>Percent of Total Fund</u>	<u>Record or Beneficial</u>
National Financial Services LLC For The Exclusive Benefit Of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Department 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	16,774	50.67%	11.36%	Record



<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Percent of Class</u>	<u>Percent of Total Fund</u>	<u>Record or Beneficial</u>
Mid Atlantic Trust Company FBO Rademann Stone & Landscape Co Inc 1251 Waterfront Place, Suite 525 Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4228	2,572	7.77%	0.00%	Record
Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Inc. For The Sole Benefit Of Its Customers 4800 Deer Lake Drive East, Jacksonville, FL 32246-6484	2,234	6.75%	8.90%	Record
Vanguard Brokerage Services FBO Its Customers PO Box 1170 Valley Forge, PA 19482-1170	2,112	6.38%	6.38%	Record
Wells Fargo Clearing Services 2801 Market Street Saint Louis, MO 63103-2523	1,720	5.20%	0.00%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody A/C FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	1,666	5.03%	27.80%	Record

**PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS  
SMALL-MID CAP EQUITY FUND – Institutional Class**

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Percent of Fund</u>	<u>Record or Beneficial</u>
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody A/C FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	609,337	35.62%	Record
SEI Private Trust Company FBO Its Customers ONE Freedom Valley Drive Oaks PA 19456-9989	434,288	25.38%	Record

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Percent of Fund</u>	<u>Record or Beneficial</u>
National Financial Services LLC For The Exclusive Benefit Of Its Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Department 499 Washington Boulevard, Floor 5 Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	257,818	15.07%	Record
Luther King Capital Management Corporation Profit Sharing Plan 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	173,788	10.20%	Beneficial
Steven R. Purvis & Kelley R. Purvis c/o Luther King Capital Management Corporation 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	151,524	8.90%	Beneficial
First Methodist Church of Fort Worth Foundation c/o Luther King Capital Management Corporation 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	113,253	6.60%	Beneficial
Advancement Foundation c/o Luther King Capital Management Corporation 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	99,593	5.80%	Beneficial
Estate of Susan Clayton Garwood c/o Luther King Capital Management Corporation 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	86,091	5.00%	Beneficial

**PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS  
EQUITY FUND**

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Percent of Fund</u>	<u>Record or Beneficial</u>
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody A/C FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	7,612,312	57.70%	Record
National Financial Services LLC For The Exclusive Benefit Of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Department, 4 <sup>th</sup> Fl 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	1,237,350	9.36%	Record
Luther King Capital Management Corporation Profit Sharing Plan 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	1,084,023	8.20%	Beneficial
SEI Private Trust Company FBO Its Customers One Freedom Valley Drive Oaks PA 19456-9989	1,080,322	8.19%	Record

**PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS  
BALANCED FUND**

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Percent of Fund</u>	<u>Record or Beneficial</u>
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody A/C FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	2,443,077	64.06%	Record
Luther King Capital Management Corporation Profit Sharing Plan 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	359,312	9.40%	Beneficial

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Percent of Fund</u>	<u>Record or Beneficial</u>
Pershing LLC For The Exclusive Benefit Of Its Customers P.O. Box 2052 Jersey City, NJ 07303-2052	302,722	7.94%	Record
National Financial Services LLC For The Exclusive Benefit Of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Department, 4 <sup>th</sup> Fl 499 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	211,112	5.54%	Record

**PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS  
FIXED INCOME FUND**

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Percent of Fund</u>	<u>Record or Beneficial</u>
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. For The Exclusive Benefit Of Its Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	10,706,602	45.07%	Record
SEI Private Trust Company FBO Its Customers ONE Freedom Valley Drive Oaks PA 19456-9989	5,999,666	25.25%	Record
Strafe & Co. For The Exclusive Benefit Of Its Customers P.O. Box 6924 Newark, DE 19714-6924	3,584,255	15.09%	Record
Moncrief Cancer Foundation c/o Luther King Capital Management Corporation 301 Commerce Street, Suite 1600 Fort Worth, Texas 76102	1,664,282	7.00%	Beneficial

Shareholders with a controlling interest could affect the outcome of proxy voting or the direction of management of the Funds. No shareholder information is provided for the Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund – Adviser Class or the Equity Fund – Adviser Class as these classes had not commenced operations as of the date of this SAI.

**PROXY VOTING PROCEDURES**

The Funds have delegated their authority to vote proxies to the Adviser, subject to the supervision of the Board of Trustees. The Adviser’s proxy voting policies are summarized below.

**GENERAL**

The Adviser’s Chief Compliance Officer (“Adviser CCO”) is responsible for monitoring the proxy voting process, including engaging and overseeing any third-party vendor retained to review, monitor, or vote proxies.

The Adviser has engaged Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. (“ISS”) as its voting delegate to:

- (1) research and make voting determinations in accordance with the policies and procedures described herein;
- (2) vote and submit proxies in a timely manner;
- (3) handle other administrative functions of proxy voting;
- (4) maintain records of proxy statements received in connection with proxy votes and provide copies of such proxy statements promptly upon request;
- (5) maintain records of votes cast; and
- (6) provide recommendations with respect to proxy voting matters in general.

The Adviser has determined that, except as set forth below, proxies will be voted in accordance with the voting recommendations contained in the applicable domestic or global ISS Voting Guidelines in effect at the time of voting (as applicable, the “ISS Voting Guidelines”). The Adviser will periodically review the ISS Voting Guidelines, including any significant changes or updates thereto. In connection with such reviews, the Adviser may determine that it is not in the best interest of the Funds to vote proxies in accordance with the ISS Voting Guidelines on certain matters. In such event, the Adviser will follow the procedures below in connection with voting any such proxies contrary to the ISS Voting Guidelines.

In the event the ISS Voting Guidelines do not address how a proxy should be voted, the Adviser will vote the proxy in accordance with ISS recommendations. If ISS refrains from making any such recommendations, the Adviser will vote the proxy consistent with what it believes to be the Fund’s best interest. Prior to voting any proxies in the absence of ISS recommendations, however, the Adviser CCO will determine whether any material conflict of interest may exist between the Adviser and the Fund with respect thereto. If the Adviser CCO determines that any such material conflict of interest may exist, the Adviser will follow the procedures below in connection with the voting of such proxies.

There may be circumstances under which the Adviser believes that it is in the best interest of a Fund to vote proxies in a manner inconsistent with the ISS Voting Guidelines or ISS recommendations. Prior to voting any proxies inconsistent with the ISS Voting Guidelines or ISS recommendations, however, the Adviser CCO will determine whether any material conflict of interest may exist between the Adviser and the Fund with respect thereto. If the Adviser CCO determines that any such material conflict of interest may exist, the Adviser will follow the procedures below in connection with the voting of such proxies.

The Adviser maintains records relating to the implementation of its proxy voting policies and procedures, including, but not limited to, (i) records of each vote cast, which ISS maintains on the Adviser’s behalf, and (ii) documents considered or prepared by the Adviser that are material in making a decision to vote proxies on behalf of a Fund or that memorialize the basis for that decision.

## **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Adviser periodically reviews ISS’ conflicts of interest policy and code of ethics, which address conflicts of interest that could arise in connection with proxy advisory services provided by ISS or its affiliates. The Adviser believes that ISS’ conflicts of interest policy and code of ethics contain policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to minimize any such potential conflicts of interest.

In the event that the Adviser or the Adviser CCO determines that voting a proxy may present a material conflict of interest between the Adviser and the Fund, the Adviser will (1) in cases where ISS had made a recommendation, take no further action, in which case ISS shall vote such proxy in accordance with the ISS Voting Guidelines or ISS recommendations, as applicable, (2) disclose such conflict of interest to the Board of Trustees and obtain written direction from the Board as to how to vote the proxy, (3) suggest that the Board engage another party to determine how to vote the proxy, or (4) engage another independent third party to determine how to vote the proxy.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Adviser must vote proxies in what it believes to be in the best interest of the Funds when material conflicts of interest may exist with respect thereto. The Adviser believes that these policies and procedures are reasonably designed to address material conflicts of interest that may arise between the Adviser and the Funds as to the manner in which proxies are voted.

## MORE INFORMATION

The actual voting records relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available without charge, upon request by calling toll-free, (800) 688-LKCM or by accessing the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, a copy of the Funds' proxy voting policies and procedures are currently available by calling (800) 688-LKCM and will be sent within three business days of receipt of a request.

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

The investment adviser of the Funds is Luther King Capital Management Corporation a Delaware corporation controlled by J. Luther King, Jr. (the "Adviser"). The Adviser's parent company is Southwest JLK Corporation, a Texas corporation of which Mr. King is the majority owner and controlling shareholder. Mr. King is a member of the Board of Trustees and President, Chief Executive Officer and Portfolio Manager of the Trust. Under an Investment Advisory Agreement (the "Agreement") with the Funds, the Adviser manages the investment and reinvestment of the Funds' assets, subject to the control and supervision of the Board of Trustees. The Adviser is responsible for making investment decisions for the Funds and for placing the Funds' purchase and sale orders. Under the Agreement, the Funds pay the Adviser an advisory fee calculated by applying a quarterly rate, equal on an annual basis to the following numbers shown as a percentage of average daily net assets for the quarter. However, the Adviser has contractually agreed to waive all or a portion of its advisory fees and/or reimburse the Funds through May 1, 2019 to limit the total annual operating expenses of the Funds from exceeding the respective caps as shown in the following table. This expense limitation excludes interest, taxes, brokerage commissions, indirect fees and expenses related to investments in other investment companies, including money market funds (Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses), and extraordinary expenses. The fee waiver and expense reimbursement agreement may be terminated or changed only with the consent of the Board of Trustees.

The advisory fees and expense caps for the current fiscal year are as follows:

	Contractual Advisory Fee	Cap on Total Annual Operating Expenses
Small Cap Equity Fund – Institutional Class	0.75%	1.00%
Small Cap Equity Fund – Adviser Class	0.75%	1.25%
Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund – Institutional Class	0.75%	1.00%
Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund – Adviser Class	0.75%	1.25%
Equity Fund – Institutional Class	0.70%	0.80%
Equity Fund – Adviser Class	0.70%	1.05%
Balanced Fund – Institutional Class	0.65%	0.80%
Fixed Income Fund – Institutional Class	0.50%	0.50%

As compensation for the services rendered by the Adviser under the Agreement, for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2017, 2016 and 2015 the Adviser earned and waived and/or reimbursed the amounts listed below.

	Contractual Advisory Fees Incurred	Waived Fees and/or Expenses Reimbursed by the Adviser	Net Advisory Fees paid to the Adviser
<b>Small Cap Equity Fund</b>			
Year Ended December 31, 2015	\$ 5,757,215	\$ 0	\$ 5,757,215
Year Ended December 31, 2016	\$ 3,372,371	\$ 239,071	\$ 3,133,300
Year Ended December 31, 2017	\$ 1,742,893	\$ 232,179	\$ 1,510,714
<b>Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund</b>			
Year Ended December 31, 2015	\$ 2,683,053	\$ 485,380	\$ 2,197,673

	Contractual Advisory Fees Incurred	Waived Fees and/or Expenses Reimbursed by the Adviser	Net Advisory Fees paid to the Adviser
Year Ended December 31, 2016	\$ 557,168	\$ 172,348	\$ 384,820
Year Ended December 31, 2017	\$ 150,338	\$ 152,879	\$ 0
<b>Equity Fund</b>			
Year Ended December 31, 2015	\$2,175,798	\$ 411,504	\$ 1,764,294
Year Ended December 31, 2016	\$ 1,899,646	\$ 490,821	\$ 1,408,825
Year Ended December 31, 2017	\$2,219,100	\$ 600,128	\$ 1,618,972
<b>Balanced Fund</b>			
Year Ended December 31, 2015	\$ 244,255	\$ 81,232	\$ 163,023
Year Ended December 31, 2016	\$ 324,371	\$ 116,635	\$ 207,736
Year Ended December 31, 2017	\$ 482,451	\$ 164,201	\$ 318,250
<b>Fixed Income Fund</b>			
Year Ended December 31, 2015	\$ 1,107,208	\$ 377,915	\$ 729,293
Year Ended December 31, 2016	\$ 1,070,824	\$ 594,608	\$ 476,216
Year Ended December 31, 2017	\$ 1,196,135	\$ 715,269	\$ 480,866

## PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

The portfolio managers listed below have responsibility for the day-to-day management of accounts other than the Small Cap Equity Fund, Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund, Equity Fund, Balanced Fund and Fixed Income Fund. The information listed below for such other accounts is as of December 31, 2017.

	Number of Other Accounts Managed and Assets by Account Type			Number of Accounts and Assets for which Advisory Fee is Performance Based		
	Registered Investment Companies	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	Other Accounts	Registered Investment Companies	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	Other Accounts
J. Luther King, Jr.	0	11	307	0	6	0
	\$0	\$1,966 million	\$4,514 million	\$0	\$980 million	\$0
Steven R. Purvis	0	0	16	0	0	0
	\$0	\$0	\$94 million	\$0	\$0	\$0
Scot C. Hollmann	1	0	320	0	0	0
	\$72 million	\$0	\$1,628 million	\$0	\$0	\$0
Joan M. Maynard	0	0	10	0	0	0
	\$0	\$0	\$81 million	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mark L. Johnson	0	0	79	0	0	0
	\$0	\$0	\$211 million	\$0	\$0	\$0

	Number of Other Accounts Managed and Assets by Account Type			Number of Accounts and Assets for which Advisory Fee is Performance Based		
	Registered Investment Companies	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	Other Accounts	Registered Investment Companies	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	Other Accounts
Mason D. King	0 \$0	1 \$10 million	6 \$11 million	0 \$0	0 \$0	0 \$0

## Conflicts of Interest

The portfolio managers are responsible for managing the Funds and other separately managed accounts, including accounts for investment companies, employee benefit plans, pension plans, endowments, foundations, trusts, high net worth individuals, and pooled investment vehicles. When a portfolio manager is responsible for the management of more than one account, the potential arises for the portfolio manager to favor one account over another. The principal types of conflicts of interest that may arise are discussed below. The Adviser believes that it has established policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to mitigate these potential conflicts of interest.

- The portfolio managers are responsible for managing other accounts that may have investment objectives, guidelines, strategies, risk profiles or other considerations that may differ from those of the Funds. The portfolio managers make investment decisions for each account based on its investment objectives and guidelines, policies, and other relevant considerations. Consequently, the portfolio managers may purchase or sell securities at the same or different times for one account and not another account or the Funds. The portfolio managers may also make investment decisions on behalf of other accounts that are directly or indirectly contrary to investment decisions made on behalf of the Funds, or make investment decisions that are similar to those made for the Funds, any of which has the potential to adversely impact the Funds depending on market conditions.
- The portfolio managers may purchase or sell for their own account securities that are purchased or sold on behalf of the Funds. The portfolio managers also have a beneficial interest in pooled investment vehicles or other accounts managed by the Adviser, other than the Funds. The Adviser has implemented a code of ethics and other policies and procedures in an effort to mitigate these potential conflicts of interest.
- The portfolio managers could favor one account over another in allocating new investment opportunities of a limited nature, such as initial public offerings and private placements. The Adviser has implemented policies and procedures, including a rotational system for allocating initial public offerings, in an effort to ensure that investment opportunities of a limited nature are allocated fairly and equitably among eligible accounts.
- The portfolio managers could favor one account over another in the order in which trades for accounts are placed. If the portfolio managers determine to purchase a security for more than one account in an aggregate amount that may influence the market price of the security, accounts that purchased or sold the security first may receive a more favorable price than accounts that made subsequent transactions. In addition, the Funds and other accounts, including pooled investment vehicles, managed by the portfolio managers may participate in aggregated purchase or sale transactions. To the extent that accounts participating in aggregated trades do not receive their full allocation, a potential conflict of interest exists because the Adviser and portfolio managers have an incentive to allocate trades to accounts in which the Adviser and portfolio managers have a financial interest. The Adviser has implemented trade allocation and aggregation policies and procedures in an effort to mitigate this potential conflict of interest.
- The portfolio managers are responsible for managing other accounts and pooled investment vehicles, some of which entitle the Adviser to incentive fees and/or management fees exceeding



those paid by the Funds. This compensation structure presents a potential conflict of interest because the Adviser and the portfolio managers may be incentivized to favor such accounts over the Funds.

- The Adviser and the portfolio managers have significant personal investments in some of the private investment funds managed by the Adviser. As a result of such investments, the Adviser and the portfolio managers may be motivated to favor these funds over the Funds.
- Under Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Adviser may pay commissions to brokers for the Funds' transactions that exceed the amount of commissions that would be charged by another broker for the same transactions, provided that the Adviser determines in good faith that the amount of commissions paid are reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided by such broker, either in terms of a particular transaction or the Adviser's overall responsibilities with respect to accounts for which it exercises investment discretion. Pursuant to Section 28(e), the Adviser has entered into soft dollar and commission sharing arrangements with third parties and brokers for eligible brokerage and research products and services. A potential conflict of interest may exist because the Adviser receives these brokerage and research products and services from brokers in exchange for directing commissions from the Funds' transactions, rather than paying for these products and services with its own assets. The Adviser has implemented policies and procedures governing its use of such soft dollar and commission sharing arrangements.

### **Compensation**

As an independent firm, the Adviser has full control over its compensation structure. The Adviser seeks to maintain a compensation program that is competitively positioned to attract and retain high-caliber investment professionals. Each member of the professional staff is provided a salary. They also are eligible to participate in the Adviser's profit sharing plan. The majority of compensation is derived from bonuses, which are discretionary and based on individual merit as well as success of the Adviser in any given year. Criteria for individual bonuses include, among other factors, stock selection, relationship building, investment performance, client service, and portfolio management. There is no standard formula or method for determining bonuses and the factors considered for bonuses vary by individual. Compensation is not based directly on the performance of the Funds or the net asset levels of the Funds.

### **Ownership of Securities**

As of March 31, 2018, the officers and Trustees of the Trust as a group owned approximately 3.1% of the Equity Fund, approximately 9.8% of the Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund, approximately 1.8% of the Small Cap Equity Fund, and less than one percent of the Balanced Fund and Fixed Income Fund.

The Adviser's employees, including officers of the Trust and portfolio managers of the Funds, are participants in the Luther King Capital Management Corporation Profit Sharing Plan ("LKCM Profit Sharing Plan"). As of March 31, 2018, the LKCM Profit Sharing Plan owned approximately 8.2% of the Equity Fund, approximately 9.4% of the Balanced Fund, approximately 3.1% of the Fixed Income Fund, approximately 10.2% of the Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund, and approximately 3.2% of the Small Cap Equity Fund. J. Luther King, Jr. serves as trustee of the LKCM Profit Sharing Plan. Mr. King disclaims beneficial ownership of shares of the Funds held by the LKCM Profit Sharing Plan, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

As of March 31, 2018, the Adviser owned approximately 3.8% of the Balanced Fund and approximately 2.1% of the Small Cap Equity Fund, and less than one percent of each of the Equity Fund and the Fixed Income Fund, and no shares of the Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund. J. Luther King, Jr. controls the Adviser and is the majority shareholder of the Adviser's parent company. Mr. King disclaims beneficial ownership of shares of the Funds held by the Adviser, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

Each portfolio manager of the Funds also owned the following amounts of shares of each of the Funds as of December 31, 2017:

Key

- 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
- G. Over \$1,000,000

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Name of Portfolio Manager</u>	<u>Dollar Range of Shares Owned</u>
Small Cap Equity Fund	Steven R. Purvis	G
	J. Luther King, Jr.	E
	Mason D. King	E
Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund	Steven R. Purvis	G
	J. Luther King, Jr.	A
	Mason D. King	A
Equity Fund	J. Luther King, Jr.	G
	Scot C. Hollmann	E
	Mason D. King	F
Balanced Fund	Scot C. Hollmann	F
	J. Luther King, Jr.	E
	Mark L. Johnson	A
Fixed Income Fund	Joan M. Maynard	A
	Scot C. Hollmann	D
	Mark L. Johnson	A

**PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS AND BROKERAGE**

The Agreement authorizes the Adviser to select the brokers or dealers that will execute the purchases and sales of investment securities for the Funds and directs the Adviser to use its best efforts in seeking best execution with respect to all securities transactions for the Funds. In selecting brokers or dealers for securities transactions for the Funds, the Adviser may consider, among other things: the quality of executions and liquidity provided by the broker; the ability of the broker to maintain confidentiality of client orders and order flow; the ability of the broker to minimize market impact for client transactions; the commission rates charged by the broker in comparison to the rates of other brokers for similar transactions; the broker's provision of eligible brokerage and research services; the broker's ability to obtain timely, accurate, and cost-effective executions; the ability of the broker to accurately communicate the nature of the market for a particular security; the broker's execution policies and commitment to providing best execution; the size and volume of the broker's order flow; and the efficiency and accuracy of the broker's operations area with regard to settlement procedures.

As permitted by Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Adviser may cause the Funds to pay higher commission rates than the lowest available when the Adviser believes in good faith that the commissions paid are reasonable in light of the value of the brokerage or research services provided by the broker, either in terms of a particular transaction or the Adviser's overall responsibilities with respect to accounts for which it has investment discretion. These services generally include third-party and proprietary analyses and reports concerning issuers, industries, securities, general economic and market conditions and trends, portfolio strategy; third-party and proprietary analyses and reports regarding the value of securities, the advisability of purchasing or selling securities, and the availability of sellers and purchasers of securities; and services related to effecting securities transactions and performing functions incidental thereto. The Adviser may use some of these services in providing investment advisory services to all of its clients, and not all of these services may be used by the Adviser

in providing investment advisory services to the Funds. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, the Small Cap Equity Fund, Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund, Equity Fund and Balanced Fund directed transactions to brokers pursuant to which the brokers provided third-party or proprietary research or brokerage services to the Adviser. Pursuant to these arrangements to receive research and brokerage services, during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 it is estimated that the Small Cap Equity Fund paid total commissions of approximately \$148,200 on transactions with a principal value of approximately \$116,384,000, the Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund paid total commissions of approximately \$14,700 on transactions with a principal value of approximately \$15,621,000, the Equity Fund paid total commissions of approximately \$7,800 on transactions with a principal value of approximately \$16,214,000, and the Balanced Fund paid total commissions of approximately \$8,200 on transactions with a principal value of approximately \$13,080,000.

It is not the Adviser’s practice to allocate brokerage or principal business on the basis of sales of shares of Funds that may be made through intermediary brokers or dealers. However, the Adviser may place orders with qualified broker-dealers who recommend the Funds or who act as agents in the purchase of shares of the Funds for their clients, without considering these factors in selecting a broker-dealer. The Adviser does not have an affiliated broker, therefore it has not engaged in any affiliated brokerage transactions.

The aggregate amount of brokerage commissions paid by each Fund during the past three fiscal years ended December 31 is as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Small Cap Equity Fund	\$1,315,639	\$937,181	\$427,620
Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund	\$ 484,239	\$342,279	\$ 31,992
Equity Fund	\$ 83,539	\$ 78,901	\$ 54,674
Balanced Fund	\$ 5,238	\$ 15,449	\$ 11,793
Fixed Income Fund	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0

Some securities considered for investment by the Funds may also be appropriate for other clients served by the Adviser. If purchases or sales of securities consistent with the investment policies of the Funds and one or more of these other clients serviced by the Adviser are considered at or about the same time, transactions in such securities may be aggregated and allocated among the Funds and such clients in accordance with the Adviser’s allocation policies and procedures or in any other manner deemed fair and reasonable by the Adviser.

As of December 31, 2017, the following Funds owned the following securities of their “regular brokers or dealers” (as defined in the 1940 Act) or their parents:

Equity Fund

<u>Security of “Regular Broker/Dealer” of the Fund</u>	<u>Value of Fund’s Aggregate Holding of Securities as of December 31, 2017</u>
Bank of America Corporation	\$ 11,365,200
JP Morgan Chase & Co	\$ 10,907,880

Balanced Fund

<u>Security of “Regular Broker/Dealer” of the Fund</u>	<u>Value of Fund’s Aggregate Holding of Securities as of December 31, 2017</u>
Bank of America Corporation	\$ 1,690,877

JP Morgan Chase & Co	\$1,525,214
Bank of New York Mellon Corporation	\$ 551,987
BB&T Corporation	\$ 115,215

#### Fixed Income Fund

<u>Security of “Regular Broker/Dealer” of the Fund</u>	<u>Value of Fund’s Aggregate Holding of Securities as of December 31, 2017</u>
Bank of America Corporation	\$ 9,625,974
JP Morgan Chase & Co	\$ 8,515,515
BB&T Corporation	\$ 2,012,135

### PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

Although the Funds generally will not invest for short-term trading purposes, portfolio securities may be sold without regard to the length of time they have been held when, in the opinion of the Adviser, investment or other considerations warrant such action. Portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing (1) the lesser of purchases or sales of long-term portfolio securities for the fiscal year by (2) the monthly average of the value of long-term portfolio securities owned during the fiscal year. A 100% turnover rate would occur if all the securities in a Fund’s portfolio, with the exception of securities whose maturities at the time of acquisition were one year or less, were sold and either repurchased or replaced within one year. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or more) generally leads to higher transaction costs and may result in a greater number of transactions on which net taxable gains are realized.

The Funds had the following portfolio turnover rates for the past two fiscal years ended December 31:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Small Cap Equity Fund	50%	42%
Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund	80%	63%
Equity Fund	16%	11%
Balanced Fund	16%	15%
Fixed Income Fund	59%	28%

### CUSTODIAN

As custodian of the Funds’ assets, U.S. Bank, N.A. (the “Custodian”), 1555 N. River Center Drive, Suite 302, Milwaukee, WI 53212, has custody of all securities and cash of the Funds, delivers and receives payment for securities sold, receives and pays for securities purchased, collects income from investments, and performs other duties, all as directed by the officers of the Trust. U.S. Bank, N.A., USBFS and the Distributor are affiliates.

### TRANSFER AGENT

U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC (“USBFS”), 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53202 serves as transfer agent, dividend disbursing agent and shareholder servicing agent for the Funds. In such capacity, USBFS’s responsibilities include: receiving and processing all orders for purchases, exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares; responding to shareholder inquiries and instructions concerning their accounts; updating of shareholder accounts to reflect declaration and payment of dividends and other distributions; and preparing and distributing account statements and tax documents to shareholders regarding their accounts. U.S. Bank, N.A., USBFS and the Distributor are affiliates.

### ADMINISTRATOR

Pursuant to a Fund Administration Agreement, USBFS, 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, provides each Fund with administrative services. The services under this Agreement are subject to the

supervision of the Board of Trustees and officers of the Trust, and include day-to-day administration of matters necessary to the Funds' operations, maintenance of their records, preparation of reports, compliance testing of the Funds' activities, and preparation of periodic updates of the registration statement under federal and state laws. For administration services, USBFS receives from each Fund a fee, calculated daily and paid monthly. U.S. Bank, N.A., USBFS and the Distributor are affiliates.

Administration fees incurred during the past three fiscal years ended December 31 were as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Small Cap Equity Fund	\$567,204	\$351,077	\$183,328
Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund	\$296,277	\$ 66,727	\$ 39,834
Equity Fund	\$249,909	\$221,210	\$257,020
Balanced Fund	\$ 30,149	\$ 39,554	\$ 62,077
Fixed Income Fund	\$180,513	\$174,432	\$193,029

USBFS also acts as Transfer Agent, Dividend-Disbursing Agent, and Fund Accountant for the Funds.

### **DISTRIBUTOR**

Quasar Distributors, LLC (the "Distributor"), 777 East Wisconsin Avenue, Floor 6, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, a registered broker-dealer and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, distributes the Funds' shares. The Distributor uses its best efforts to distribute the Funds' shares, which shares are offered for sale by the Funds continuously at net asset value per share without the imposition of a sales charge. The Funds pay that portion of the compensation owed to the Distributor that is permitted under Rule 12b-1 of the 1940 Act and the Adviser Class Plan (as defined below), and the Adviser pays the remaining portion of any such compensation. U.S. Bank, N.A., USBFS and the Distributor are affiliates.

### **DISTRIBUTION PLANS**

With respect to the Institutional Classes of the Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity, Equity, Balanced, and Fixed Income Funds, the Board has adopted a Distribution Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act (the "Institutional Class Plan"). Pursuant to this Institutional Class Plan, the Funds can pay up to an aggregate maximum of 0.75% per annum of each Fund's average daily net assets for the distribution and promotion of the shares of the Funds and the retention of shares by Fund shareholders. These services include, but are not limited to, the printing of Prospectuses, Statements of Additional Information, reports used for sales purposes, advertisements, expenses of preparation and printing of sales literature, other distribution-related expenses and providing services to shareholders. Although approved, the Board of Trustees has not authorized payments under the Institutional Class Plan at this time.

With respect to the Adviser Class of the Small Cap Equity, Small-Mid Cap Equity and Equity Funds, the Board of Trustees has adopted a Distribution Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act (the "Adviser Class Plan"). Pursuant to the Adviser Class Plan, the Funds may pay up to an aggregate maximum of 1.00% per annum of each Fund's average daily net assets for actual expenses incurred in the sale and retention of the shares of the Funds, including, but not limited to, the printing of Prospectuses, Statements of Additional Information, reports used for sales purposes, advertisements, expenses of preparation and printing of sales literature, other distribution-related expenses, and providing services to shareholders. The Board currently has authorized payments under the Adviser Class Plan at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Small Cap Equity Fund.

Administration of each Plan is regulated by Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, which requires that the Board receive and review at least quarterly reports concerning the amount and purpose of expenses which are made, and that the Plan may be continued from year-to-year only if the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, concludes at least annually that continuation of the Plan is reasonably likely to benefit the Trust and its shareholders.

The Adviser Class for the Small Cap Equity Fund paid the following amounts in 12b-1 expenses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017:

	Small Cap Equity Fund (Adviser Class)
Advertising/Marketing	\$ 0
Printing/Postage	\$ 10
Payment to Distributor	\$ 31
Payment to dealers	\$ 2,539
Compensation to sales personnel	\$ 0
Other	\$ 0

### PAYMENTS TO FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

A financial intermediary through which you purchase your shares may receive all or a portion of the Institutional Class Plan and Adviser Class Plan Rule 12b-1 fees, if applicable, discussed above. In addition to those payments, the Adviser makes additional cash payments to certain intermediaries in connection with the promotion and sale of shares of the Funds. The Adviser and the Funds also make payments for certain sub-transfer agency and administrative services. Payments made by the Adviser are from its own resources. The categories described below are not mutually exclusive. The same financial intermediary may receive payments under more than one or all categories.

*Revenue Sharing Payments.* The Adviser makes revenue sharing payments as incentives to certain financial intermediaries to promote and sell shares of the Funds. The benefits that the Adviser receives when it makes these payments include, among other things, placing the Funds on the financial intermediary’s funds sales system. The Adviser compensates financial intermediaries differently depending typically on the level and/or type of considerations provided by the financial intermediary.

Revenue sharing payments may be calculated on sales of shares of the Funds (“Sales-Based Payments”). Such payments also may be calculated on the average daily net assets of the applicable Funds attributable to that particular financial intermediary (“Asset-Based Payments”). Sales-Based Payments primarily create incentives to make new sales of shares of the Funds and Asset-Based Payments primarily create incentives to retain previously sold shares of the Funds in shareholder accounts. The Adviser may pay a financial intermediary either or both Sales-Based Payments and Asset-Based Payments.

*Administrative and Processing Support Payments.* Firms that establish omnibus accounts and provide substantially the same services to their clients as are provided by USBFS to direct shareholders of the Funds may receive sub-transfer agent fees for such services from the respective Fund. In an omnibus account, the Funds maintain a single account in the name of a financial intermediary such as a broker, dealer, record-keeper or other service provider and the financial intermediary maintains all of the individual shareholder accounts.

Record-keeping and shareholder services typically include: establishing and maintaining shareholder accounts and records; recording shareholder account balances and changes thereto; arranging for the wiring of funds; providing statements to shareholders; furnishing proxy materials, periodic reports of the Funds, prospectuses and other communications to current shareholders as required; transmitting shareholder transaction information; and providing information in order to assist the Funds in their compliance with federal and state securities laws. Each Fund typically would be paying these shareholder servicing fees directly if the financial intermediary did not hold all of its customer accounts in a single omnibus account with the Funds. Likewise, for many retirement plans, a third party administrator may open an omnibus account with the Funds and the administrator will then maintain all of the participant accounts. The Adviser and the Funds make payments to certain financial intermediaries for certain administrative services, including record keeping and sub-accounting shareholder accounts. The Adviser, the Distributor and the Funds also make payments to certain financial intermediaries in connection with client account maintenance support, statement preparation and transaction processing.

*Other Cash Payments.* From time to time, the Adviser, at its own expense, may provide additional compensation to financial intermediaries which sell or arrange for the sale of shares of the Funds. This additional compensation may be offered to the extent not prohibited by state laws or any self-regulatory agency, such as Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. Such compensation may include financial assistance to financial intermediaries that enables the Adviser to: (1) participate in and/or present at conferences or seminars for invited registered representatives and other employees, (2) participate in client entertainment, client and investor events, and other financial intermediary-sponsored events, and (3) pay expenses incurred by registered representatives and other employees in connection with client prospecting, retention and due diligence trips.

The Adviser is motivated to make the payments described above since they promote the sale of Fund shares and the retention of those investments by clients of financial intermediaries. To the extent financial intermediaries sell more shares of Funds or retain shares of Funds in their clients' accounts, the Adviser benefits from the incremental management and other fees paid to the Adviser by the Funds with respect to those assets.

In certain cases these payments could be significant to the financial intermediary. Your financial intermediary may charge you additional fees or commissions other than those disclosed in the prospectus and this SAI. You may ask your financial intermediary about any payments it receives from the Adviser or the Funds, as well as about fees and/or commissions it charges.

### INTERESTS OF CERTAIN PERSONS

With the exception of the Adviser, no "interested person" of the Funds, as defined in the 1940 Act, and no Trustee of the Trust who is not an "interested person", has or had a direct or indirect financial interest in the Institutional Class Plan or Adviser Class Plan or any related agreement.

### CODE OF ETHICS

The Trust, Adviser and Distributor have each adopted a written Code of Ethics. These Codes of Ethics govern the personal securities transactions of trustees, directors, officers and employees who may have access to current trading information of the Funds. The Codes of Ethics permit such persons to invest in the Funds and/or other securities for their personal accounts, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Funds, subject to certain conditions. The Codes of Ethics include reporting and other obligations to monitor personal transactions and confirm that such transactions do not disadvantage the Funds.

### PURCHASE AND PRICING OF SHARES

#### PURCHASE OF SHARES

The Funds will be deemed to have received a purchase or redemption order when an authorized broker or, if applicable, a broker's designee receives the order.

**Purchasing Shares with Liquid Securities.** Certain clients of the Adviser may, subject to the approval of the Trust, purchase shares of the Funds with liquid securities that are eligible for purchase by a Fund (consistent with the Fund's investment policies and restrictions) and that have a value that is readily ascertainable (and not established only by fair valuation procedures) as evidenced by a listing on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") or NASDAQ. These transactions will be effected only if the Adviser intends to retain the security in the Funds as an investment. Assets so purchased by the Funds will be valued in generally the same manner as they would be valued for purposes of pricing a Fund's shares, if such assets were included in the Fund's assets at the time of purchase.

**Automatic Investment Program.** The Automatic Investment Program ("AIP") permits investors who own shares of a Fund with a value of \$2,000 or more to purchase shares (minimum of \$100 per transaction) at regular intervals selected by the investor. Provided the investor's financial institution allows automatic withdrawals, shares are purchased by transferring funds from an investor's checking or savings account. The financial institution must be a member of the Automatic Clearing House network. There is no charge for this service. A \$25 fee will be charged if the investor's bank rejects the scheduled transaction. At the investor's option, the account designated will be debited in the specified amount, and shares will be purchased on a specified day or days of a month.

The AIP is one means by which an investor may use “dollar cost averaging” in making investments. Instead of trying to time market performance, a fixed dollar amount is invested in shares at predetermined intervals. This may help investors to reduce their average cost per share because the agreed upon fixed investment amount allows more shares to be purchased during periods of lower share prices and fewer shares during periods of higher prices. In order to be effective, dollar cost averaging should usually be followed on a sustained, consistent basis. Investors should be aware, however, that shares bought using dollar cost averaging are purchased without regard to their price on the day of investment or market trends. In addition, while investors may find dollar cost averaging to be beneficial, it will not prevent a loss if an investor ultimately redeems his or her shares at a price that is lower than their purchase price.

To establish the AIP, an investor must complete the appropriate sections of the New Account Application. Please call the Trust at 800-688-LKCM if you have questions. An investor may cancel his or her participation in this Program or change the amount of purchase at any time by notifying the Transfer Agent by telephone or in writing, five days prior to the effective date of the next transaction. The Trust may modify or terminate this privilege at any time or charge a service fee, although no such fee currently is contemplated.

## PRICING OF SHARES

Shares of the Funds are sold and redeemed on a continual basis at the net asset value per share next computed following acceptance of an order by a Fund. A Fund’s net asset value per share for the purpose of pricing purchase and redemption orders is normally determined as of the scheduled close of normal trading (generally 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time) on each day the NYSE is scheduled to be open for trading. The NYSE is generally scheduled to be closed on the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, President’s Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Equity securities listed or traded on a U.S. securities exchange for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the last quoted sale price on the exchange on which the security is primarily traded. Nasdaq Global Market securities are valued at the Nasdaq Official Closing Price (the “NOCP”). Unlisted U.S. securities and listed U.S. securities not traded on a particular valuation date are valued at the mean of the most recent quoted bid and ask price on the relevant exchanges or markets.

Equity securities listed on a foreign exchange for which market quotations are readily available (including restricted securities) are valued at the last quoted sales price on the exchange on which the security is primarily traded.

Debt securities are normally valued at the mean of the closing bid and ask price and/or by using a combination of broker quotations or evaluated prices provided by an independent pricing service. Other assets and securities for which no market or broker quotations or evaluated prices are readily available are valued in good faith at fair value using guidelines approved by the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees has established policies and procedures that authorize the Adviser to fair value a security in good faith if, among other things, the Adviser determines that (i) closing prices of foreign securities do not reflect their fair market value due to events that occur between the closing of foreign markets and the time at which a Fund calculates its NAV, (ii) trading in a security is halted and does not resume prior to the closing of the exchange or other market on which such security normally trades, or (iii) the price for such security provided by the Funds’ independent pricing services appears invalid, is not readily available, or otherwise provides a valuation that in the judgment of the Adviser does not represent the fair market value of such security. The Funds may use prices provided by independent pricing services to assist in the fair valuation of the Funds’ portfolio securities.

An example of how each Fund calculated its total offering price per share as of December 31, 2017 is as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Net Assets}}{\text{Shares Outstanding}} = \text{Net Asset Value per share}$$



<b>Small Cap Equity Fund</b> Institutional Class	<u>\$201,138,688</u> 10,909,110	=	\$18.44
<b>Small Cap Equity Fund</b> Adviser Class	<u>\$523,792</u> 30,573	=	\$17.13
<b>Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund</b> Institutional Class	<u>\$19,378,116</u> 1,828,651	=	\$10.60
<b>Equity Fund</b> Institutional Class	<u>\$340,601,354</u> 13,091,599	=	\$26.02
<b>Balanced Fund</b> Institutional Class	<u>\$83,429,713</u> 3,761,634	=	\$22.18
<b>Fixed Income Fund</b> Institutional Class	<u>\$248,975,804</u> 23,313,111	=	\$10.68

No information is provided for the Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund – Adviser Class or the Equity Fund – Adviser Class because neither had commenced operations as of December 31, 2017.

#### PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS INFORMATION

It is the policy of LKCM Funds to protect the confidentiality of portfolio holdings and prevent the selective disclosure of non-public information concerning the Funds. No information concerning the portfolio holdings of the Funds may be disclosed to any person except as provided below.

The Adviser and the Funds maintain portfolio holdings disclosure policies that govern the timing and circumstances of disclosure to shareholders and third parties of information regarding the portfolio investments held by the Funds. These portfolio holdings disclosure policies have been approved by the Board of Trustees. Disclosure of the Funds' complete holdings is required to be made quarterly within 60 days of the end of each fiscal quarter in the Annual Report and Semi-Annual Report to Fund shareholders and in the quarterly holdings report on Form N-Q, as applicable. These reports are available, free of charge, on the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, each Fund also makes available on the Funds' website a complete schedule of its portfolio holdings no sooner than 30 days following the end of each calendar quarter. Information contained within Fund Fact Sheets is made publicly available on the website upon completion (generally within 10-15 days after the close of the calendar quarter). In an effort to prevent parties from potentially misusing portfolio holdings information, the Funds will generally only disclose the Fund Fact Sheets and complete schedules of portfolio holdings as of the end of the most recent calendar quarter, no earlier than 10 days and 30 days after the end of the calendar quarter, respectively.

In addition, the Funds' service providers, including the administrator, custodian, legal counsel, proxy voting administrator, independent pricing service, and independent registered public accounting firm, receive portfolio holdings information in connection with their services to the Funds. The Funds' service providers have a duty to keep nonpublic information about the Funds, some of which are received on a daily basis with no lag time, confidential based on existing laws and due to the nature of their roles with the Funds. An officer of the Adviser or the Chief Compliance Officer of the Funds may distribute (or authorize the Funds' administrator to distribute) portfolio holdings to rating and ranking agencies for a legitimate business purpose on a quarterly basis. Except as noted above, this information is provided no earlier than 30 days after the end of a calendar quarter and no compensation is received by the Adviser or the Funds as consideration for such disclosure. The Fund's Chief Compliance Officer may waive certain of the requirements of this policy. The Board of Trustees and the Adviser may, on a case-by-case basis, impose additional restrictions on the dissemination of portfolio holdings information beyond those required by the Funds' policy. Notwithstanding these policies, the Funds may disclose portfolio holdings information to the extent required by applicable law.

The Funds' Chief Compliance Officer will report any violations of these policies to the Board of Trustees on a quarterly basis. In no event shall the Adviser, its affiliates or employees, or the Funds receive any direct or indirect compensation in connection with the disclosure of information about the Funds' portfolio holdings.

If the disclosure of portfolio holdings presents a conflict of interest between the shareholders and the Adviser, the Funds' principal distributor or any of their respective affiliates, then such conflict will be reported to the Board for its consideration prior to the dissemination of portfolio holdings information.

## **EXCHANGES**

Shareholders of a Fund may exchange shares of the Fund for shares of another series of the Trust. However, shareholders of the Adviser Class of the Small Cap Equity Fund, Small-Mid Cap Equity Fund and Equity Fund may only exchange shares between Funds that offer Adviser Class shares.

## **REDEMPTIONS IN KIND**

The Trust has made an election with the SEC to pay in cash all redemptions requested by any shareholder of record limited in amount during any 90-day period to the lesser of (i) \$250,000 or (ii) 1% of the net assets of a Fund at the beginning of such period. Such commitment is irrevocable without the prior approval of the SEC. Redemptions in excess of the above limits may be paid in whole or in part in investment securities or in cash, as the Trustees may deem advisable; however, payment will be made wholly in cash unless the Trustees believe that economic or market conditions exist which would make such a practice detrimental to the best interests of the applicable Fund. If redemptions are paid in investment securities the redeeming shareholders might incur brokerage expenses if they converted these securities to cash. Securities used to make such "in-kind" redemptions will be readily marketable. The method of valuing such securities will be the same as the method of valuing Fund securities described under "Pricing of Shares," and such valuation will be made as of the same time the redemption price is determined.

## **TAXATION**

### **TAXATION OF THE FUNDS**

The following discussion of certain federal tax matters concerning the Funds and the purchase, ownership and disposition of Fund shares is not complete and may not deal with all aspects of federal taxation that may be relevant to you in light of your particular circumstances. This discussion is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), the regulations promulgated thereunder and judicial and administrative interpretations thereof, publicly available as of the date hereof; all these authorities are subject to change, which may be applied retroactively. You should consult your own tax advisers with regard to the federal tax consequences to you of the purchase, ownership and disposition of Fund shares, as well as the tax consequences thereof to you arising under the laws of any state, locality, foreign country or other taxing jurisdiction.

Each Fund, which is treated as a separate corporation for federal tax purposes, intends to continue to qualify annually for treatment as a "regulated investment company" under Subchapter M of Chapter 1 of Subtitle A of the Code ("RIC"). If so qualified, a Fund (but not its shareholders) will not be liable for federal income tax to the extent it distributes its net earnings and realized net gains to its shareholders on a timely basis.

To continue to qualify for treatment as a RIC for a taxable year, a Fund must distribute to its shareholders at least 90% of its investment company taxable income (consisting generally of net investment income, the excess, if any, of net short-term capital gain over net long-term capital loss ("net short-term capital gain") and net gains and losses from certain foreign currency transactions, if any, all determined without regard to any deduction for dividends paid) for that year ("Distribution Requirement") and must meet several additional requirements. With respect to each Fund, these requirements include the following: (1) the Fund must derive at least 90% of its gross income for the taxable year from dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans and gains (without regard to losses) from the sale or other disposition of securities or foreign currencies, or other income derived with respect to its business of investing in securities or those currencies ("Income

Requirement”); and (2) at the close of each quarter of the Fund’s taxable year, (a) at least 50% of the value of its total assets must be represented by cash and cash items, Government securities, securities of other RICs and other securities, with these other securities limited, in respect of any one issuer, to an amount that does not exceed 5% of that value and that does not represent more than 10% of the issuer’s outstanding voting securities, and (b) not more than 25% of that value may be invested in (i) the securities (other than Government securities or securities of other RICs) of any one issuer, or (ii) the securities (other than securities of other RICs) of two or more issuers the Fund controls (by owning 20% or more of their voting power) that are determined to be engaged in the same, similar or related trades or businesses (“Diversification Requirements”).

If a Fund fails to qualify for treatment as a RIC for any taxable year – either (1) by failing to satisfy the Distribution Requirement, even if it satisfies the Income and Diversification Requirements, or (2) by failing to satisfy the Income Requirement and/or either Diversification Requirement and is unable, or determines not, to avail itself of Code provisions that enable a RIC to cure a failure to satisfy any of the Income and Diversification Requirements as long as the failure “is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect” and the RIC pays a deductible tax calculated in accordance with those provisions and meets certain other requirements – then for federal tax purposes it would be treated as a regular corporation. In that case, it would be subject to federal income tax, and any distributions that it made to its shareholders would not be deductible by it and would be taxable to them as ordinary income (with no part treated as a capital gain distribution) to the extent of its earnings and profits, except for the part of those dividends that is “qualified dividend income” (described in the Prospectuses), which is subject to maximum federal income tax rates of 15% and 20% for certain shareholders. That treatment would increase the cost of investing in that Fund for shareholders and would make it more economical for shareholders to invest directly in securities held by the Fund instead of investing indirectly in those securities through the Fund.

Each Fund will be subject to a nondeductible 4% excise tax (“Excise Tax”) to the extent it fails to distribute by the end of any calendar year substantially all of its ordinary income for that year and capital gain net income for the one-year period ending on October 31 (or December 31, if it so elects) of that year, plus certain other amounts.

If a Fund has an “appreciated financial position” – generally, an interest (including an interest through a short sale) with respect to any stock, debt instrument (other than “straight debt”) or partnership interest the fair market value of which exceeds its adjusted basis – and enters into a “constructive sale” of the position, the Fund will be treated as having made an actual sale thereof, with the result that it will recognize gain at that time. A constructive sale generally consists of a short sale or an offsetting notional principal contract a Fund or a related person enters into with respect to the same or substantially identical property. In addition, if the appreciated financial position is itself a short sale or such a contract, acquisition of the underlying property or substantially identical property will be deemed a constructive sale. The foregoing will not apply, however, to any transaction by a Fund during any taxable year that would otherwise be treated as a constructive sale if the transaction is closed within 30 days after the end of that year and the Fund holds the appreciated financial position unhedged for 60 days after that closing (*i.e.*, at no time during that 60-day period is the Fund’s risk of loss regarding that position reduced by reason of certain specified transactions with respect to substantially identical or related property, such as having an option to sell, being contractually obligated to sell, making a short sale or granting an option to buy substantially identical stock or securities).

**Investments in Foreign Securities.** Dividends and interest a Fund receives, and gains it realizes, on foreign securities may be subject to income, withholding or other taxes imposed by foreign countries and U.S. possessions that would reduce the yield and/or total return on its securities. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate those taxes, however, and many foreign countries do not impose taxes on capital gains in respect of investments by foreign investors.

Each Fund may invest in the stock of “passive foreign investment companies” (“PFICs”). A PFIC is any foreign corporation (with certain exceptions) that, in general, meets either of the following tests for a taxable year:

- (1) at least 75% of its gross income is passive; or
- (2) an average of at least 50% of its assets produce, or are held for the production of, passive income.

Under certain circumstances, a Fund will be subject to federal income tax on a portion of any “excess distribution” it receives on the stock of a PFIC and of any gain on disposition of the stock (collectively, “PFIC income”), plus interest thereon, even if the Fund distributes the PFIC income as a taxable dividend to its shareholders. The balance of the PFIC income will be included in the Fund’s investment company taxable income and, accordingly, will not be taxable to it to the extent it distributes that income to its shareholders. Fund distributions attributable to PFIC income will not be eligible for the 15% and 20% maximum federal income tax rates on “qualified dividend income” mentioned above.

If a Fund invests in a PFIC and elects to treat the PFIC as a “qualified electing fund” (“QEF”), then in lieu of the foregoing tax and interest obligation, the Fund would be required to include in income each taxable year its *pro rata* share of the QEF’s annual ordinary earnings and net capital gain — which the Fund probably would have to distribute to its shareholders to satisfy the Distribution Requirement and avoid imposition of the Excise Tax — even if the QEF did not distribute those earnings and gain to the Fund. In most instances it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to make this election because of certain requirements thereof.

Each Fund may elect to “mark to market” its stock in any PFIC. “Marking-to-market,” in this context, means including in gross income (and treating as ordinary income) each taxable year the excess, if any, of the fair market value of the stock over a Fund’s adjusted basis therein as of the end of that year. Pursuant to the election, a Fund also may deduct (as an ordinary, not a capital, loss) the excess, if any, of its adjusted basis in PFIC stock over the fair market value thereof as of the taxable year-end, but only to the extent of any net mark-to-market gains with respect to that stock the Fund included in income for prior taxable years under the election. A Fund’s adjusted basis in each PFIC’s stock subject to the election would be adjusted to reflect the amounts of income included and deductions taken thereunder.

Investors should be aware that determining whether a foreign corporation is a PFIC is a fact-intensive determination that is based on various facts and circumstances and thus is subject to change, and the principles and methodology used therein are subject to interpretation. As a result, a Fund may not be able, at the time it acquires a foreign corporation’s shares, to ascertain whether the corporation is a PFIC, and a foreign corporation may become a PFIC after a Fund acquires shares therein. While each Fund generally will seek to avoid investing in PFIC shares to avoid the tax consequences detailed above, there are no guarantees that it will be able to do so and it reserves the right to make such investments as a matter of its investment policy.

Gains or losses (1) from the disposition of foreign currencies, (2) on the disposition of a debt security denominated in a foreign currency that are attributable to fluctuations in the value of the foreign currency between the dates of acquisition and disposition of the security and (3) that are attributable to exchange rate fluctuations between the time a Fund accrues interest, dividends or other receivables or expenses or other liabilities denominated in a foreign currency and the time it actually collects the receivables or pays the liabilities, generally are treated as ordinary income or loss. These gains or losses will increase or decrease the amount of investment company taxable income available to a Fund for distribution to its shareholders as ordinary income, rather than increasing or decreasing the amount of its net capital gain.

No Fund currently has any capital loss carryovers.

## **TAXATION OF THE SHAREHOLDERS**

If Fund shares are sold at a loss after being held for six months or less, the loss will be treated as a long-term, instead of a short-term, capital loss to the extent of any capital gain distributions received on those shares.

As noted in the Prospectuses, a shareholder's basis in Fund shares that he or she acquired or acquires after December 31, 2011 ("Covered Shares"), will be determined in accordance with the Funds' default method, which is average basis, unless the shareholder affirmatively elects in writing (which may be electronic) to use a different acceptable basis determination method, such as a specific identification method. The basis determination method a Fund shareholder elects (or the default method) may not be changed with respect to a redemption (including a redemption that is part of an exchange) of Covered Shares after the settlement date of the redemption.

In addition to the requirement to report the gross proceeds from redemptions of shares, each Fund (or its administrative agent) must report to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") and furnish to its shareholders the basis information for Covered Shares and indicate whether they had a short-term (one year or less) or long-term (more than one year) holding period. Fund shareholders should consult with their tax advisers to determine the best IRS-accepted basis determination method for their tax situation and to obtain more information about how the basis reporting law applies to them.

## **INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

Deloitte & Touche LLP serves as the Funds' independent registered public accounting firm, whose services include an audit of the Funds' financial statements and the performance of other related audit and tax services.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The audited financial statements for the Funds are incorporated herein by reference to the Funds' Annual Report to Shareholders for the year ended December 31, 2017. Financial statements audited by the Funds' independent registered public accounting firm will be distributed to shareholders at least annually.

## APPENDIX A

### DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES RATINGS

#### RATINGS DEFINITIONS

##### **S&P Global Ratings' Issue Credit Rating Definitions**

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

Issue credit ratings can be either long-term or short-term. Short-term ratings are generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market. Short-term ratings are also used to indicate the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to put features on long-term obligations. Medium-term notes are assigned long-term ratings.

##### **Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings**

###### **A-1**

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

###### **A-2**

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

###### **A-3**

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

## **B**

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

## **C**

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

## **D**

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

### **SPUR (S&P Underlying Rating)**

A SPUR is an opinion about the stand-alone capacity of an obligor to pay debt service on a credit-enhanced debt issue, without giving effect to the enhancement that applies to it. These ratings are published only at the request of the debt issuer or obligor with the designation SPUR to distinguish them from the credit-enhanced rating that applies to the debt issue. S&P Global Ratings maintains surveillance of an issue with a published SPUR.

### **Dual Ratings**

Dual ratings may be assigned to debt issues that have a put option or demand feature. The first component of the rating addresses the likelihood of repayment of principal and interest as due, and the second component of the rating addresses only the demand feature. The first component of the rating can relate to either a short-term or long-term transaction and accordingly use either short-term or long-term rating symbols. The second component of the rating relates to the put option and is assigned a short-term rating symbol (for example, 'AAA/A-1+' or 'A-1+/A-1'). With U.S. municipal short-term demand debt, the U.S. municipal short-term note rating symbols are used for the first component of the rating (for example, 'SP-1+/A-1+').

The analyses, including ratings, of S&P Global Ratings and its affiliates (together, S&P Global Ratings) are statements of opinion as of the date they are expressed and not statements of fact or recommendations to purchase, hold, or sell any securities or make any investment decisions. S&P Global Ratings assumes no obligation to update any information following publication. Users of ratings or other analyses should not rely on them in making any investment decision. S&P Global Ratings' opinions and analyses do not address the suitability of any security. S&P Global Ratings does not act as a fiduciary or an investment advisor except where registered as such. While S&P Global Ratings has obtained information from sources it believes to be reliable, it does not perform an audit and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information it receives. Ratings and other opinions may be changed, suspended, or withdrawn at any time.

### **Active Qualifiers (Currently applied and/or outstanding)**

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S&P Global Ratings assigns qualifiers to ratings when appropriate. This section details active and inactive qualifiers.

S&P Global Ratings uses the following qualifiers that limit the scope of a rating. The structure of the transaction can require the use of a qualifier such as a 'p' qualifier, which indicates the rating addresses the principal portion of the obligation only. A qualifier appears as a suffix and is part of the rating.

### **1. Federal Deposit Insurance Limit: “L” qualifier**

Ratings qualified with ‘L’ apply only to amounts invested up to federal deposit insurance limits.

### **2. Principal: “p” qualifier**

This suffix is used for issues in which the credit factors, the terms, or both that determine the likelihood of receipt of payment of principal are different from the credit factors, terms, or both that determine the likelihood of receipt of interest on the obligation. The ‘p’ suffix indicates that the rating addresses the principal portion of the obligation only and that the interest is not rated.

### **3. Preliminary Ratings: “prelim” qualifier**

Preliminary ratings, with the ‘prelim’ suffix, may be assigned to obligors or obligations, including financial programs, in the circumstances described below. Assignment of a final rating is conditional on the receipt by S&P Global Ratings of appropriate documentation. S&P Global Ratings reserves the right not to issue a final rating. Moreover, if a final rating is issued, it may differ from the preliminary rating.

- Preliminary ratings may be assigned to obligations, most commonly structured and project finance issues, pending receipt of final documentation and legal opinions.
- Preliminary ratings may be assigned to obligations that will likely be issued upon the obligor’s emergence from bankruptcy or similar reorganization, based on late-stage reorganization plans, documentation, and discussions with the obligor. Preliminary ratings may also be assigned to the obligors. These ratings consider the anticipated general credit quality of the reorganized or post-bankruptcy issuer as well as attributes of the anticipated obligation(s).
- Preliminary ratings may be assigned to entities that are being formed or that are in the process of being independently established when, in S&P Global Ratings’ opinion, documentation is close to final. Preliminary ratings may also be assigned to the obligations of these entities.
- Preliminary ratings may be assigned when a previously unrated entity is undergoing a well-formulated restructuring, recapitalization, significant financing, or other transformative event, generally at the point that investor or lender commitments are invited. The preliminary rating may be assigned to the entity and to its proposed obligation(s). These preliminary ratings consider the anticipated general credit quality of the obligor, as well as attributes of the anticipated obligation(s), assuming successful completion of the transformative event. Should the transformative event not occur, S&P Global Ratings would likely withdraw these preliminary ratings.
- A preliminary recovery rating may be assigned to an obligation that has a preliminary issue credit rating.

### **4. Termination Structures: “t” qualifier**

This symbol indicates termination structures that are designed to honor their contracts to full maturity or, should certain events occur, to terminate and cash settle all their contracts before their final maturity date.

### **5. Counterparty Instrument Rating: “cir” qualifier**

This symbol indicates a counterparty instrument rating (CIR), which is a forward-looking opinion about the creditworthiness of an issuer in a securitization structure with respect to a specific financial obligation to a counterparty (including interest rate swaps, currency swaps, and liquidity facilities). The CIR is determined on an ultimate payment basis; these opinions do not take into account timeliness of payment.



## Inactive Qualifiers

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Inactive qualifiers are no longer applied or outstanding.

### 1. Contingent upon final documentation: “\*” inactive qualifier

This symbol indicated that the rating was contingent upon S&P Global Ratings’ receipt of an executed copy of the escrow agreement or closing documentation confirming investments and cash flows. Discontinued use in August 1998.

### 2. Termination of obligation to tender: “c” inactive qualifier

This qualifier was used to provide additional information to investors that the bank may terminate its obligation to purchase tendered bonds if the long-term credit rating of the issuer was lowered to below an investment-grade level and/or the issuer’s bonds were deemed taxable. Discontinued use in January 2001.

### 3. U.S. direct government securities: “G” inactive qualifier

The letter ‘G’ followed the rating symbol when a fund’s portfolio consisted primarily of direct U.S. government securities.

### 4. Public Information Ratings: ‘pi’ qualifier

This qualifier was used to indicate ratings that were based on an analysis of an issuer’s published financial information, as well as additional information in the public domain. Such ratings did not, however, reflect in-depth meetings with an issuer’s management and therefore could have been based on less comprehensive information than ratings without a ‘pi’ suffix. Discontinued use as of December 2014 and as of August 2015 for Lloyd’s Syndicate Assessments.

### 5. Provisional Ratings: “pr” inactive qualifier

The letters ‘pr’ indicate that the rating was provisional. A provisional rating assumed the successful completion of a project financed by the debt being rated and indicates that payment of debt service requirements was largely or entirely dependent upon the successful, timely completion of the project. This rating, however, while addressing credit quality subsequent to completion of the project, made no comment on the likelihood of or the risk of default upon failure of such completion.

### 6. Quantitative Analysis of publication information: “q” inactive qualifier

A ‘q’ subscript indicates that the rating is based solely on quantitative analysis of publicly available information. Discontinued use in April 2001.

### 7. Extraordinary risks: “r” inactive qualifier

The ‘r’ modifier was assigned to securities containing extraordinary risks, particularly market risks, that are not covered in the credit rating. The absence of an ‘r’ modifier should not be taken as an indication that an obligation would not exhibit extraordinary noncredit-related risks. S&P Global Ratings discontinued the use of the ‘r’ modifier for most obligations in June 2000 and for the balance of obligations (mainly structured finance transactions) in November 2002.

## Active Identifiers

S&P Global Ratings currently uses seven other identifiers. These words or symbols provide additional information but do not change the definition of a rating or our opinion about the issue’s or issuer’s creditworthiness. The identifiers are often required by regulation

### 1. Unsolicited: ‘unsolicited’ and ‘u’ identifier

The ‘u’ identifier and ‘unsolicited’ designation are assigned to credit ratings initiated by parties other than the issuer or its agents, including those initiated by S&P Global Ratings.

### 2. Structured finance: “sf” identifier

The 'sf' identifier shall be assigned to ratings on "structured finance instruments" when required to comply with applicable law or regulatory requirement or when S&P Global Ratings believes it appropriate. The addition of the 'sf' identifier to a rating does not change that rating's definition or our opinion about the issue's creditworthiness.

### **3. Japan: ‘JR’ identifier**

The ‘JR’ identifier is assigned to all issue and issuer ratings assigned by either S&P Global Ratings Japan Inc. or S&P Global SF Japan Inc., each of which is a registered credit rating agency in Japan, as ratings registered under Japanese regulation. The addition of the identifier does not change the definition of that rating or our opinion about the issue’s or issuer’s creditworthiness.

### **4. European Union: ‘EU’ identifier**

S&P Global Ratings assigns the ‘EU’ identifier to global scale ratings assigned by S&P Global Ratings entities (or branches thereof) regulated in the European Union. The addition of the ‘EU’ identifier to a rating does not change that rating’s definition or our opinion about the issue’s or issuer’s creditworthiness.

### **5. European Endorsed: ‘EE’ identifier**

S&P Global Ratings assigns the ‘EE’ identifier to global scale ratings assigned by S&P Global Ratings entities established outside the European Union which are endorsed by an S&P Global Ratings entity regulated in the European Union. The addition of the ‘EE’ identifier to a rating does not change that rating’s definition or our opinion about the issue’s or issuer’s creditworthiness.

### **6. Nippon KK: ‘XN’ identifier**

S&P Global SF Japan Inc. assigns the ‘XN’ identifier to credit ratings assigned by S&P Global SF Japan Inc. S&P Global SF Japan Inc. is not a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization. The addition of the ‘XN’ identifier to a rating does not change that rating’s definition or our opinion about the issue’s or issuer’s creditworthiness.

### **7. Under criteria observation ‘UCO’ identifier**

The ‘UCO’ identifier may (or shall, if an EU regulatory requirement) be assigned to credit ratings under review as a result of a criteria revision. The addition of the ‘UCO’ identifier to a rating does not change that rating’s definition or our opinion about the issue’s or issuer’s creditworthiness.

### **Local Currency and Foreign Currency Ratings**

S&P Global Ratings’ issuer credit ratings make a distinction between foreign currency ratings and local currency ratings. An issuer’s foreign currency rating will differ from its local currency rating when the obligor has a different capacity to meet its obligations denominated in its local currency, vs. obligations denominated in a foreign currency.

## **Moody's Credit Rating Definitions**

### **Purpose**

The system of rating securities was originated by John Moody in 1909. The purpose of Moody's ratings is to provide investors with a simple system of gradation by which future relative creditworthiness of securities may be gauged.

### **Rating Symbols**

Gradations of creditworthiness are indicated by rating symbols, with each symbol representing a group in which the credit characteristics are broadly the same. There are nine symbols as shown below, from that used to designate least credit risk to that denoting greatest credit risk:

**Aaa Aa A Baa Ba B Caa Ca C**

Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa.

### **Absence of a Rating**

Where no rating has been assigned or where a rating has been withdrawn, it may be for reasons unrelated to the creditworthiness of the issue.

Should no rating be assigned, the reason may be one of the following:

1. An application was not received or accepted.
2. The issue or issuer belongs to a group of securities or entities that are not rated as a matter of policy.
3. There is a lack of essential data pertaining to the issue or issuer.
4. The issue was privately placed, in which case the rating is not published in Moody's publications.

Withdrawal may occur if new and material circumstances arise, the effects of which preclude satisfactory analysis; if there is no longer available reasonable up-to-date data to permit a judgment to be formed; if a bond is called for redemption; or for other reasons.

### **Changes in Rating**

The credit quality of most issuers and their obligations is not fixed and steady over a period of time, but tends to undergo change. For this reason changes in ratings occur so as to reflect variations in the intrinsic relative position of issuers and their obligations.

A change in rating may thus occur at any time in the case of an individual issue. Such rating change should serve notice that Moody's observes some alteration in creditworthiness, or that the previous rating did not fully reflect the quality of the bond as now seen. While because of their very nature, changes are to be expected more frequently among bonds of lower ratings than among bonds of higher ratings. Nevertheless, the user of bond ratings should keep close and constant check on all ratings — both high and low — to be able to note promptly any signs of change in status that may occur.

### **Limitations to Uses of Ratings\***

Obligations carrying the same rating are not claimed to be of absolutely equal credit quality. In a broad sense, they are alike in position, but since there are a limited number of rating classes used in grading thousands of bonds, the symbols cannot reflect the same shadings of risk which actually exist.

As ratings are designed exclusively for the purpose of grading obligations according to their credit quality, they should not be used alone as a basis for investment operations. For example, they have no value in forecasting the direction of future trends of market price. Market price movements in bonds are influenced not only by the credit quality of individual issues but also by changes in money rates and general economic trends, as well as by the length of maturity, etc. During its life even the highest rated bond may have wide price movements, while its high rating status remains unchanged.

The matter of market price has no bearing whatsoever on the determination of ratings, which are not to be construed as recommendations with respect to “attractiveness.” The attractiveness of a given bond may depend on its yield, its maturity date or other factors for which the investor may search, as well as on its credit quality, the only characteristic to which the rating refers.

Since ratings involve judgments about the future, on the one hand, and since they are used by investors as a means of protection, on the other, the effort is made when assigning ratings to look at “worst” possibilities in the “visible” future, rather than solely at the past record and the status of the present. Therefore, investors using the rating should not expect to find in them a reflection of statistical factors alone, since they are an appraisal of long-term risks, including the recognition of many non-statistical factors.

Though ratings may be used by the banking authorities to classify bonds in their bank examination procedure, Moody’s ratings are not made with these bank regulations in mind. Moody’s Investors Service’s own judgment as to the desirability or non-desirability of a bond for bank investment purposes is not indicated by Moody’s ratings.

Moody’s ratings represent the opinion of Moody’s Investors Service as to the relative creditworthiness of securities. As such, they should be used in conjunction with the descriptions and statistics appearing in Moody’s publications. Reference should be made to these statements for information regarding the issuer. Moody’s ratings are not commercial credit ratings. In no case is default or receivership to be imputed unless expressly stated.

\*As set forth more fully on the copyright, credit ratings are, and must be construed solely as, statements of opinion and not statements of fact or recommendations to purchase, sell or hold any securities. Each rating or other opinion must be weighed solely as one factor in any investment decision made by or on behalf of any user of the information, and each such user must accordingly make its own study and evaluation of each security and of each issuer and guarantor of, and each provider of credit support for, each security that it may consider purchasing, selling or holding.

### **Short-Term Obligation Ratings**

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

Moody’s employs the following designations to indicate the relative repayment ability of rated issuers:

#### **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.

The following table indicates the long-term ratings consistent with different short-term ratings when such long-term ratings exist.

SHORT-TERM VS. LONG-TERM RATINGS

LONG-TERM RATING		SHORT-TERM RATING
Aaa	}	Prime-1
Aa1		
Aa2		
Aa3		
A1		
A2		
A3	}	Prime-2
Baa1		
Baa2		
Baa3	}	Prime-3
Ba1, Ba2, Ba3		Not Prime
B1, B2, B3		
Caa1, Caa2, Caa3		
Ca, C		

## **Fitch's National Credit Ratings**

National scale ratings are an opinion of creditworthiness relative to the universe of issuers and issues within a single country. They are most commonly used in emerging market countries with sub- or low investment grade sovereign ratings on the international scale. As creditworthiness can be expressed across the full range of the scale, a national scale can enable greater rating differentiation within a market than the international scale, particularly in highly speculative grade countries where ratings tend to cluster around the often low sovereign rating due to higher risks associated with a more volatile operating environment.

A “+” or “-” may be appended to a National Rating to denote relative status within a major rating category. Such suffixes are not added to the ‘AAA(xxx)’ National Rating category, to categories below ‘CCC(xxx)’, or to Short-Term National Ratings other than ‘F1(xxx)’.

National scale ratings are assigned on the basis that the “best credits or issuers” in the country are rated ‘AAA’ on the national scale. National Ratings are then assessed using the full range of the national scale based on a comparative analysis of issuers rated under the same national scale to establish a relative ranking of credit worthiness.

At any given point in time, there is a certain relationship between National and International Ratings but there is not a precise translation between the scales. Fitch monitors the ratings relationship of issuers rated on both the international and national scales to ensure the consistency of rating relativities across scales. In other words, if issuer “X” is rated higher than issuer “Y” on one scale, issuer “X” cannot be rated lower than issuer “Y” on the other scale.

National Ratings for local issuers exclude the effects of sovereign and transfer risk and exclude the possibility that investors may be unable to repatriate any due interest and principal repayments. Comparisons between different national scales or between an individual national scale and the international rating scale are therefore inappropriate and potentially misleading.

In certain countries, regulators have established credit rating scales to be used within their domestic markets using specific nomenclature. In these countries, the agency’s National Rating definitions may be substituted by the regulatory scales. For instance Fitch’s National Short Term Ratings of ‘F1+(xxx)’, ‘F1(xxx)’, ‘F2(xxx)’ and ‘F3(xxx)’ may be substituted by the regulatory scales, e.g. ‘A1+’, ‘A1’, ‘A2’ and ‘A3’. The below definitions thus serve as a template, but users should consult the individual scales for each country listed on Fitch’s regional websites to determine if any additional or alternative category definitions apply.

Fitch maintains internal mapping tables that document the current relationship between the National and International Local Currency Ratings in each jurisdiction where we maintain a National Rating scale in order to serve as a tool for analysts. Where our National rating coverage exceeds a minimum threshold and there is external demand, these mappings will be published on this site. Presently, publicly available mappings can be accessed here. Fitch currently publishes the mapping tables for Brazil and South Africa.

Limitations of the National Rating Scale

Specific limitations relevant to National Rating scale include:

- National scale ratings are only available in selected countries.
- National scale ratings are only directly comparable with other national ratings in the same country. There is a relationship between national and international ratings but there is not a precise translation between the scales. The implied vulnerability to default of a given national scale rating will vary over time.
- The value of default studies for National Ratings is limited. Due to the relative nature of national scales, a given national scale rating is not intended to represent a fixed amount of default risk over time. As a result, a default study using only National Ratings may not give an accurate picture of the historical relationship between ratings and default risk. Users should exercise caution in making inferences relating to the relative vulnerability to default of national scale ratings using the historical default experience with International Ratings and mapping tables to link the National and International ratings. As with ratings on any scale, the future will not necessarily follow the past.

The above list is not exhaustive and is provided as a summary. Readers should review the section *Usage and Limitations of Credit Ratings and Other Forms of Opinion*.

### **National Short-Term Credit Ratings**

#### **F1(xxx)**

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(xxx)**

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(xxx)**

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(xxx)**

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 changes in financial and economic conditions.

#### **C(xxx)**

Indicates a highly uncertain capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.



**RD(xxx): Restricted default**

Indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Applicable to entity ratings only.

**D(xxx)**

Indicates actual or imminent payment default.

**Notes to Long-Term and Short-Term National Ratings:**

The ISO international country code is placed in parentheses immediately following the rating letters to indicate the identity of the National market within which the rating applies. For illustrative purposes, (xxx) has been used.

A “+” or “-” may be appended to a National Rating to denote relative status within a major rating category. Such suffixes are not added to the ‘AAA(xxx)’ National Rating category, to categories below ‘CCC(xxx)’, or to Short-Term National Ratings other than ‘F1(xxx)’

## LONG-TERM RATINGS

### S&P Global Ratings' Long-Term Issue Credit Ratings

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

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

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

### **Long-Term Issue Credit Ratings**

#### **AAA**

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

#### **AA**

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

#### **A**

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

#### **BBB**

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

#### **BB; B; CCC; CC; and C**

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

#### **BB**

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

## **B**

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

## **CCC**

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

## **CC**

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

## **C**

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

## **D**

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

## **NR**

This indicates that no rating has been requested, or that there is insufficient information on which to base a rating, or that S&P Global Ratings does not rate a particular obligation as a matter of policy.

## **Plus (+) or minus (-)**

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

*See active and inactive qualifiers following S&P Global Ratings' Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings beginning on page A-1.*

## Moody's Long-Term Obligation Ratings

### **Long-Term Obligation Ratings**

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

### **Moody's Long-Term Rating Definitions:**

#### **Aaa**

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

#### **Aa**

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

#### **A**

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

#### **Baa**

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

#### **Ba**

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

#### **B**

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

#### **Caa**

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

#### **Ca**

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

#### **C**

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

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

*\* By their terms, hybrid securities allow for the omission of scheduled dividends, interest, or principal payments, which can potentially result in impairment if such an omission occurs. Hybrid securities may also be subject to contractually allowable write-downs of principal that could result in impairment. Together with the hybrid indicator, the long-term obligation rating assigned to a hybrid security is an expression of the relative credit risk associated with that security.*

## **Fitch's National Long-Term Credit Ratings**

### **AAA(xxx)**

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

### **AA(xxx)**

'AA' National Ratings denote expectations of very low default risk relative 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(xxx)**

'A' National Ratings denote expectations 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(xxx)**

'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.

### **BB(xxx)**

'BB' National Ratings denote an elevated default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. Within the context of the country, payment is uncertain to some degree and capacity for timely repayment remains more vulnerable to adverse economic change over time.

### **B(xxx)**

'B' National Ratings denote a significantly elevated default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country. Financial commitments are currently being met, but a limited margin of safety remains and capacity for continued timely payments is contingent upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.

### **CCC(xxx)**

'CCC' National Ratings denote very high default risk relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country.

### **CC(xxx)**

'CC' National Ratings denote default risk is among the highest relative to other issuers or obligations in the same country.

### **C(xxx)**

A default or default-like process has begun, or the issuer is in standstill, or for a closed funding vehicle, payment capacity is irrevocably impaired. Conditions that are indicative of a 'C' category rating for an issuer include:

- a. the issuer has entered into a grace or cure period following non-payment of a material financial obligation;
- b. the issuer has entered into a temporary negotiated waiver or standstill agreement following a payment default on a material financial obligation;
- c. the formal announcement by the issuer or their agent of a distressed debt exchange; and
- d. a closed financing vehicle where payment capacity is irrevocably impaired such that it is not expected to pay interest and/or principal in full during the life of the transaction, but where no payment default is imminent

**RD(xxx): Restricted default.**

'RD' ratings indicate an issuer that, in Fitch's opinion, has experienced an uncured payment default on a bond, loan or other material financial obligation but that has not entered into bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation or other formal winding-up procedure and has not otherwise ceased business. This would include:

- a. the selective payment default on a specific class or currency of debt;
- b. the uncured expiry of any applicable grace period, cure period or default forbearance period following a payment default on a bank loan, capital markets security or other material financial obligation;
- c. the extension of multiple waivers or forbearance periods upon a payment default on one or more material financial obligations, either in series or in parallel; or
- d. execution of a distressed debt exchange on one or more material financial obligations.

**D(xxx)**

'D' National Ratings denote an issuer or instrument that is currently in default.

**Notes to Long-Term and Short-Term National Ratings:**

The ISO International country code is placed in parentheses immediately following the rating letters to indicate the identity of the National market within which the rating applies. For illustrative purposes, (xxx) has been used.

A "+" or "-" may be appended to a National Rating to denote relative status within a major rating category. Such suffixes are not added to the 'AAA(xxx)' National Rating category, to categories below 'CCC(xxx)', or to Short-Term National Ratings other than 'F1(xxx)'.

## MUNICIPAL NOTE RATINGS

### **S&P's Municipal Short-Term Note Ratings Definitions**

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

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

Note rating symbols are as follows:

#### **SP-1**

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

#### **SP-2**

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

#### **SP-3**

Speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

*See active and inactive qualifiers following S&P Global Ratings' Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings beginning on page A-1.*

### **Moody's US Municipal Short-Term Debt And Demand Obligation Ratings**

#### **Short-Term Obligation Ratings**

While the global short-term 'prime' rating scale is applied to US 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 US 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 liquidity 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, as shown in the diagram below, 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.

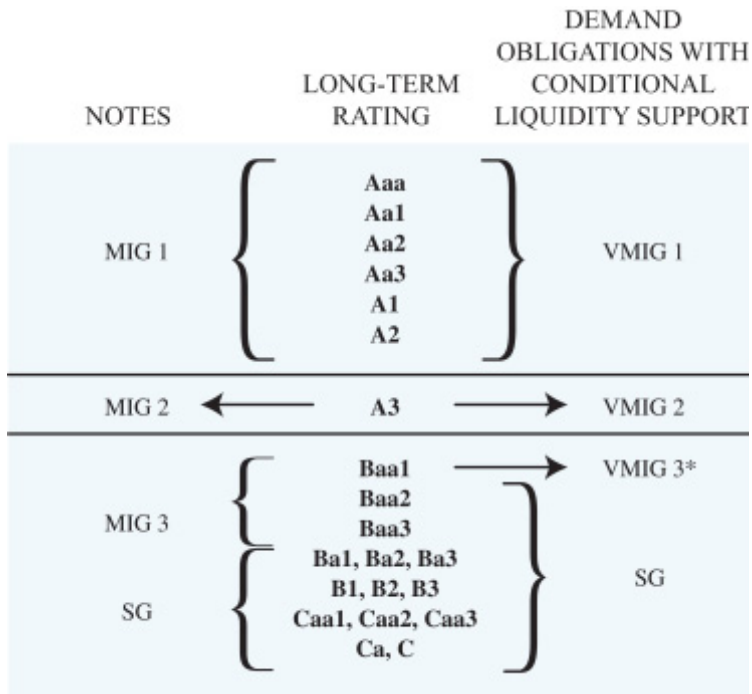
### **VMIG 3**

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.

US MUNICIPAL SHORT-TERM VS. LONG-TERM RATINGS



\* For VRDBs supported with conditional liquidity support, short-term ratings transition down at higher long-term ratings to reflect the risk of termination of liquidity support as a result of a downgrade below investment grade.

VMIG ratings of VRDBs with unconditional liquidity support reflect the short-term debt rating (or counterparty assessment) of the liquidity support provider with VMIG 1 corresponding to P-1, VMIG 2 to P-2, VMIG 3 to P-3 and SG to not prime.