Item 1 – Cover Page

Part 2A Appendix 1 Wrap Fee Program Brochure

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Date of Disclosure Brochure: March 2021

This Wrap Fee Program Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Advisors' Pride (also referred to as we, us and Advisors' Pride throughout this disclosure brochure). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact Paul R. Hoffman at 920-731-9293 or Paul.Hoffman@AdvisorsPride.com. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about Advisors' Pride is also available on the Internet at <u>www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</u>. You can view our firm's information on this website by searching for Advisors' Pride or our firm's CRD number 170669.

*Registration as an investment adviser does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

Item 2 – Material Changes

Since our most recent disclosure brochure was filed in March 2020, the material changes that have been made to this brochure are as follows:

• In April 2020, the firm decided to participate in the Payroll Protection Plan program through the U.S. Small Business Administration. Please refer to Item 9 - Additional Information for more specific information.

We will ensure that you receive a summary of any material changes to this and subsequent Wrap Fee Program Disclosure Brochures within 120 days after our firm's fiscal year ends. Our firm's fiscal year ends on December 31, so you will receive the summary of material changes no later than April 30 each year. At that time, we will also offer or provide a copy of the most current Wrap Fee Program Disclosure Brochure. We may also provide other ongoing disclosure information about material changes as necessary.

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Item 4 – Services, Fees and Compensation

Advisors' Pride is an investment adviser registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and is a corporation formed under the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

Advisors' Pride offers asset management services through a wrap fee management program. In our wrap fee management program, clients may elect to pay expenses under a "traditional" payment option meaning that advisory services are provided for a fee but transaction services are billed separately on a per-transaction basis, or may elect the bundled "wrap fee" payment option meaning that advisory services (including asset management) and transaction cost (including ticket charges) are provided for one fee. Our Asset Management Services are considered a wrap fee program. Whenever a fee is charged for services described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure, we will receive all or a portion of the fee charged.

When making the determination of whether one of the advisory programs available through Advisors' Pride is appropriate for your needs, you should bear in mind that fee-based accounts, when compared with commission-based accounts, often result in lower costs during periods when trading activity is heavier, such as the year an account is established. However, during periods when trading activity is lower, the fee-based account arrangements may result in a higher annual cost for transactions. Thus, depending on a number of factors, the total cost for transactions under a fee account versus a commission account can vary significantly. Factors which affect the total cost include account size, amount of turnover, type and quantities of securities purchased or sold, commission rates and your tax situation. It should also be noted that lower fees for comparable service may be available from other sources. The exact fees and other terms will be outlined in the agreement between you and Advisors' Pride.

You should discuss the advantages and disadvantages of fee-based and commission-based accounts with your adviser representative and you should read this Wrap Fee Disclosure Brochure carefully as it explains, in detail, our Asset Management Services.

Asset Management Services

Advisors Pride ("the Firm" or "we") is the sponsor of our wrap fee program developed through an arrangement using LPL Financial Corporation's ("LPL") Strategic Wealth Management platform. Through the WRAP Program, we provide investment management services, including providing continuous investment advice to and making investments for you based on your individual needs. Through this service, we offer a customized and individualized investment program. A specific asset allocation strategy and suitability profile is crafted to focus on your specific goals and objectives. Your information should be updated regularly, but at a minimum every 2 years.

WRAP Program accounts are custodied at LPL in its capacity as a registered broker/dealer, member FINRA/SIPC. LPL is also an investment advisor registered with the SEC, but does not serve as an investment advisor for you through the WRAP Program. LPL provides clearing, custody and other brokerage services for accounts established through the WRAP Program. Therefore, you are required to establish a brokerage account(s) through LPL's Strategic Wealth Management platform. Separate accounts are maintained for you, and you retain all rights of ownership of your accounts (e. g., the right to withdraw securities or cash, exercise or delegate proxy voting, and receive transaction confirmations).

WRAP Program accounts allow you to authorize us to purchase and sell, on a discretionary or nondiscretionary basis, portfolios consisting of securities and investments. We may limit our discretion with respect to your account and the securities eligible to be purchased for your account. See, **Limits Advice to Certain Types of Investments** under **Item 4 - Advisory Business** relative to possible securities and investments utilized. See **Item 16 - Investment Discretion** for information concerning discretionary authority.

During any month that there is activity in the WRAP Program account, you receive a monthly account statement from LPL showing account activity as well as positions held in the account at month end. Additionally, you receive a confirmation of each transaction that occurs within the WRAP Program account unless the transaction is the result of a systematic purchase, redemption or exchange. You also receive a detailed quarterly report showing performance, positions, and activity. All account data and statements are also available on-line through the account view portal through LPL.

You will authorize Advisors' Pride to have trading authorization on your account and we will provide asset management services. If you have authorized us to provide asset management services on a discretionary basis, we will make all decisions to buy, sell or hold securities, cash or other investments in your managed account in our sole discretion without consulting with you before making any transactions. You must provide us with written authorization to exercise this discretionary authority, and you can place reasonable restrictions and limitations on our discretionary authority.

If you decide to grant trading authorization on a **non-discretionary** basis, we will be required to contact you prior to implementing changes in your account. Therefore, you will be contacted and required to accept or reject our investment recommendations including:

- The security being recommended
- The number of shares or units
- Whether to buy or sell

Once the above factors are agreed upon, we will be responsible for making decisions regarding the timing of buying or selling an investment and the price at which the investment is bought or sold. If your accounts are managed on a non-discretionary basis, you need to know that if we are not able to reach you or you are slow to respond to our request, it can have an adverse impact on the timing of trade implementations and we may not achieve the optimal trading price.

Fees charged for our asset management services are charged based on a percentage of assets under management, billed in advance (at the start of the billing period) on a quarterly calendar basis and calculated based on the fair market value of your account as of the last business day of the current billing period. Fees are prorated (based on the number of days service is provided during the initial billing period) for your account opened at any time other than the beginning of the billing period. If asset management services are commenced in the middle of a billing period, the prorated fee for the initial billing period is billed in arrears at the same time as the next full billing period's fee is billed.

Fees charged for our asset management services are negotiable based on the investment adviser representative providing the services, the type of client, the complexity of the client's situation, the composition of the client's account (i.e., equities versus mutual funds), the potential for additional account deposits, the relationship of the client with the investment adviser representative, and the total amount of assets under management for the client.

The annual fee for asset management services will be between 0.20% and 3.00%

The actual fees to be charged for our asset management services will be specified in your Client Agreement.

The Firm believes that its annual fee is reasonable in relation to: (1) services provided and (2) the fees charged by other investment advisers offering similar services/programs. However, our annual investment advisory fee may be higher than that charged by other investment advisers offering similar services/programs. In addition to our compensation, you may also incur charges imposed at the mutual fund level (e.g., advisory fees and other fund expenses).

The investment advisory fees will be deducted from your account and paid directly to our firm by the qualified custodian(s) of your account. You will authorize the qualified custodian(s) of your account to deduct fees from your account and pay such fees directly to our firm.

You should review your account statements received from the qualified custodian(s) and verify that appropriate investment advisory fees are being deducted. The qualified custodian(s) will not verify the accuracy of the investment advisory fees deducted.

The only compensation received by Advisors' Pride for asset management services is the annual fee as specified in the client's advisory services agreement. Advisors' Pride receives no other forms of compensation in connection with providing asset management services.

Each client participating in our Asset Management Services will have the option to elect whether or not to bundle the transaction ticket fees that are charged by the qualified custodian as part of the fee for asset management services. If you elect to have transaction ticket fees that are charged by the qualified custodian bundled with the fee for our Asset Management Services, then the transaction ticket fees charged by the qualified custodian will be billed directly to Advisors' Pride by the qualified custodian for your account. If you elect not to bundle the transaction ticket fees charged by the qualified custodian with the fee for asset management services, then the transaction ticket fees will be billed directly to your account by the qualified custodian. Advisors' Pride will not receive any portion of such transaction ticket fees.

You may incur certain charges imposed by third parties other than Advisors' Pride in connection with investments made through your account including, but not limited to, mutual fund sales loads, 12(b)-1 fees and surrender charges, variable annuity fees and surrender charges, IRA and qualified retirement plan fees, and charges imposed by the qualified custodian(s) of your account. Management fees charged by Advisors' Pride are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by investment company securities that may be recommended to you. A description of these fees and expenses are available in each investment company security's prospectus.

The asset management services continue in effect until terminated by either party (i.e., Advisors' Pride or you) by providing written notice of termination to the other party. Any prepaid, unearned fees will be promptly refunded by Advisors' Pride to you. Fee refunds will be determined on a pro rata basis using the number of days services are actually provided during the final period.

Block Trading

We may elect to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time. This process is referred to as aggregating orders, batch trading or block trading and is used by our firm when we believe such action may prove advantageous to clients. If and when we aggregate client orders, allocating securities among client accounts is done on a fair and equitable basis. Typically, the process of aggregating client orders is done in order to achieve better execution, to negotiate more favorable commission rates or to allocate orders among clients on a more equitable basis in order to avoid differences in prices and transaction fees or other transaction costs that might be obtained when orders are placed independently.

The Firm uses the pro rata allocation method for transaction allocation.

Under this procedure, pro rata trade allocation means an allocation of the trade at issue among applicable advisory clients in amounts that are proportional to the participating advisory client's intended investable assets. We will calculate the pro rata share of each transaction included in a block order and assigns the appropriate number of shares of each allocated transaction executed for the client's account.

If and when we determine to aggregate client orders for the purchase or sale of securities, including securities in which the Firm or our associated persons may invest, we will do so in accordance with the parameters set forth in the SEC No-Action Letter, *SMC Capital, Inc.* Neither we nor our associated persons receive any additional compensation as a result of block trades.

Suitability and Investment Strategy

Advisors' Pride will assist clients in determining their objective(s), investment strategy, and investment suitability, prior and subsequent to opening an Asset Management account. Clients must contact us to notify of any changes in their investment objective(s) and/or financial situation. Investment strategies used to implement investment advice include, but are not necessarily limited to, long term purchases (investments held at least a year); short term purchases (investments sold within a year); and frequent trading.

Additional Compensation, Economic and Non-Economic Benefits

Our representatives are also registered representatives of LPL Financial, a securities broker-dealer. You may work with your investment adviser representative in his or her separate capacity as a registered representative of LPL Financial. When acting in his or her separate capacity as a registered representative, your investment adviser representative may sell, for commissions, general securities products such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, and variable annuity and variable life products to you. As such, your investment adviser representative may suggest that you implement investment advice by purchasing securities products through a commission-based brokerage account in addition to or in lieu of a fee-based investment-advisory account. This receipt of commissions creates an incentive to recommend those products for which your investment adviser representative will receive a commission in his or her separate capacity as a registered representative of a securities broker-dealer. Consequently, the objectivity of the advice rendered to you could be biased.

You are under no obligation to use the services of our representatives in this separate capacity or to use LPL Financial and can select any broker/dealer you wish to implement securities transactions. If you select our representatives to implement securities transactions in their separate capacity as registered representatives, they must use LPL Financial. Prior to effecting any such transactions, you are required to enter into a new account agreement with LPL Financial. The commissions charged by LPL Financial

may be higher or lower than those charged by other broker/dealers. In addition, the registered representatives may also receive additional ongoing 12b-1 fees for mutual fund purchases from the mutual fund company during the period that you maintain the mutual fund investment.

Item 5 – Account Requirements and Types of Clients

Minimum Account Size

There are no minimum investment amounts or conditions required for establishing an account managed by Advisors' Pride. However, all clients are required to execute an agreement for services in order to establish a client arrangement with Advisors' Pride and/or the third-party money manager or the sponsor of third-party money manager platforms.

Types of Accounts

Advisors' Pride generally provides investment advice to the following types of clients:

- Individuals
- High net worth individuals
- Pension and profit sharing plans
- Trusts, estates, or charitable organizations
- Corporations or business entities other than those listed above

You are required to execute a written agreement with Advisors' Pride specifying the particular advisory services in order to establish a client arrangement with Advisors' Pride.

Item 6 – Portfolio Manager Selection and Evaluation

Advisors' Pride and its Investment Adviser Representatives act as the portfolio manager(s) for accounts receiving our Asset Management Services. Our Asset Management Service is considered a wrap fee program. For this service, we do not allow the use of portfolio managers that are not associated with Advisors' Pride. In other words, the only portfolio managers selected for managing client assets for our Asset Management Services are Investment Adviser Representatives of Advisors' Pride. Therefore, conflicts of interest present in other wrap fee programs that make available both affiliated and unaffiliated portfolio managers are not present in our wrap fee program. Because our Asset Management Services program does not provide for outside portfolio managers, we do not have procedures designed to select outside portfolio managers.

Participation in Wrap Fee Programs

Advisors' Pride offers asset management services, through our Asset Management Services Program, which is a wrap fee management program. In our wrap fee management program, you may elect to pay expenses under a "traditional" payment option meaning that advisory services are provided for a fee but transaction services are billed separately on a per-transaction basis, or you may elect the bundled "wrap fee" payment option meaning that advisory services (including portfolio management or advice regarding selecting other investment advisers) and transaction services are provided for one fee. Our Asset Management Services are considered a wrap fee program. Whenever a fee is charged to a client for services described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure, we will receive all of a portion of the fee charged.

From a management perspective, there is not a fundamental difference in the way we manage accounts that have elected the traditional payment option versus those that have elected the bundled wrap fee payment option. The only significant difference is the way in which transaction costs are paid.

General Description of Other Advisory Services

The following are descriptions of the primary advisory services of Advisors' Pride. Please understand that a written agreement, which details the exact terms of the service, must be signed by you and Advisors' Pride before we can provide you the services described below.

Financial Planning & Consulting Services - Advisors' Pride offers financial planning services, which involve preparing a written financial plan covering specific or multiple topics. We provide full written financial plans, which typically address the following topics: Investment Planning, Retirement Planning, Insurance Planning, Tax Planning, Education Planning, Portfolios Review, and Asset Allocation. When providing financial planning and consulting services, the role of your investment adviser representative is to find ways to help you understand your overall financial situation and help you set financial objectives. Written financial plans prepared by us under this Agreement do not include specific recommendations of individual securities.

We also offer consultations in order to discuss financial planning issues when you do not need a written financial plan. We offer a one-time consultation, which covers mutually agreed upon areas of concern related to investments or financial planning. We also offer "as-needed" consultations, which are limited to consultations in response to a particular investment or financial planning issue raised or request made by you. Under an "as-needed" consultation, it will be incumbent upon you to identify those particular issues for which you are seeking our advice or consultation on.

Our financial planning and consulting services do not involve implementing any transaction on your behalf or the active and ongoing monitoring or management of your investments or accounts. You have the sole responsibility for determining whether to implement our financial planning and consulting recommendations. To the extent that you would like to implement any of our investment recommendations through Advisors' Pride or retain Advisors' Pride to actively monitor and manage your investments, you must execute a separate written agreement with Advisors' Pride for our asset management services.

Referral of Third-Party Money Managers - Advisors' Pride offers advisory services by referring clients to a third-party money manager offering asset management and other investment advisory services. The third-party managers are responsible for continuously monitoring client accounts and making trades in client accounts when necessary. As a result of the referral, we are paid a portion of the fee charged and collected by the third-party money managers in the form of solicitor fees. Each solicitation arrangement is performed pursuant to a written solicitation agreement and is in compliance with SEC Rule 206(4)-3 and applicable state securities rules and regulations.

Under this program, we assist you with identifying your risk tolerance and investment objectives. We recommend third-party money managers in relation to your stated investment objectives and risk tolerance, and you may select a recommended third-party money manager or model portfolio based upon your needs. You must enter into an agreement directly with the third-party money manager who provides your designated account with asset management services.

We are available to answer questions that you may have regarding your account and act as the communication conduit between you and the third-party money manager. The third-party money manager may take discretionary authority to determine the securities to be purchased and sold for your Account. We do not have any trading authority with respect to your designated account managed by the third-party money manager.

Although we review the performance of numerous third-party investment adviser firms, we enter into only a select number of relationships with third-party investment adviser firms that have agreed to pay us a portion of the overall fee charged to our clients. Therefore, Advisors' Pride has a conflict of interest in that it will only recommend third-party investment advisors that will agree to compensate us for referrals of our clients.

Clients are advised that there may be other third-party managed programs not recommended by our firm, that are suitable for the client and that may be more or less costly than arrangements recommended by our firm. No guarantees can be made that a client's financial goals or objectives will be achieved by a third-party investment adviser recommended by our firm. Further, no guarantees of performance can ever be offered by our firm.

Retirement Plan Services - The Firm offers retirement plan services to retirement plan sponsors and to individual participants in retirement plans. For a corporate sponsor of a retirement plan, our retirement plan services can include, but are not limited to, the following services:

Fiduciary Consulting Services

The Firm provides the following Fiduciary Retirement Plan Consulting Services:

- <u>Investment Policy Statement Preparation.</u> We will help you develop an investment policy statement. The investment policy statement establishes the investment policies and objectives for the Plan. You will have the ultimate responsibility and authority to establish such policies and objectives and to adopt and amend the investment policy statement.
- <u>Non-Discretionary Investment Advice</u>. We will provide you with general, non-discretionary investment advice regarding assets classes and investment options, consistent with your Plan's investment policy statement.
- <u>Investment Selection Services.</u> We will provide you with recommendations of investment options consistent with ERISA section 404(c).
- <u>Investment Due Diligence Review.</u> We will provide you with periodic due diligence reviews of the Plan's reports, investment options and recommendations.
- <u>Investment Monitoring.</u> We will assist in monitoring investment options by preparing periodic investment reports that document investment performance, consistency of fund management and conformation to the guidelines set forth in the investment policy statement and Advisors Pride will make recommendations to maintain or remove and replace investment options.
- <u>Default Investment Alternative Advice</u>. We will provide you with non-discretionary investment advice to assist you with the development of qualified default investment alternative(s) ("QDIA"), as defined in DOL Reg. Section 2550.404c-5(e)(4)(i), for participants who are automatically

enrolled in the Plan or who otherwise fail to make an investment election. You will retain the sole responsibility to provide all notices to participants required under ERISA section 404(c)(5).

• <u>Individualized Participant Advice</u>. Upon request, we will provide one-on-one advice to Plan participants regarding their individual situations.

For Fiduciary Consulting Services, all recommendations of investment options and portfolios will be submitted to you for your ultimate approval or rejection. For retirement plan Fiduciary Consulting Services, the retirement plan sponsor client or the plan participant who elects to implement any recommendations made by us is solely responsible for implementing all transactions.

Fiduciary Consulting Services are not management services, and the Firm does not serve as administrator or trustee of the plan. The Firm does not act as custodian for any client account or have access to client funds or securities (with the exception of, some accounts, having written authorization from the client to deduct our fees).

The Firm acknowledges that in performing the Fiduciary Consulting Services listed above that it is acting as a "fiduciary" as such term is defined under Section 3(21)(A)(ii) of Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA") for purposes of providing non-discretionary investment advice only. The Firm will act in a manner consistent with the requirements of a fiduciary under ERISA if, based upon the facts and circumstances, such services cause the Firm to be a fiduciary as a matter of law. However, in providing the Fiduciary Consulting Services, the Firm (a) has no responsibility and will not (i) exercise any discretionary authority or discretionary control respecting management of Client's retirement plan, (ii) exercise any authority or control respecting management or disposition of assets of Client's retirement plan, or (iii) have any discretionary authority or discretionary responsibility in the administration of Client's retirement plan or the interpretation of Client's retirement plan documents, (b) is not an "investment manager" as defined in Section 3(38) of ERISA and does not have the power to manage, acquire or dispose of any plan assets, and (c) is not the "Administrator" of Client's retirement plan as defined in ERISA.

Fiduciary Management Services

The Firm provides clients with the following Fiduciary Retirement Plan Management Services:

- <u>Discretionary Management Services.</u> We will provide you with continuous and ongoing supervision over the designated retirement plan assets. We will actively monitor the designated retirement plan assets and provide advice regarding buying, selling, reinvesting or holding securities, cash or other investments of the Plan. We have discretionary authority to make all decisions to buy, sell or hold securities, cash or other investments for the designated retirement plan assets in our sole discretion without first consulting with you. We also have the power and authority to carry out these decisions by giving instructions, on your behalf, to brokers and dealers and the qualified custodian(s) of the Plan for our management of the designated retirement plan assets.
- <u>Discretionary Investment Selection Services</u>. We will monitor the investment options of the Plan and add or remove investment options for the Plan. The Firm will have discretionary authority to make all decisions regarding the investment options that will be made available to Plan participants.

If you elect to utilize any of the Firm's Fiduciary Management Services, then we will be acting as an Investment Manager to the Plan, as defined by ERISA section 3(38), with respect to our Fiduciary Management Services, and we hereby acknowledge that it is a fiduciary with respect to its Fiduciary Management Services.

Non-Fiduciary Services

Although an investment adviser is considered a fiduciary under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and required to meet the fiduciary duties as defined by the Advisers Act, the services listed here as non-fiduciary should not be considered fiduciary services for the purposes of ERISA since Advisor is not acting as a fiduciary to the Plan as the term "fiduciary" is defined in Section 3(21)(A)(ii) of ERISA. The exact suite of services provided to a client will be listed and detailed in the Qualified Retirement Plan Advisory Services Agreement.

The Firm provides clients with the following Non-Fiduciary Retirement Plan Consulting Services:

- <u>Participant Education.</u> We will provide education services to Plan participants about general investment principles and the investment alternatives available under the Plan. Our assistance in participant investment education will be consistent with and within the scope of DOL Interpretive Bulletin 96-1. Education presentations will not take into account the individual circumstances of each participant and individual recommendations will not be provided unless otherwise agreed upon. Plan participants are responsible for implementing transactions in their own accounts.
- <u>Participant Enrollment.</u> We will assist you with group enrollment meetings designed to increase retirement plan participation among employees and investment and financial understanding by the employees.
- <u>Qualified Plan Development.</u> We will assist you with the establishment of a qualified plan by working with you and a selected Third Party Administrator. If you have not already selected a Third Party Administrator, we will recommend a Third Party Administator for your review. There is common ownership between Advisors' Pride, Inc. and Plan Design Partners, Inc.
- <u>Fiduciary File Set-up.</u> We will help you establish a "fiduciary file" for the Plan which contains trust documents, custodial/brokerage statements, investment performance reports, services agreements with investment management vendors, the investment policy statement, investment committee minutes, asset allocation/asset liability studies, due diligence fields on funds/money managers and monitoring procedures for funds and/or money managers.
- <u>Benchmarking</u>. We will provide you benchmarking services and will provide analysis concerning the operations of the Plan.

We can also meet with individual participants to discuss their specific investment risk tolerance, investment time frame and investment selections.

Securities and other types of investments all bear different types and levels of risk. Those risks are typically discussed with clients in defining the investment policies and objectives that will guide investment decisions for their qualified plan accounts. Upon request, as part of our retirement plan services, we can discuss those investments and investment strategies that we believe may tend to reduce these risks for a particular client's circumstances and plan participants.

Clients and plan participants must realize that obtaining higher rates of return on investments entails accepting higher levels of risk. Based upon discussions with the client, we will attempt to identify the

balance of risks and rewards that is appropriate and comfortable for the client and other employees. It is still the clients' responsibility to ask questions if the client does not fully understand the risks associated with any investment. All plan participants are strongly encouraged to read prospectuses, when applicable, and ask questions prior to investing.

We strive to render our best judgment for clients. Still, the Firm cannot assure that investments will be profitable or assure that no losses will occur in their portfolios. Past performance is an important consideration with respect to any investment or investment advisor, but it is not necessarily an accurate predictor of future performance.

The Firm will disclose, to the extent required by ERISA Regulation Section 2550.408b-2(c), to you any change to the information that we are required to disclose under ERISA Regulation Section 2550.408b-2(c)(1)(iv) as soon as practicable, but no later than sixty (60) days from the date on which we are informed of the change (unless such disclosure is precluded due to extraordinary circumstances beyond our control, in which case the information will be disclose as soon as practicable).

In accordance with ERISA Regulation Section 2550.408b-2(c)(vi)(A), we will disclose within thirty (30) days following receipt of a written request from the responsible plan fiduciary or Plan Administrator (unless such disclose is precluded due to extraordinary circumstances beyond our control, in which case the information will be disclosed as soon as practicable) all information related to the Qualified Retirement Plan Agreement and any compensation or fees received in connection with the Agreement that is required for the Plan to comply with the reporting and disclosure requirements of Title 1 of ERISA and the regulations, forms and schedules issued thereunder.

If we make an unintentional error or omission in disclosing the information required under ERISA Regulation Section 2550.408b-2(c)(1)(iv) or (vi), we will disclose to you the correct information as soon as practicable, but no later than thirty (30) days from the date on which we learns of such error or omission

Newsletters

The Firm occasionally prepares general, educational and informational newsletters. Newsletters are always offered on an impersonal basis and do not focus on the needs of a specific individual.

Educational Seminars/Workshops

The Firm may occasionally provide seminars/workshops in areas such as financial planning, retirement planning, estate planning, college planning and charitable planning. Seminars/ workshops are always offered on an impersonal basis and do not focus on the individual needs of participants.

Limits Advice to Certain Types of Investments

The Firm provides investment advice on the following types of investments:

- Mutual Funds
- Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)
- Exchange-listed Securities
- Securities Traded Over-the-Counter
- Corporate Debt Securities
- Municipal Securities

• US Government Securities

Although we generally provide advice only on the products previously listed, we reserve the right to offer advice on any investment product that may be suitable for each client's specific circumstances, needs, goals and objectives.

It is not our typical investment strategy to attempt to time the market, but we may increase cash holdings modestly as deemed appropriate based on your risk tolerance and our expectations of market behavior. We may modify our investment strategy to accommodate special situations such as low basis stock, stock options, legacy holdings, inheritances, closely held businesses, collectibles, or special tax situations.

(Please refer to Item 8 – Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss for more information.)

Tailor Advisory Services to Individual Needs of Clients

The Firm's advisory services are always provided based on your individual needs. This means, for example, that when we provide asset management services, you are given the ability to impose restrictions on the accounts we manage for you, including specific investment selections and sectors. We work with you on a one-on-one basis through interviews and questionnaires to determine your investment objectives and suitability information. Our financial planning and consulting services are always provided based on your individual needs. When providing financial planning and consulting services, we work with you on a one-on-one basis through interviews and questionnaires to determine your investment objectives and suitability information.

We will not enter into an investment adviser relationship with a prospective client whose investment objectives may be considered incompatible with our investment philosophy or strategies or where the prospective client seeks to impose unduly restrictive investment guidelines.

Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management

Performance-based fees are defined as fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets held in a client's account. Advisors' Pride **does not charge or accept performance-based fees**.

Methods of Analysis

The Firm may use any of the following methods of analysis in formulating investment advice at the discretion of the Advisor:

<u>Charting</u> - This is a set of techniques used in technical analysis in which charts are used to plot price movements, volume, settlement prices, open interest, and other indicators, in order to anticipate future price movements. Users of these techniques, called chartists, believe that past trends in these indicators can be used to extrapolate future trends.

Charting is likely the most subjective analysis of all investment methods since it relies on proper interpretation of chart patterns. The risk of reliance upon chart patterns is that the next day's data can always negate the conclusions reached from prior days' patterns. Also, reliance upon chart

patterns bears the risk of a certain pattern being negated by a larger, more encompassing pattern that has not shown itself yet.

<u>Cyclical</u> – This method analyzes the investments sensitive to business cycles and whose performance is strongly tied to the overall economy. For example, cyclical companies tend to make products or provide services that are in lower demand during downturns in the economy and in higher demand during upswings. Examples include the automobile, steel, and housing industries. The stock price of a cyclical company will often rise just before an economic upturn begins, and fall just before a downturn begins. Investors in cyclical stocks try to make the largest gains by buying the stock at the bottom of a business cycle, just before a turnaround begins.

While most economists and investors agree that there are cycles in the economy that need to be respected, the duration of such cycles is generally unknown. An investment decision to buy at the bottom of a business cycle may actually turn out to be a trade that occurs before or after the bottom of the cycle. If done before the bottom, then downside price action can result prior to any gains. If done after the bottom, then some upside price action may be missed. Similarly, a sell decision meant to occur at the top of a cycle may result in missed opportunity or unrealized losses.

<u>Fundamental</u> – This is a method of evaluating a security by attempting to measure its intrinsic value by examining related economic, financial and other qualitative and quantitative factors. Fundamental analysts attempt to study everything that can affect the security's value, including macroeconomic factors (like the overall economy and industry conditions) and individually specific factors (like the financial condition and management of a company). The end goal of performing fundamental analysis is to produce a value that an investor can compare with the security's current price in hopes of figuring out what sort of position to take with that security (underpriced = buy, overpriced = sell or short). Fundamental analysis is considered to be the opposite of technical analysis. Fundamental analysis is about using real data to evaluate a security's value. Although most analysts use fundamental analysis to value stocks, this method of valuation can be used for just about any type of security.

The risk associated with fundamental analysis is that it is somewhat subjective. While a quantitative approach is possible, fundamental analysis usually entails a qualitative assessment of how market forces interact with one another in their impact on the investment in question. It is possible for those market forces to point in different directions, thus necessitating an interpretation of which forces will be dominant. This interpretation may be wrong and could therefore lead to an unfavorable investment decision.

<u>Technical</u> – This is a method of evaluating securities by analyzing statistics generated by market activity, such as past prices and volume. Technical analysts do not attempt to measure a security's intrinsic value, but instead use charts and other tools to identify patterns that can suggest future activity. Technical analysts believe that the historical performance of stocks and markets are indications of future performance.

Technical analysis is even more subjective than fundamental analysis in that it relies on proper interpretation of a given security's price and trading volume data. A decision might be made based on a historical move in a certain direction that was accompanied by heavy volume; however, that heavy volume may only be heavy relative to past volume for the security in question, but not compared to the future trading volume. Therefore, there is the risk of a trading

decision being made incorrectly, since future trading volume is an unknown. Technical analysis is also done through observation of various market sentiment readings, many of which are quantitative. Market sentiment gauges the relative degree of bullishness and bearishness in a given security, and a contrarian investor utilizes such sentiment advantageously. When most traders are bullish, then there are very few traders left in a position to buy the security in question, so it becomes advantageous to sell it ahead of the crowd. When most traders are bearish, then there are very few traders left in a position of such sentiment technical measures is that a very bullish reading can always become more bullish, resulting in lost opportunity if the money manager chooses to act upon the bullish signal by selling out of a position. The reverse is also true in that a bearish reading of sentiment can always become more bearish, which may result in a premature purchase of a security.

There are risks involved in using any analysis method.

To conduct analysis, we may gather information from financial newspapers and magazines, inspection of corporate activities, research materials prepared by others, corporate rating services, timing services, annual reports, prospectuses and filings with the SEC, and company press releases.

Investment Strategies

The Firm may use a combination of the following investment strategies when managing client assets and/or providing investment advice:

Long term purchases. Investments held at least a year.

Short term purchases. Investments sold within a year.

<u>Frequent trading.</u> This strategy refers to the practice of selling investments within 30 days of purchase.

<u>Tactical asset allocation</u>. Allows for a range of percentages in each asset class (such as Stocks = 40-50%). The ranges establish minimum and maximum acceptable percentages that permit the investor to take advantage of market conditions within these parameters. Thus, a minor form of market timing is possible, since the investor can move to the higher end of the range when stocks are expected to do better and to the lower end when the economic outlook is bleak.

<u>Strategic asset allocation.</u> Calls for setting target allocations and then periodically rebalancing the portfolio back to those targets as investment returns skew the original asset allocation percentages. The concept is akin to a "buy and hold" strategy, rather than an active trading approach. Of course, the strategic asset allocation targets may change over time as the client's goals and needs change and as the time horizon for major events such as retirement and college funding grow shorter.

Primarily Recommend One Type of Security

We do not primarily recommend one type of security to clients. Instead, we recommend any product that may by itself or in a diversified portfolio of investments be suitable for each client relative to that client's specific circumstances and needs.

Risk of Loss

Past performance is not indicative of future results. Therefore, you should never assume that future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy will be profitable. Investing in securities (including stocks, mutual funds, and bonds, etc.) involves risk of loss. Further, depending on the different types of investments there may be varying degrees of risk. You should be prepared to bear investment loss including loss of original principal.

Because of the inherent risk of loss associated with investing, our firm is unable to represent, guarantee, or even imply that our services and methods of analysis can or will predict future results, successfully identify market tops or bottoms, or insulate you from losses due to market corrections or declines. There are certain additional risks associated with investing in securities through our investment management program, as described below:

- <u>Market Risk</u> Either the stock market as a whole, or the value of an individual company, goes down resulting in a decrease in the value of client investments. This is also referred to as systemic risk.
- Equity (stock) market risk Common stocks are susceptible to general stock market fluctuations and to volatile increases and decreases in value as market confidence in and perceptions of their issuers change. If you held common stock, or common stock equivalents, of any given issuer, you would generally be exposed to greater risk than if you held preferred stocks and debt obligations of the issuer.
- <u>Company Risk</u>. When investing in stock positions, there is always a certain level of company or industry specific risk that is inherent in each investment. This is also referred to as unsystematic risk and can be reduced through appropriate diversification. There is the risk that the company will perform poorly or have its value reduced based on factors specific to the company or its industry. For example, if a company's employees go on strike or the company receives unfavorable media attention for its actions, the value of the company may be reduced.
- <u>Fixed Income Risk</u>. When investing in bonds, there is the risk that the issuer will default on the bond and be unable to make payments. Further, individuals who depend on set amounts of periodically paid income face the risk that inflation will erode their spending power. Fixed-income investors receive set, regular payments that face the same inflation risk.
- <u>Options Risk</u>. Options on securities may be subject to greater fluctuations in value than an investment in the underlying securities. Purchasing and writing put and call options are highly specialized activities and entail greater than ordinary investment risks.
- <u>ETF and Mutual Fund Risk</u> When investing in an ETF or mutual fund, you will bear additional expenses based on your pro rata share of the ETF's or mutual fund's operating expenses, including the potential duplication of management fees. The risk of owning an

ETF or mutual fund generally reflects the risks of owning the underlying securities the ETF or mutual fund holds. You will also incur brokerage costs when purchasing ETFs.

 <u>Management Risk</u> – Your investment with our firm varies with the success and failure of our investment strategies, research, analysis and determination of portfolio securities. If our investment strategies do not produce the expected returns, the value of the investment will decrease.

Voting Client Securities

The Firm does not vote proxies on behalf of Clients. We have determined that taking on the responsibilities for voting client securities does not add enough value to the services provided to you to justify the additional compliance and regulatory costs associated with voting client securities. Therefore, it is your responsibility to vote all proxies for securities held in Account.

You will receive proxies directly from the qualified custodian or transfer agent; we will not provide you with the proxies. You are encouraged to read through the information provided with the proxy-voting documents and make a determination based on the information provided.

With respect to assets managed by a third-party money manager, we will not vote the proxies associated with these assets. You will need to refer to each third-party money manager's disclosure brochure to determine whether the third-party money manager will vote proxies on your behalf. You may request a complete copy of third-party money manager's proxy voting policies and procedures as well as information on how your proxies were voted by contacting the third-party money manager or by contacting us at the address or phone number indicated on Page 1 of this disclosure document.

Item 7 – Client Information Provided to Portfolio Managers

Only Investment Adviser Representatives of Advisors' Pride serve as portfolio managers for our Asset Management Services Program. Our associated Investment Adviser Representatives are responsible for gathering all information provided by you. We will interview and work with you to gather all information needed relative to your investment objectives and needs in order to provide management services through our Asset Management Services Program. You are responsible for promptly contacting your Investment Adviser Representative to notify us of any changes to your financial situation that will impact or materially influence the way we manage your accounts. Since we do not use any outside portfolio managers, we do not share your information with any outside portfolio managers.

Item 8 - Client Contact with Portfolio Managers

Only Investment Adviser Representatives of Advisors' Pride serve as portfolio managers for our Asset Management Services Program. There are no restrictions placed on your ability to contact and consult with their portfolio managers. It is the policy of Advisors' Pride to provide for open communications between the Investment Adviser Representatives and clients. You are encouraged to contact your Investment Adviser Representative whenever you have questions about the management of your account(s).

Item 9 - Additional Information

Disciplinary Information

We have no legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of our business or the integrity of our management.

Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

The Firm is **not** and does **not** have a related person that is a broker/dealer, municipal securities dealer, government securities dealer or broker, an investment company or other pooled investment vehicle (including a mutual fund, closed-end investment company, unit investment trust, private investment company or "hedge fund," and offshore fund), another investment adviser or financial planner, a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, or commodity trading advisor, a banking or thrift institution, an accountant or accounting firm, a lawyer or law firm, a pension consultant, a real estate broker or dealer, and a sponsor or syndicator of limited partnerships.

We are an independent registered investment registered adviser and only provide investment advisory services. We are not engaged in any other business activities and offer no other services except those described in this Disclosure Brochure. However, while we do not sell products or services other than investment advice, our representatives may sell other products or provide services outside of their role as investment adviser representatives with us.

Registered Representative of a Broker-Dealer

Our representatives are also registered representatives of LPL Financial, LLC, a securities broker-dealer. You may work with your investment adviser representative in his or her separate capacity as a registered representative of LPL Financial, LLC. When acting in his or her separate capacity as a registered representative, your investment adviser representative may sell, for commissions, general securities products such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, and variable annuity and variable life products to you. As such, your investment adviser representative may suggest that you implement investment advice by purchasing securities products through a commission-based brokerage account in addition to or in lieu of a fee-based investment-advisory account. This receipt of commissions creates an incentive to recommend those products for which your investment adviser representative will receive a commission in his or her separate capacity as a registered representative of a securities broker-dealer. Consequently, the objectivity of the advice rendered to you could be biased.

Advisors' Pride and our Investment Advisor Representatives have received loans from LPL Financial, LLC. to assist Advisors Pride with transitioning its investment adviser representatives and their client accounts from their former broker-dealer to LPL. Although the loan was intended to assist Advisors Pride and its representatives with transition costs, to the extent that the amount of the loan exceeds the costs of transition, loan recipients are not required to refund the unused portion to LPL and may use the funds for other purposes. The loan may be forgiven by LPL based upon the amount of commissions and investment advisory fees charged by Advisors Pride while affiliated with LPL during the term of the loan.

The receipt of forgivable loans from LPL presents a conflict of interest in that representatives receiving loans had a financial incentive to maintain a relationship with LPL and continue recommending LPL to clients until all loans are forgiven. To the extent that Advisors Pride or its representatives recommend a client use LPL for such services, it is because Advisors Pride and its

representatives believe that it is in the client's best interest to do so based on the quality and pricing of the execution, benefits of an integrated platform for brokerage and advisory accounts, and other services provided by LPL and its affiliates. To further control for this conflict of interest, clients are not required to use LPL and can use another Advisors Pride approved brokerage platform. Advisors Pride has systems in place to review representative managed accounts for suitability and best execution practices over the course of the advisory relationship.

You are under no obligation to use the services of our representatives in this separate capacity or to use LPL Financial, LLC and can select any broker/dealer you wish to implement securities transactions. If you select our representatives to implement securities transactions in their separate capacity as registered representatives, they must use LPL Financial, LLC. Prior to effecting any such transactions, you are required to enter into a new account agreement with LPL Financial, LLC. The commissions charged by LPL Financial, LLC may be higher or lower than those charged by other broker/dealers. In addition, the registered representatives may also receive additional ongoing 12b-1 fees for mutual fund purchases from the mutual fund company during the period that you maintain the mutual fund investment.

Third-Party Money Managers

The Firm has developed several programs, previously described in *Item 5* of this disclosure brochure, designed to allow us to recommend and select third-party money managers for you. Once you select the third-party money manager to manage all or a portion of your assets, the third-party money manager will pay us a portion of the fees you are charged. Please refer to *Items 4 and 5* for full details regarding the programs, fees, conflicts of interest and materials arrangements when we select other investment advisers.

Insurance Agent

You may work with your investment adviser representative in his or her separate capacity as an insurance agent. When acting in his or her separate capacity as an insurance agent, the investment adviser representative may sell, for commissions, general disability insurance, life insurance, annuities, and other insurance products to you. As such, your investment adviser representative in his or her separate capacity as an insurance agent, may suggest that you implement recommendations of the Firm by purchasing disability insurance, life insurance, annuities, or other insurance products. This receipt of commissions creates an incentive for the representative to recommend those products for which your investment adviser representative will receive a commission in his or her separate capacity as an insurance agent. Consequently, the advice rendered to you could be biased. You are under no obligation to implement any insurance or annuity transaction through your investment adviser representative.

Interest in Client Transactions and Code of Ethics

According to the *Investment Advisers Act of 1940*, an investment adviser is considered a fiduciary and has a fiduciary duty to all clients. The Firm has established a Code of Ethics to comply with the requirements of Section 204(A)-1 of the *Investment Advisers Act of 1940* that reflects its fiduciary obligations and those of its supervised persons. The Code of Ethics also requires compliance with federal securities laws. The Code of Ethics covers all individuals that are classified as "supervised persons". All employees, officers, directors and investment adviser representatives are classified as supervised persons. We require our supervised persons to consistently act in your best interest in all advisory activities. We impose certain requirements on our affiliates and supervised persons to ensure

that they meet the firm's fiduciary responsibilities to you. The standard of conduct required is higher than ordinarily required and encountered in commercial business.

This section is intended to provide a summary description of the Code of Ethics of the Firm. If you wish to review the Code of Ethics in its entirety, you should send us a written request and upon receipt of your request, we will promptly provide a copy of the Code of Ethics to you.

Affiliate and Employee Personal Securities Transactions Disclosure

The Firm or associated persons of the firm may buy or sell for their personal accounts, investment products identical to those recommended to clients. This creates a conflict of interest. It is the express policy of the Firm that all persons associated in any manner with our firm must place clients' interests ahead of their own when implementing personal investments. The Firm and its associated persons will not buy or sell securities for their personal account(s) where their decision is derived, in whole or in part, by information obtained as a result of employment or association with our firm unless the information is also available to the investing public upon reasonable inquiry.

We are now and will continue to be in compliance with applicable state and federal rules and regulations. To prevent conflicts of interest, we have developed written supervisory procedures that include personal investment and trading policies for our representatives, employees and their immediate family members (collectively, associated persons):

- Associated persons cannot prefer their own interests to that of the client.
- Associated persons cannot purchase or sell any security for their personal accounts prior to implementing transactions for client accounts.
- Associated persons cannot buy or sell securities for their personal accounts when those decisions are based on information obtained as a result of their employment, unless that information is also available to the investing public upon reasonable inquiry.
- Associated persons are prohibited from purchasing or selling securities of companies in which any client is deemed an "insider".
- Associated persons are discouraged from conducting frequent personal trading.
- Associated persons are generally prohibited from serving as board members of publicly traded companies unless an exception has been granted to the Chief Compliance Officer of the Firm.

Any associated person not observing our policies is subject to sanctions up to and including termination.

Account Reviews

Managed accounts are reviewed at least quarterly. While the calendar is the main triggering factor, reviews can also be conducted at your request. Account reviews will include investment strategy and objectives review and making a change if strategy and objectives have changed. Reviews are conducted by your investment advisor representative, with reviews performed in accordance with your investment goals and objectives.

Accounts established and maintained with other third-party money managers are reviewed at least quarterly, usually when statements and/or reports are received from the money manager.

Our financial planning services terminate upon the presentation of the written plan. Our financial planning and consulting services do not include monitoring the investments of your account(s), and therefore, there is no ongoing review of your account(s) under such services.

Statements and Reports

For our asset management services, you are provided with transaction confirmation notices and regular quarterly account statements directly from the qualified custodian.

Whether reports by an outside money manager are provided to you will depend upon the outside money manager.

Financial planning clients do not receive any report other than the written plan originally contracted for and provided by us.

You are encouraged to always compare any reports or statements provided by us, a sub-adviser or thirdparty money manager against the account statements delivered from the qualified custodian. When you have questions about your account statement, you should contact our firm and the qualified custodian preparing the statement.

Client Referrals

The Firm may enter into agreements with various referring parties to refer clients to us. If a referred client enters into an investment advisory agreement with us, a cash referral fee is paid to the referring party, which is based upon a percentage of the client advisory fees that are generated. The referral agreements between any referring party and us will not result in any charges to clients in addition to the normal level of advisory fees charged.

When a client is referred to us by a referring party, the referring party provides the client with a copy of our Disclosure Brochure as required by the *Investment Advisers Act of 1940*. The client also will complete a Solicitor's Disclosure Statement document. If the referring party is an unaffiliated registered investment adviser firm, then the client will also receive a copy of the referring party's Form ADV Part 2 Disclosure Brochure. If a referred client enters into an investment advisory agreement with us, a referral fee is paid to the referring party. The referral relationship will not result in clients being charged any fees over and above the normal advisory fees charged for the advisory services provided.

The referral agreements between us and referring parties are in compliance with state and federal securities rules regarding paid solicitor arrangements.

Financial Information

Advisors' Pride does not require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance. Therefore, we are not required to include a balance sheet for the most recent fiscal year. We are not subject to a financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to clients. Finally, Advisors' Pride has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time.

Advisors' Pride is participating in the Paycheck Protection Plan ("PPP") loan program through the U.S. Small Business Administration in conjunction with the relief afforded from the CARES Act during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The PPP loan program is designed to provide a direct financial incentive for a small business to keep its employees on the payroll. In order to receive a PPP loan, the small business must certify that the current economic uncertainty makes this PPP loan request necessary to support its ongoing operations. For additional details about the PPP loan program, please visit <u>https://www.sba.gov/funding-</u>

programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program and https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/PPP--Fact-Sheet.pdf .

On April,14th, 2020, Advisors' Pride received a PPP loan in the amount of \$220,000.00. This PPP loan has a 1% fixed interest rate and must be repaid within 2 years (but the initial payments are deferred for the first 6 months). The PPP loan did not require any collateral nor a personal guarantee. The U.S. Small Business Administration will forgive Advisors' Pride's repayment of such PPP loan (or a portion of the PPP loan depending upon the circumstances) if all employees are kept on the payroll for eight weeks and the proceeds are used for payroll expenses, rent, mortgage interest, or utilities.

Item 10 - Customer Privacy Policy Notice

In November of 1999, Congress enacted the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA). The GLBA requires certain financial institutions, such as investment advisor firms, to protect the privacy of client information. In situations where a financial institution does disclose client information to nonaffiliated third parties, other than permitted or required by law, clients must be given the opportunity to opt out or prevent such disclosure. The Firm does not share or disclose client information to nonaffiliated third parties except as permitted or required by law.

The Firm is committed to safeguarding the confidential information of its clients. We hold all personal information provided by clients in the strictest confidence and it is our objective to protect the privacy of all clients. Except as permitted or required by law, we do not share confidential information about clients with nonaffiliated parties. In the event that there were to be a change in this policy, the Firm will provide clients with written notice and clients will be provided an opportunity to direct us as to whether such disclosure is permissible.

To conduct regular business, we may collect personal information from sources such as:

- Information reported by the client on applications or other forms the client provides to us
- Information about the client's transactions implemented by us or others
- Information developed as part of financial plans, analyses or investment advisory services

To administer, manage, service, and provide related services for client accounts, it is necessary for us to provide access to client information within the firm and to nonaffiliated companies with whom we have entered into agreements with. To provide the utmost service, we may disclose the information below regarding clients and former clients as necessary, to companies to perform certain services on our behalf.

- Information we receive from the client on applications (name, social security number, address, assets, etc.)
- Information about the client's transactions with us or others (account information, payment history, parties to transactions, etc.)
- Information concerning investment advisory account transactions
- Information about a client's financial products and services transaction with the Firm

Since we share nonpublic information solely to service client accounts, we do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about our clients or former clients to anyone, except as permitted by law. However,

we may also provide client information outside of the firm as required by law, such as to government entities, consumer reporting agencies or other third parties in response to subpoenas. In the event that the Firm has a change to its client privacy policy that would allow it to disclose non-public information not covered under applicable law, we will allow its clients the opportunity to opt out of such disclosure.