

# CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP SUMMARY March 27, 2024

### **Item 1- Introduction**

**Virtus Fund Advisers, LLC ("VFA")** is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") as an investment advisor and we provide investment advisory services rather than brokerage services. Brokerage and investment advisory services and fees differ and it is important for you to understand the differences. There are free and simple tools available to research firms and financial professionals at <a href="www.investor.gov/CRS">www.investor.gov/CRS</a> which also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisers and investing.

# **Item 2- Relationship and Services**

## What investment services and advice can you provide me?

VFA offers discretionary and nondiscretionary investment advisory services to retail clients (including high net worth individuals. We provide discretionary and nondiscretionary investment management services to Wrap Fee Programs administered by unaffiliated financial services firms ("Sponsors"). We engage in no business activities other than fee-based investment advisory, which is limited to investment advice with respect to equity and fixed income securities. VFA utilizes its affiliated and unaffiliated subadvisors in managing the vast majority of its assets under management. Our accounts are managed on a discretionary basis (unless otherwise agreed upon with you). Your account is managed in accordance with your investment management agreement which remains in place until you or we terminate the relationship, and we regularly monitor your account. You must meet certain investment or fee minimums, which are negotiable, to establish an account with us. Typically, the Sponsor is responsible for determining whether a VFA strategy is suitable for a Wrap Fee Program investor. VFA offers investment advisory services to non-retail clients including pooled vehicles, institutional clients and other entities. VFA provides other investment management services, including asset allocation services, at a client's request. Additional information about our advisory services is located in Items 4 and 7 of our Firm Brochure.

#### **Questions to Ask Us:**

- Given my financial situation, should I choose an investment advisory service? Why or why not?
- How will you choose investments to recommend tome?
- What is your relevant experience, including your licenses, education and other qualifications? What do these qualifications mean?

# <u>Item 3- Fees, Costs, Conflicts, and Standard of Conduct</u> What fees will I pay?

**Principal Fees and Costs:** You will pay an on-going, mutually agreed upon asset-based fee, usually at the end of each quarter (as stated in your agreement), based on a percentage of the value of the cash and investments in your advisory account. The more assets there are in your account, the more you will pay us in fees, and the firm may therefore have an incentive to encourage you to increase the assets in your account. Our fees vary and are negotiable. We receive fees for providing advisory services under Wrap Fee Program arrangements typically negotiated with and paid by Sponsors.

Other Fees and Costs: You are responsible for all custodial and securities broker-dealer transaction-based fees and other related costs and expenses charged by the custodian and executing broker-dealers. Our asset-based fee is separate and distinct from these fees. Mutual funds, Exchange Traded Funds and alternative investments bear their own operating expenses, including compensation paid to their advisers and other service providers as well as other expenses and fees. If a client has chosen an asset allocation strategy using mutual funds or exchange traded funds, an account level asset allocation fee is charged in addition to the management fees the funds pay to the adviser for investment management of the funds. These expenses and fees will reduce the value of your account over time.

**Additional Information:** You will pay fees and costs whether you make or lose money on your investments. Fees and costs will reduce any amount of money you make on your investments over time. Please make sure you understand what fees and costs you are paying. Additional information about our fees is located in Item 5 of our Firm Brochure.

#### **Questions to Ask Us:**

Help me understand how these fees and costs will affect my investments. If I give you \$10,000 to invest, how much will go to fees and costs and how much will be invested for me?

# What are your legal obligations to me when acting as my investment adviser? How else does your firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?

When we act as your investment adviser, we have to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours. At the same time, the way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests. You should understand and ask us about these conflicts because they can affect the investment advice we provide you. Here are some examples to help you understand what this means:

**Examples of Potential Conflicts:** The firm's revenue is derived from advisory fees we collect from our clients' accounts. The more assets there are in your advisory account, the more you pay in fees, and the firm may therefore have an incentive to encourage you to increase the assets in your account. Another example is we (or our affiliates) will earn higher fees or compensation when your assets are invested in a product that we (or our affiliates) advise, subadvise, manage, or sponsor, such as the Virtus Mutual Funds.

Additional information about our conflicts of interest can be found in Items 11 and 12 of our Firm Brochure.

#### **Questions to Ask Us:**

How might your conflicts of interest affect me, and how will you address them?

# How do your financial professionals make money?

Our financial professionals receive a base salary and are eligible for an annual bonus. This bonus structure and amount varies by position but is generally designed to reward individuals for their relative investment performance (measured against a peer group and/or benchmark) and the revenue the firm receives based on the growth of assets under management.

# **Item 4- Disciplinary History**

# Do you or your financial professionals have legal or disciplinary history?

No, neither our firm nor our financial professionals have any legal or disciplinary history to disclose. Visit <a href="Investor.gov/CRS">Investor.gov/CRS</a> for a free and simple search tool to research our firm and our financial professionals.

#### **Questions to Ask Us:**

As a financial professional, do you have any disciplinary history? For what type of conduct?

#### **Item 5- Additional Information**

You can find additional information about our firm's investment advisory services on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a> by clicking on the FIRM tab and then searching CRD #107346. If you would like additional, up-to-date information or a copy of this disclosure, please call us at 1800-248-7971.

#### **Questions to Ask Us:**

- Who is my primary contact person?
- Is he or she a representative of an investment adviser or a broker-dealer?
- Who can I talk to if I have concerns about how this person is treating me?