## Shaker Financial Services, LLC SEC Form CRS – Customer Relationship Summary March 2024

#### Introduction

Shaker Financial Services, LLC (SFS) is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as an investment adviser. Brokerage and investment advisory services and fees differ, and it is important for you to understand these differences. Free and simple tools are available to research firms and financial professionals at Investor.gov/CRS, which also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisers, and investing.

## Relationships and Services

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

We offer investment advisory services to retail investors, primarily through Separately Managed Accounts. We are a boutique investment advisory firm specializing in the trading of Closed-End Funds (CEFs). Through quantitative strategies such as our core "Discount Capture" strategy, we strive to provide additional return upon globally diversified portfolios constructed for individual clients.

## Monitoring

We utilize various analytics and metrics to determine which investments are most suitable for our clients' portfolios. As part of our active management, we regularly monitor the CEFs in which we invest on a real-time basis throughout each trading day. Additionally, each day we prepare analytics on the composition of each client account in relation to that account's individual investment targets.

#### **Investment Authority**

We require that each of our clients grant us ongoing discretionary authority to manage their accounts, which means that we can buy and sell investments on behalf of our clients without seeking permission on a trade by trade basis.

#### **Limited Investment Offering**

While we do not limit investments to propriety products, we almost exclusively invest in CEFs. We also occasionally invest in other diversified products such as exchange traded funds, but generally refrain from accepting individual stock risk in client accounts.

## **Account Minimums and Other Requirements**

Our minimum account size is generally \$100,000, but this amount is negotiable upon extenuating circumstances. We discuss with clients the increased benefits of diversification and certain corporate action opportunities to accounts of larger sizes.

**Additional information** about our services can be found on Part 2A of our Form ADV, which is available at <a href="https://www.shakerfinancial.com">www.shakerfinancial.com</a>.

Conversation Starters. Ask your financial professional—

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

## Fees, Costs, Conflicts, and Standard of Conduct

## What fees will I pay?

We charge clients an investment management fee that is based on the value of each client's assets under management (AUM). The current investment management fee schedule for the composite is 1.8% for clients whose AUM is less than \$500,000, 1.6% for clients whose AUM is more than \$500,000 but less than \$1 million, 1.3% for clients whose AUM is more than \$1 million but less than \$3 million, 1.15% for clients whose AUM is more than \$5 million, and 1.0% for clients whose AUM is more than \$5 million. Fees are charged quarterly in advance, based on account values at the start of each quarter. Our firm's compensation from fees increases as client accounts grow, so we have an incentive to encourage our clients to increase the amount of assets in the accounts that are under our management. Additional information about our firm's fees are included in Item 5 of Part 2A of Form ADV, available at www.shakerfinancial.com.

In addition to our investment management fee, while our clients do not bear transaction (commission) fees when we buy or sell investments, our clients may bear other reorganization fees when we participate in events such as tender offers or rights offerings. Our firm selects and purchases CEFs, mutual funds and exchange traded funds for a portion of clients' portfolios. Such investment vehicles incur their own management, transaction, and administrative fees and expenses, which are not charged to our clients as those fees and expenses are indirectly borne by the investors in those vehicles.

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.

Conversation Starter. Ask your financial professional—

 Help me understand how these fees and costs might 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?

## Fees, Costs, Conflicts, and Standard of Conduct

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 a "fiduciary duty" which means we have to act in your best interest and put your interest ahead of ours. We do not benefit from proprietary products, third-party payments, revenue sharing or principal trading. 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. Below are some examples to help you understand what this means.

- We manage accounts for multiple clients, and we allocate our time based on each client's needs.
  Our firm earns more as we expand our client base and we seek to balance our staffing with the individualized needs of each client.
- Our firm earns more as we grow our assets under management. We may therefore have an incentive to encourage clients to increase the assets in their account.

Conversation Starter. Ask your financial professional—

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

**Additional information** about conflicts of interest between us and our clients can be found on Part 2A of our Form ADV, which is available at <a href="https://www.shakerfinancial.com">www.shakerfinancial.com</a>.

## How do your financial professionals make money?

Our financial professionals receive a salary and may receive a discretionary bonus. Compensation is based upon quality of work and is unrelated to revenue generated or amounts of assets acquired by the employee.

## **Disciplinary History**

# Do you or your financial professionals have legal or disciplinary history? Yes $\square$ No $\boxtimes$

Visit Investor.gov/CRS for a free and simple search tool to research us and our financial professionals. *Conversation Starter.* Ask your financial professional—

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

## Additional Information

**Additional information about our services** can be found at <a href="www.shakerfinancial.com">www.shakerfinancial.com</a>. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure or would like to request a copy of this relationship summary, please contact our Client Relations Manager, Kelly Fournier at 410-224-0572.

**Conversation Starter.** Ask your financial professional—

• 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?