

# Harfst and Associates, Inc. March 26, 2024

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### **FORM CRS**

Harfst and Associates, Inc. is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an investment adviser and, as such, we provide advisory services rather than brokerage services. Brokerage and investment advisory services and fees differ and it is important for you, our client, to understand the differences. Additionally, free and simple tools are available to research firms and financial professionals at <a href="Investor.gov/CRS">Investor.gov/CRS</a>, which also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisers, and investing. This document is a summary of the services and fees we offer to "retail" investors, which are natural persons who seek or receive services primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.

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

We offer the following investment advisory services to retail investors: Financial Planning and Consulting Services, Wealth Management Services, Institutional Management Services, Pension Consulting and Pension Investment Management Services, and Selection of Other Advisers.

<u>Account Monitoring:</u> If you open an investment account with our firm, as part of our standard service we will monitor your investments on an ongoing basis. We will provide an account review at least annually and upon your request.

<u>Investment Authority:</u> We manage investment accounts on a <u>discretionary</u> basis whereby <u>we will decide</u> which investments to buy or sell for your account. We have discretion to select, retain or replace third-party managers to manage your accounts. You may limit our discretionary authority (for example, limiting the types of securities that can be purchased or sold for your account) by providing our firm with your restrictions and guidelines in writing. We also offer <u>non-discretionary</u> investment management services whereby we will provide advice, but <u>you will ultimately decide</u> which investments to buy and sell for your account. You have an unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice provided by our firm on a non-discretionary basis.

**Investment Offerings:** We offer advice on various types of investments or products including, but not limited to: equity securities, corporate debt securities (other than commercial paper), commercial paper, certificates of deposit, municipal securities, variable life insurance, variable annuities, mutual fund shares, United States government securities, money market funds, real estate, REITs, structured notes, ETFs, private placements and interests in partnerships investing in real estate.

**Account Minimums and Requirements:** In general, we require a minimum of \$500,000 to open and maintain an advisory account, which may be waived at our discretion.

Detailed information regarding our services, fees and other disclosures can be found in our Form ADV Part 2A Items 4, 7, and 8 by clicking this link <a href="https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/145090">https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/145090</a>.

### Key Questions to 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?

# What fees will I pay?

The following summarizes the principal fees and costs associated with engaging our firm for investment advisory services.

- Asset Based Fees Payable quarterly in advance based on the market value of your account(s) on the last day
  of the previous calendar quarter. Since the fees we receive are asset-based (i.e. based on the value of your
  account), we have an incentive to increase your account value which creates a conflict especially for those
  accounts holding illiquid or hard-to-value assets;
- Hourly Fees and Fixed Fees We charge either an hourly or fixed fee for Financial Planning and Consulting Services. Unless otherwise agreed upon, financial planning and consulting fees are billed and due upon completion of services rendered.
- Other Advisory Fees In addition to our fees, third party money managers also charge their own fees, which are

- separate and apart from our fees.
- Clients may also pay additional fees and/or expenses: Examples of the most common fees and costs applicable to our clients are:
  - Custodian fees:
  - Account maintenance fees:
  - Fees related to mutual funds and exchange-traded funds;
  - · Transaction charges when purchasing or selling securities; and
  - Other product-level fees associated with your investments.

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.

For detailed information, refer to our Form ADV Part 2A, Items 5 and 6 by clicking this link https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/145090.

#### Key Questions to 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?

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.

- Third-Party Payments: Persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm are licensed as
  independent insurance agents. These persons will earn commission-based compensation for selling insurance
  products. Insurance commissions are separate and in addition to our advisory fees. This practice presents a
  conflict of interest because they have an incentive to recommend insurance products to you for the purpose of
  generating commissions rather than solely based on your needs.
- We do not make any money from our investment advisory services except as described above.

Refer to our Form ADV Part 2A by clicking this link <a href="https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/145090">https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/145090</a> to help you understand what conflicts exist.

### Key Questions to Ask Your Financial Professional

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

#### How do your financial professionals make money?

Our Company and the financial professional servicing your account(s) are compensated through a salary. Financial professionals' compensation is based on a pre-determined flat annual salary based on job duties.

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

No, our firm and our financial professionals currently do not have any legal or disciplinary history to disclose. Visit <a href="Investor.gov/CRS">Investor.gov/CRS</a> for a free and simple research tool.

#### Key Questions to Ask Your Financial Professional

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

You can find additional information about your investment advisory services and request a copy of the relationship summary at 307-218-5667 or click the link provided <a href="https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/145090">https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/145090</a>.

# Key Questions to 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?