# **Tapparo Capital Management**

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# FORM ADV PART 2A BROCHURE

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Tapparo Capital Management. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 978-887-1121. 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 Tapparo Capital Management is also available on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>. The searchable IARD/CRD number for Tapparo Capital Management is 128813.

Tapparo Capital Management is a registered investment adviser. Registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

# **Item 2 - Summary of Material Changes**

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 2

This brochure updates the annualized fee schedule for portfolio management services on page 1. Since the date of the last annual amendment filing of this brochure (February 1, 2023), there have been no material changes to this brochure.

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# Item 4 - Advisory Business

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 4

### **Description of Services and Fees**

Tapparo Capital Management is a registered investment adviser based in Topsfield, Massachusetts. We are organized as a sole proprietorship under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We have been providing investment advisory services since 1997. Andrew Tapparo is our President and Owner. Currently, we offer the following portfolio management services, which are personalized to each individual client.

The following paragraphs describe our services and fees. Please refer to the description of each investment advisory service listed below for information on how we tailor our advisory services to your individual needs. As used in this brochure, the words "we", "our" and "us" refer to Tapparo Capital Management and the words "you", "your" and "client" refer to you as either a client or prospective client of our firm. Also, you may see the term Associated Person throughout this brochure. As used in this brochure, our Associated Persons are our firm's officers, employees, and all individuals providing investment advice on behalf of our firm. The use of these terms is not intended to imply that there is more than one individual associated with this firm.

#### **Portfolio Management Services**

We provide discretionary and non-discretionary portfolio management services where the investment advice provided is custom-tailored to meet your needs and investment objectives. Portfolio management services contain an element of ongoing financial planning and all portfolio management clients are typically provided with a financial plan. Subject to any written guidelines, which you may provide, we may be granted discretion and authority to manage your account. Accordingly, we are authorized to perform various functions, on your behalf and at your expense, without further approval from you. Such functions include the determination of (a) the securities to be purchased or sold; (b) the amount of securities to be purchased or sold; and (c) the commission rates to be paid. Once we construct a portfolio for you, we will provide either continuous or periodic supervision or re-optimization of your portfolio as changes in market conditions and your circumstances may require. If we enter into a non-discretionary arrangement with you, we will obtain your approval prior to the execution of a trade.

Our annual fee for portfolio management services is billed quarterly in arrears based on the market value of your assets under management on the last day of the quarter. Our fees will be assessed pro rata in the event the portfolio management agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of a calendar quarter. We will invoice you directly for portfolio management services. On an annualized basis, our fees for portfolio management services, subject to negotiation, are based on the following tiered fee schedule:

Up to \$1,000,000 Assets in excess of \$1,000,000 Annualized Fee 1.00% 0.60%

The fees charged are calculated as described above, and are not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains upon, or capital appreciation of, the funds, or any portion of the funds of an advisory client (15 U.S.C. §80b-5(a)(1)).

In our discretion, we may allow accounts of members of the same household to be aggregated for purposes of determining the advisory fee. We may allow such aggregation, for example, where we service accounts on behalf of your minor children, individual and joint accounts for a spouse, and other types of related accounts. This consolidation practice is designed to allow client(s) the benefit of an increased asset total, which could potentially cause the account to be, assessed a reduced advisory fee based on the breakpoints available in TCM's fee schedule as stated above.

In limited circumstances and in our discretion, we may offer our asset management services for a fixed fee for portfolios containing mutual funds only. Generally, the fixed fee will range between \$2,000 and \$5,000,

depending on the size of the account and the complexity of the portfolio. The fixed fee will be agreed upon between both parties and will be outlined in the agreement for services. The fixed fee is payable quarterly in arrears and you will be invoiced directly for these fees. As previously noted, our fees for asset management services are negotiable; therefore, arrangements with you may differ from the fees stated above.

Either party may terminate the management agreement within five days of the date of acceptance without any penalty. After the five-day period, either party, upon written notice to the other, may terminate the management agreement. The management fee will be pro-rated for the quarter in which the cancellation notice was given and any fees will be due and payable by you. Refunds are not applicable as fees are payable in arrears.

### **Types of Investments**

We primarily offer advice on equity securities, ETFs, mutual funds, government bonds, corporate debt securities, and money market funds.

Additionally, we may advise you on any type of investment that we deem appropriate based on your stated goals and objectives. We may also provide advice on any type of investment held in your portfolio at the inception of our advisory relationship.

You may request that we refrain from investing in particular securities or certain types of securities. You must provide these restrictions to our firm in writing.

#### **Assets Under Management**

As of December 31, 2023, we manage approximately \$71,371,426 in client assets on a discretionary basis, and \$139,525 in client assets on a non-discretionary basis.

# Item 5 - Fees and Compensation

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 5

Please refer to the "Advisory Business" section in this brochure for information on our advisory fees, fee deduction arrangements, and refund policy according to each service we offer.

#### **Additional Fees and Expenses**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may invest, or recommend that you invest, in mutual funds and exchange traded funds. The fees that you pay to our firm for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds or exchange traded funds (described in each fund's prospectus) to their shareholders. These fees will generally include a management fee and other fund expenses. You will also incur transaction charges and/or brokerage fees when purchasing or selling securities. These charges and fees are typically imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian through whom your account transactions are executed. We do not share in any portion of the brokerage fees/transaction charges imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian. To fully understand the total cost you will incur, you should review all the fees charged by mutual funds, exchange traded funds, our firm, and others. For information on our brokerage practices, please refer to the "Brokerage Practices" section of this brochure.

#### **Prior Fee Schedule**

The fees charged to portfolio management clients whose assets have been managed by us prior to February 2023 may differ from the fees charged to our new advisory clients.

#### **IRA Rollover Considerations**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may recommend that you withdraw the assets from your employer's retirement plan and roll the assets over to an individual retirement account ("IRA") that we will

manage on your behalf. If you elect to roll the assets to an IRA that is subject to our management, we will charge you an asset-based fee as set forth in the agreement you executed with us. This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice on our behalf have an incentive to recommend a rollover to you for the purpose of generating fee-based compensation rather than solely based on your needs. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to complete the rollover. Moreover, if you do complete the rollover, you are under no obligation to have the assets in an IRA managed by us.

Many employers permit former employees to keep their retirement assets in their company plan. Also, current employees can sometimes move assets out of their company plan before they retire or change jobs. In determining whether to complete the rollover to an IRA, and to the extent the following options are available, you should consider the costs and benefits of each.

An employee will typically have four options:

- 1. Leaving the funds in your employer's (former employer's) plan.
- 2. Moving the funds to a new employer's retirement plan.
- 3. Cashing out and taking a taxable distribution from the plan.
- 4. Rolling the funds into an IRA rollover account.

Each of these options has advantages and disadvantages and before making a change we encourage you to speak with your CPA and/or tax attorney.

If you are considering rolling over your retirement funds to an IRA for us to manage, here are a few points to consider before you do so:

- 1. Determine whether the investment options in your employer's retirement plan address your needs or whether you might want to consider other types of investments.
- a) Employer retirement plans generally have a more limited investment menu than IRAs.
- b) Employer retirement plans may have unique investment options not available to the public such as employer securities, or previously closed funds.
- 2. Your current plan may have lower fees than our fees.
- a) If you are interested in investing only in mutual funds, you should understand the cost structure of the share classes available in your employer's retirement plan and how the costs of those share classes compare with those available in an IRA.
- b) You should understand the various products and services you might take advantage of at an IRA provider and the potential costs of those products and services.
- 3. Our strategy may have higher risk than the option(s) provided to you in your plan.
- 4. Your current plan may also offer financial advice.
- 5. If you keep your assets titled in a 401k or retirement account, you could potentially delay your required minimum distribution.
- 6. Your 401k may offer more liability protection than a rollover IRA; each state may vary. Generally, federal law protects assets in qualified plans from creditors. Since 2005, IRA assets have been generally protected from creditors in bankruptcies. However, there can be some exceptions to the general rules so you should consult with an attorney if you are concerned about protecting your retirement plan assets from creditors.
- 7. You may be able to take out a loan on your 401k, but not from an IRA.

- 8. IRA assets can be accessed any time; however, distributions are subject to ordinary income tax and may also be subject to a 10% early distribution penalty unless they qualify for an exception such as disability, higher education expenses or the purchase of a home.
- 9. If you own company stock in your plan, you may be able to liquidate those shares at a lower capital gains tax rate.
- 10. Your plan may allow you to hire us as the manager and keep the assets titled in the plan name.

It is important that you understand the differences between these types of accounts and decide whether a rollover is best for you.

# Item 6 - Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 6

We do not accept performance-based fees or participate in side-by-side management. Side-by-side management refers to the practice of managing accounts that are charged performance-based fees while at the same time managing accounts that are not charged performance-based fees. Performance-based fees are fees that are based on a share of capital gains or capital appreciation of a client's account. Our fees are calculated as described in the *Advisory Business* section above, and are not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains upon, or capital appreciation of, the funds in your advisory account.

# Item 7 - Types of Clients

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 7

We offer investment advisory services to individuals, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, corporations, and other business entities.

In general, we do not require a minimum dollar amount to open and maintain an advisory account; however, we have the right to terminate your Account if it falls below a minimum size which, in our sole opinion, is too small to effectively manage.

# Item 8 - Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 8

#### **Our Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies**

We may use one or more of the following methods of analysis or investment strategies when providing investment advice to you:

- Charting Analysis involves the gathering and processing of price and volume information for a
  particular security. This price and volume information is analyzed using mathematical equations. The
  resulting data is then applied to graphing charts, which is used to predict future price movements based
  on price patterns and trends.
- Fundamental Analysis involves analyzing individual companies and their industry groups, such as a

company's financial statements, details regarding the company's product line, the experience and expertise of the company's management, and the outlook for the company's industry. The resulting data is used to measure the true value of the company's stock compared to the current market value.

- Technical Analysis involves studying past price patterns and trends in the financial markets to predict the direction of both the overall market and specific stocks.
- Cyclical Analysis a type of technical analysis that involves evaluating recurring price patterns and trends.
- Long Term Purchases securities purchased with the expectation that the value of those securities will grow over a relatively long period of time, generally greater than one year.
- Short Term Purchases securities purchased with the expectation that they will be sold within a
  relatively short period of time, generally less than one year, to take advantage of the securities' shortterm price fluctuations.

Although short selling, margin transacting and option writing are not used as part of our overall investment strategy, we may employ one or more of these strategies on a limited basis should we determine that they are suitable given your stated investment objectives and risk tolerance.

Our investment strategies and advice may vary depending upon each client's specific financial situation. As such, we determine investments and allocations based upon your predefined objectives, risk tolerance, time horizon, financial horizon, financial information, liquidity needs, and other various suitability factors. Your restrictions and guidelines may affect the composition of your portfolio.

Charting and Technical Analysis - The risk of market timing based on technical analysis is that charts may not accurately predict future price movements. Current prices of securities may reflect all information known about the security and day to day changes in market prices of securities may follow random patterns and may not be predictable with any reliable degree of accuracy.

Fundamental Analysis - The risk of fundamental analysis is that information obtained may be incorrect and the analysis may not provide an accurate estimate of earnings, which may be the basis for a stock's value. If securities prices adjust rapidly to new information, utilizing fundamental analysis may not result in favorable performance.

Cyclical Analysis - Economic/business cycles may not be predictable and may have many fluctuations between long term expansions and contractions. The lengths of economic cycles may be difficult to predict with accuracy and therefore the risk of cyclical analysis is the difficulty in predicting economic trends and consequently the changing value of securities that would be affected by these changing trends.

Our strategies and investments may have unique and significant tax implications. However, unless we specifically agree otherwise, and in writing, tax efficiency is not our primary consideration in the management of your assets. Regardless of your account size or any other factors, we strongly recommend that you continuously consult with a tax professional prior to and throughout the investing of your assets.

Moreover, as a result of revised IRS regulations, custodians and broker-dealers will begin reporting the cost basis of equities acquired in client accounts on or after January 1, 2011. Your custodian will default to the FIFO (First-In First-Out) accounting method for calculating the cost basis of your investments. You are responsible for contacting your tax advisor to determine if this accounting method is the right choice for you. If your tax advisor believes another accounting method is more advantageous, please provide written notice to our firm immediately and we will alert your account custodian of your individually selected accounting method. Please note that decisions about cost basis accounting methods will need to be made before trades settle, as the cost basis method cannot be changed after settlement.

#### Risk of Loss

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that each client should be prepared to bear. The value of a client's investment may be affected by one or more of the following risks, any of which could cause a client's portfolio

return, the price of the portfolio's shares or the portfolio's yield to fluctuate:

- *Market Risk*. The value of portfolio assets will fluctuate as the stock or bond market fluctuates. The value of investments may decline, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably, simply because of economic changes or other events that affect large portions of the market.
- Management Risk. A client's portfolio is subject to management risk because it is actively managed by
  the Company's investment professionals. The Company will apply its investment techniques and risk
  analysis in making investment decisions for a client's portfolio, but there is no guarantee that these
  techniques and the Company's judgment will produce the intended results.
- Quantitative Tools Risk. Some of the Company's investment techniques may incorporate, or rely upon, quantitative models. There is no guarantee that these models will generate accurate forecasts, reduce risks or otherwise produce the intended results.
- Interest Rate Risk. Changes in interest rates will affect the value of a portfolio's investments in fixed-income securities. When interest rates rise, the value of investments in fixed-income securities tend to fall and this decrease in value may not be offset by higher income from new investments. Interest rate risk is generally greater for fixed-income securities with longer maturities or durations.
- Credit Risk. An issuer or guarantor of a fixed-income security, or the counterparty to a derivatives or
  other contract, may be unable or unwilling to make timely payments of interest or principal, or to
  otherwise honor its obligations. The issuer or guarantor may default causing a loss of the full principal
  amount of a security. The degree of risk for a particular security may be reflected in its credit rating.
  There is the possibility that the credit rating of a fixed-income security may be downgraded after
  purchase, which may adversely affect the value of the security. Investments in fixed-income securities
  with lower ratings tend to have a higher probability that an issuer will default or fail to meet its payment
  obligations.
- Allocation Risk. The allocation of investments among different asset classes may have a significant
  effect on portfolio value when one of these asset classes is performing more poorly than the others. As
  investments will be periodically reallocated, there will be transaction costs which may be, over time,
  significant. In addition, there is a risk that certain asset allocation decisions may not achieve the
  desired results and, as a result, a client's portfolio may incur significant losses.
- Foreign (Non-U.S.) Risk. A portfolio's investments in securities of non-U.S. issuers may involve more risk than those of U.S. issuers. There securities may fluctuate more widely in price and may be less liquid due to adverse market, economic, political, regulatory or other factors.
- Emerging Markets Risk. Securities of companies in emerging markets may be more volatile than those of companies in developed markets. By definition, markets, economies and government institutions are generally less developed in emerging market countries. Investment in securities of companies in emerging markets may entail special risks relating to the potential for social instability and the risks of expropriation, nationalization or confiscation. Investors may also face the imposition of restrictions on foreign investment or the repatriation of capital and a lack of hedging instruments.
- *Currency Risk.* Fluctuations in currency exchange rates may negatively affect the value of a portfolio's investments or reduce its returns.
- Derivatives Risk. Certain strategies involve the use of derivatives to create market exposure. Derivatives may be illiquid, difficult to price and leveraged so that small changes may produce disproportionate losses for a client's portfolio and may be subject to counterparty risk to a greater degree than more traditional investments. Because of their complex nature, some derivatives may not perform as intended. As a result, a portfolio may not realize the anticipated benefits from a derivative it holds or it may realize losses. Derivative transactions may create investment leverage, which may increase a portfolio's volatility and may require the portfolio to liquidate portfolio securities when it may not be advantageous to do so.
- Capitalization Risk. Investments in small- and mid-capitalization companies may be more volatile than investments in large-capitalization companies. Investments in small-capitalization companies may have additional risks because these companies have limited product lines, markets or financial resources.
- Liquidity Risk. Liquidity risk exists when particular investments are difficult to purchase or sell, possibly
  preventing the Company from selling out of such illiquid securities at an advantageous price.
   Derivatives and securities involving substantial market and credit risk also tend to involve greater
  liquidity risk.
- Issuer Specific Risk. The value of an equity security or debt obligation may decline in response to developments affecting the specific issuer of the security or obligation, even if the overall industry or

- economy is unaffected. These developments may comprise a variety of factors, including, but not limited to, management issues or other corporate disruption, political factors adversely affecting governmental issuers, a decline in revenues or profitability, an increase in costs, or an adverse effect on the issuer's competitive position.
- Concentrated Portfolios Risk. Certain investment strategies focus on particular asset classes, countries, regions, industries, sectors or types of investments. Concentrated portfolios are an aggressive and highly volatile approach to trading and investing. Concentrated portfolios hold fewer different stocks than a diversified portfolio and are much more likely to experience sudden dramatic prices swings. In addition, the rise or drop in price of any given holding is likely to have a larger impact on portfolio performance than a more broadly diversified portfolio.
- Legal or Legislative Risk. Legislative changes or court rulings may impact the value of investments or the securities' claim on the issuer's assets and finances.

#### **Recommendation of Particular Types of Securities**

As disclosed under the "Advisory Business" section in this Brochure, we primarily recommend equity securities, ETFs, mutual funds, government bonds, corporate debt securities, and money market funds. However, we may recommend other types of investments as appropriate for you since each client has different needs and different tolerance for risk. Each type of security has its own unique set of risks associated with it and it would not be possible to list here all of the specific risks of every type of investment. Even within the same type of investment, risks can vary widely. However, in very general terms, the higher the anticipated return of an investment, the higher the risk of loss associated with it.

There are numerous ways of measuring the risk of equity securities (also known simply as "equities" or "stock"). In very broad terms, the value of a stock depends on the financial health of the company issuing it. However, stock prices can be affected by many other factors including, but not limited to: the class of stock (for example, preferred or common); the health of the market sector of the issuing company; and the overall health of the economy. In general, larger, better established companies ("large cap") tend to be safer than smaller start-up companies ("small cap") but the mere size of an issuer is not, by itself, an indicator of the safety of the investment.

Mutual funds and exchange traded funds are professionally managed collective investment systems that pool money from many investors and invest in stocks, bonds, short-term money market instruments, other mutual funds, other securities or any combination thereof. The fund will have a manager that trades the fund's investments in accordance with the fund's investment objective. While mutual funds and ETFs generally provide diversification, risks can be significantly increased if the fund is concentrated in a particular sector of the market, primarily invests in small cap or speculative companies, uses leverage (i.e., borrows money) to a significant degree, or concentrates in a particular type of security (i.e., equities) rather than balancing the fund with different types of securities. Exchange traded funds differ from mutual funds since they can be bought and sold throughout the day like a stock and their price can fluctuate throughout the day. During times of extreme market volatility ETF pricing may lag versus the actual underlying asset values. This lag usually resolves itself in a short period of time (usually less than one day). However, there is no guarantee this relationship will always occur. The returns on mutual funds and ETFs can be reduced by the costs to manage the funds. Also, while some mutual funds are "no load" and charge no fee to buy into, or sell out of the fund, other types of mutual funds do charge such fees which can also reduce returns. Mutual funds can also be "closed end" or "open end". So-called "open end" mutual funds continue to allow in new investors indefinitely which can dilute other investors' interests.

Corporate debt securities (or "bonds") as well as Government Bonds are typically safer investments than equity securities, but their risk can also vary widely based on: the financial health of the issuer; the risk that the issuer might default; when the bond is set to mature; and, whether or not the bond can be "called" prior to maturity. When a bond is called, it may not be possible to replace it with a bond of equal character paying the same rate of return.

A money market fund is technically a security. The fund managers attempt to keep the share price constant at \$1/share. However, there is no guarantee that the share price will stay at \$1/share. If the share price goes down, you can lose some or your entire principal. The US Securities and Exchange Commission notes that "While investor losses in money market funds have been rare, they are possible". In return for this risk, you

should earn a greater return on your cash than you'd expect from an FDIC insured savings account (money market funds are not FDIC insured).

Next, money market fund rates are variable. In other words, you don't know how much you'll earn on your investment next month. The rate could go up or down. If it goes up, that may be a good thing. However, if it goes down and you earn less than you expected, you can end up needing more cash.

A final risk you're taking with money market funds has to do with inflation. Because money market funds are considered to be safer than other investments like stocks, long term average returns on money market funds tends to be less than long term average returns on riskier investments. Over long periods of time, inflation can diminish your returns.

Margin: Buying on margin means borrowing money from a broker to purchase stock. Margin trading allows you to buy more stock than you'd be able to normally. An initial investment of at least \$2,000 is required for a margin account, though some brokerages require more. This deposit is known as the minimum margin. Once the account is opened and operational, you can borrow up to 50% of the purchase price of a stock. This portion of the purchase price that you deposit is known as the initial margin. Some brokerages require you to deposit more than 50% of the purchase price. Not all stocks qualify to be bought on margin. When you sell the stock in a margin account, the proceeds go to your broker against the repayment of the loan until it is fully paid. There is also a restriction called the maintenance margin, which is the minimum account balance you must maintain before your broker will force you to deposit more funds or sell stock to pay down your loan. When this happens, it's known as a margin call. If for any reason you do not meet a margin call, the brokerage has the right to sell your securities to increase your account equity until you are above the maintenance margin. Additionally, your broker may not be required to consult you before selling. Under most margin agreements, a firm can sell your securities without waiting for you to meet the margin call and you can't control which stock is sold to cover the margin call. You also have to pay the interest on your loan. The interest charges are applied to your account unless you decide to make payments. Over time, your debt level increases as interest charges accrue against you. As debt increases, the interest charges increase, and so on. Therefore, buying on margin is mainly used for short-term investments. The longer you hold an investment, the greater the return that is needed to break even. In volatile markets, prices can fall very quickly. You can lose more money than you have invested.

Options: Options are complex securities that involve risks and are not suitable for everyone. Option trading can be speculative in nature and carry substantial risk of loss. It is generally recommended that you only invest in options with risk capital. An option is a contract that gives the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell an underlying asset at a specific price on or before a certain date (the "expiration date"). The two types of options are calls and puts;

A call gives the holder the right to buy an asset at a certain price within a specific period of time. Calls are similar to having a long position on a stock. Buyers of calls hope that the stock will increase substantially before the option expires.

A put gives the holder the right to sell an asset at a certain price within a specific period of time. Puts are very similar to having a short position on a stock. Buyers of puts hope that the price of the stock will fall before the option expires. Selling options is more complicated and can be even riskier.

Short Sales: Short selling (also known as shorting or going short) is the practice of selling assets, usually securities, that have been borrowed from a third party (usually a broker) with the intention of buying identical assets back at a later date to return to the lender. It is a form of reverse trading. Mathematically, it is equivalent to buying a "negative" amount of the assets. The short seller hopes to profit from a decline in the price of the assets between the sale and the repurchase, as the seller will pay less to buy the assets than the seller received on selling them. Conversely, the short seller will incur a loss if the price of the assets rises. Other costs of shorting may include a fee for borrowing the assets and payment of any dividends paid on the borrowed assets. "Shorting" and "going short" also refer to entering into any derivative or other contract under which the investor profits from a fall in the value of an asset.

# Item 9 - Disciplinary Information

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 9

Tapparo Capital Management has been registered and providing investment advisory services since 1998. Neither our firm nor any of our Associated Persons has any reportable disciplinary information.

# Item 10 - Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 10

We have not provided information on other financial industry activities and affiliations because we do not have any relationship or arrangement that is material to our advisory business or to our clients with any of the types of entities listed below.

- 1. broker-dealer, municipal securities dealer, or government securities dealer or broker
- 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)
- 3. other investment adviser or financial planner
- 4. futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, or commodity trading advisor
- 5. banking or thrift institution
- 6. accountant or accounting firm
- 7. lawyer or law firm
- 8. insurance company or agency
- 9. pension consultant
- 10. real estate broker or dealer
- 11. sponsor or syndicator of limited partnerships

## Item 11 - Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 11

#### **Description of Our Code of Ethics**

We strive to comply with applicable laws and regulations governing our practices. Therefore, our Code of Ethics includes guidelines for professional standards of conduct for our Associated Persons. Our goal is to protect your interests at all times and to demonstrate our commitment to our fiduciary duties of honesty, good faith, and fair dealing with you. All of our Associated Persons are expected to adhere strictly to these guidelines. Our Code of Ethics also requires that certain persons associated with our firm submit reports of their personal account holdings and transactions to a qualified representative of our firm who will review these reports on a periodic basis. Persons associated with our firm are also required to report any violations of our Code of Ethics. Additionally, we maintain and enforce written policies reasonably designed to prevent the misuse or dissemination of material, non-public information about you or your account holdings by persons associated with our firm.

Clients or prospective clients may obtain a copy of our Code of Ethics by contacting us at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure.

#### Participation or Interest in Client Transactions

Neither our firm nor any of our Associated Persons has any material financial interest in client transactions

beyond the provision of investment advisory services as disclosed in this brochure.

#### **Personal Trading Practices**

Our firm or persons associated with our firm may buy or sell the same securities that we recommend to you or securities in which you are already invested. A conflict of interest exists in such cases because we have the ability to trade ahead of you and potentially receive more favorable prices than you will receive. To eliminate this conflict of interest, it is our policy that neither our Associated Persons nor we shall have priority over your account in the purchase or sale of securities.

## Item 12 - Brokerage Practices

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 12

Note: Prior to February 2023, we recommended that clients use the custodial and brokerage services of TD Ameritrade Institutional.

#### **Factors Used to Select Brokers**

Custodians/broker-dealers will be recommended based on our duty to seek "best execution," which is the obligation to seek execution of securities transactions for a client on the most favorable terms for the client under the circumstances. Clients will not necessarily pay the lowest commission or commission equivalent, and we may also consider the market expertise and research access provided by the broker-dealer/custodian, including but not limited to access to written research, oral communication with analysts, admittance to research conferences and other resources provided by the brokers that may aid in our research efforts. We will never charge a premium or commission on transactions beyond the actual cost imposed by the broker-dealer/custodian.

We offer investment advisory services through the custodial platform offered by Altruist Financial LLC ("Altruist"), and its current clearing firm, Apex Clearing Corporation, which provides custody, clearing, and execution services (each unaffiliated SEC-registered broker-dealers and FINRA/SIPC members). Our clients establish brokerage accounts through Altruist. We maintain an institutional relationship with Altruist whereby Altruist provides certain benefits to us, including a fully digital account opening process, a variety of available investments, and integration with software tools that can benefit us and our clients.

#### Altruist's Advisor Tech Collection Program

As stated above, we recommend that our clients establish brokerage accounts with Apex Clearing Corporation as custodian, through Altruist Financial LLC ("Altruist") as introducing broker. We maintain an institutional relationship with Altruist whereby Altruist provides certain benefits to us ("Support Services"). Altruist pays for or reimburses us for the costs of certain technology solutions to help facilitate our practices and to streamline our operations. The payments may be substantial and are based on our clients adding and/or transferring to and maintaining a certain amount (currently five million dollars (\$5,000,000)) in assets on Altruist's platform. The benefits provided to or on behalf of us will not directly benefit client accounts. The fees we charges will not be reduced by the value of the Support Services received by us. The benefits provided to or on our behalf are compensation to us in connection with providing advice to clients and therefore should be considered in assessing the reasonableness of the compensation arrangement between us and clients. Access to such economic benefits creates a financial incentive for us to maintain client accounts through Altruist as introducing broker and Apex Clearing Corporation as custodian which results in a conflict of interest for us.

#### **Directed Brokerage**

In limited circumstances, and at our discretion, some clients may instruct our firm to use one or more particular brokers for the transactions in their accounts. If you choose to direct our firm to use a particular broker, you should understand that this might prevent our firm from aggregating trades with other client accounts. This practice may also prevent our firm from obtaining favorable net price and execution. Thus, when directing brokerage business, you should consider whether the commission expenses, execution, clearance, and

settlement capabilities that you will obtain through your broker are adequately favorable in comparison to those that we would otherwise obtain for you.

#### **Brokerage for Client Referrals**

We do not receive client referrals from broker-dealers in exchange for cash or other compensation, such as brokerage services or research.

#### **Directed Brokerage**

We routinely recommend that you direct our firm to execute transactions through TD Ameritrade Institutional. As such, we may be unable to achieve the most favorable execution of your transactions and you may pay higher brokerage commissions than you might otherwise pay through another broker-dealer that offers the same types of services. Not all advisers require their clients to direct brokerage.

#### Item 13 - Review of Accounts

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 13

Andrew Tapparo, President of Tapparo Capital Management, will monitor your accounts on an ongoing basis and will conduct account reviews on a quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis, depending on your specification and/or needs. In any event, every account is reviewed annually to ensure the advisory services provided to you and the portfolio mix are consistent with your current investment needs and objectives. Additional reviews may be conducted based on various circumstances, including, but not limited to:

- contributions and withdrawals,
- year-end tax planning,
- market moving events,
- · security specific events, and/or,
- · changes in your risk/return objectives.

We will provide you with quarterly reports and regular written reports in conjunction with account reviews. Reports we provide to you will contain relevant account and/or market related information such as an inventory of account holdings and account performance. We will also provide you with annual tax reports for your taxable accounts. You will receive trade confirmations and monthly or quarterly statements from your account custodian(s).

# Item 14 - Client Referrals and Other Compensation

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 14

We do not receive any compensation from any third party in connection with providing investment advice to you nor do we compensate any individual or firm for client referrals.

## Item 15 - Custody

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 15

We do not have physical custody of any of your funds and/or securities. Your funds and securities will be held with a bank, broker-dealer, or other independent, qualified custodian. You will receive account statements from

the independent, qualified custodian(s) holding your funds and securities at least quarterly. You should carefully review account statements for accuracy. If you have a question regarding your account statement, or if you did not receive a statement from your custodian, please contact us directly at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure.

## Item 16 - Investment Discretion

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 16

Before we can buy or sell securities on your behalf, you must first sign our discretionary management agreement, a power of attorney, and/or trading authorization forms.

You may grant our firm discretion over the selection and amount of securities to be purchased or sold for your account(s) without obtaining your consent or approval prior to each transaction. You may specify investment objectives, guidelines, and/or impose certain conditions or investment parameters for your account(s). For example, you may specify that the investment in any particular stock or industry should not exceed specified percentages of the value of the portfolio and/or restrictions or prohibitions of transactions in the securities of a specific industry or security. Please refer to the "Advisory Business" section in this brochure for more information on our discretionary management services.

If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we will obtain your approval prior to the execution of any transactions for your account(s). You have an unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice provided by our firm on a non-discretionary basis.

# Item 17 - Voting Client Securities

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 17

#### **Proxy Voting**

We will not vote proxies on behalf of your advisory accounts. At your request, we may offer you advice regarding corporate actions and the exercise of your proxy voting rights. If you own shares of applicable securities, you are responsible for exercising your right to vote as a shareholder.

In most cases, you will receive proxy materials directly from the account custodian. However, in the event we were to receive any written or electronic proxy materials, we would forward them directly to you by mail, unless you have authorized our firm to contact you by electronic mail, in which case, we would forward any electronic solicitation to vote proxies.

### Item 18 - Financial Information

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 18

We are not required to provide financial information to our clients because we do not:

- require the prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees and six or more months in advance, or
- take custody of client funds or securities, or
- have a financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet our commitments to you.

# Item 19 - Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

Form ADV Part 2A, Item 19

We are registered with The Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The disciplinary history, if any, of any Registered Investment Adviser can be obtained by contacting the Securities Division of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts at (617) 727-3548.

Refer to the Part(s) 2B for background information about management personnel and those giving advice on behalf of our firm.

#### Additional Information

#### **Your Privacy**

We view protecting your private information as a top priority. Pursuant to applicable privacy requirements, we have instituted policies and procedures to ensure that we keep your personal information private and secure.

We do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about you to any nonaffiliated third parties, except as permitted by law. In the course of servicing your account, we may share some information with our service providers, such as transfer agents, custodians, broker-dealers, accountants, consultants, and attorneys.

We restrict internal access to nonpublic personal information about you to employees, who need that information in order to provide products or services to you. We maintain physical and procedural safeguards that comply with regulatory standards to guard your nonpublic personal information and to ensure our integrity and confidentiality. We will not sell information about you or your accounts to anyone. We do not share your information unless it is required to process a transaction, at your request, or required by law.

You will receive a copy of our privacy notice prior to or at the time you sign an advisory agreement with our firm. Thereafter, we will deliver a copy of the current privacy policy notice to you on an annual basis. Please contact our main office at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure if you have any questions regarding this policy.

#### **Trade Errors**

On infrequent occasions, an error may be made in a client account. For example, a security may be erroneously purchased for a client account instead of sold. In these situations, Tapparo Capital Management generally seeks to rectify the error by placing the client account in a similar position as it would have been had there been no error. Depending on the circumstances, various corrective steps may be taken, including but not limited to, canceling the trade, adjusting an allocation, and/or reimbursing the account.

#### **Class Action Lawsuits**

We do not determine if securities held by you are the subject of a class action lawsuit or whether you are eligible to participate in class action settlements or litigation nor do we initiate or participate in litigation to recover damages on your behalf for injuries as a result of actions, misconduct, or negligence by issuers of securities held by you.

#### <u>Information on Disciplinary History and Registration</u>

Massachusetts law requires disclosure that information on disciplinary history and the registration of our firm and its associated persons may be obtained by contacting the Massachusetts Securities Division at (617) 727-3548, and if asked, our firm and its associated persons must also disclose the history.

# Andrew J. Tapparo *CRD#3034776*

# **Tapparo Capital Management**

10 South Main Street Suite 208A Topsfield, Massachusetts, 01983

Telephone: 978.887.1121

**February 1, 2023** 

# FORM ADV PART 2B BROCHURE SUPPLEMENT

This brochure supplement provides information about Andrew Tapparo that supplements the Tapparo Capital Management brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact us at the telephone number listed above if you did not receive Tapparo Capital Management 's brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Andrew Tapparo, is available on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>.

# Item 2 - Educational Background and Business Experience

Form ADV Part 2B, Item 2

#### Andrew J. Tapparo

Year of Birth: 1964

Formal Education:

- MS in Finance (with Distinction), Bentley College, Waltham, MA., 1997.
- BS in Industrial Engineering, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY., 1987.

Business Background for the Previous Five Years:

■ Tapparo Capital Management, President, 05/1998 to Present.

# Item 3 - Disciplinary Information

Form ADV Part 2B, Item 3

Mr. Tapparo does not have, nor has he ever had, any disciplinary disclosure.

### Item 4 - Other Business Activities

Form ADV Part 2B, Item 4

Andrew Tapparo is not actively engaged in any other business or occupation (investment-related) beyond his capacity as President of Tapparo Capital Management. Moreover, he does not receive any commissions, bonuses, or other compensation based on the sale of securities or other investment products.

# Item 5 - Additional Compensation

Form ADV Part 2B, Item 5

Mr. Tapparo does not receive any additional compensation for providing advisory services beyond that received as a result of his capacity as President of Tapparo Capital Management.

# Item 6 - Supervision

Form ADV Part 2B, Item 6

Mr. Tapparo is the President, Chief Compliance Officer, and sole advisory representative of Tapparo Capital Management; therefore, supervision is not required. He can be reached at 978-887-1121.

# Item 7 - Requirements for State-reigstered Advisers

Form ADV Part 2B, Item 7

Mr. Tapparo is required to disclose any legal or disciplinary events. Mr. Tapparohas no disclosures to make pursuant to this Item.

Mr. Tapparo has not been subject to a bankruptcy petition.