



A Franklin Templeton Company

## **ClearBridge Investments, LLC Advisory Brochure**

May 22, 2024

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of ClearBridge Investments, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (212) 805-2000. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about ClearBridge Investments, LLC is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). Investment adviser registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

**Item 2**

**STATEMENT OF MATERIAL CHANGES**

No material changes have been made to this brochure since the last annual update dated December 9, 2022. While there were no material changes to report, the following more significant updates were made to the brochure as part of the annual update dated December 15, 2023:

- The name of the Global Value ESG Improvers strategy was changed to Global Value Improvers in Items 5 and 8 of the brochure.
- Item 10 of the brochure was updated to reflect two additional related persons relationships.
- Item 12 of the brochure was updated to reflect that ClearBridge retained an unaffiliated broker-dealer to provide aggregation services with respect to commission credits that were generated at various broker dealers (CCA providers). It also was updated to clarify that ClearBridge's Breaches and Error Resolution Procedures, in addition to covering errors made in the investment decision-making process and the trading process, also cover errors in communicating a model change to another firm that has portfolio implementation responsibility for client accounts.

In addition, on May 22, 2024, the following more significant but not material updates were made to the brochure:

- In Items 5 and 8 of the brochure, the name of the Aggressive Growth strategy was changed to Growth and the Multi Cap Growth strategy was removed as an available investment strategy.
- Item 5 was updated to include a discussion of the model portfolio fee schedule relating to ClearBridge's institutional strategies.
- The strategy description for Growth strategy in Item 8 was updated to reflect a couple of clarifications.
- In Item 12, the brochure was updated by adding a discussion of the use of soft dollars to pay for certain products and/or services that may be deemed "mixed-use".

**Item 3**

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**Item 4**

**ADVISORY BUSINESS**

**OUR FIRM**

ClearBridge Investments, LLC (“ClearBridge”) is a leading global equity manager committed to delivering long-term results through authentic active management, as we have for more than 60 years, by offering investment solutions that emphasize differentiated, bottom-up stock selection. Owned by Franklin Resources, Inc., ClearBridge operates with investment independence from headquarters in New York and offices in Baltimore, Calgary, Fort Lauderdale, London, San Mateo, and Sydney. Our active approach combines the market knowledge of long-tenured portfolio managers with the original research of a specialized group of sector and portfolio analysts and the deep diligence of a dedicated risk management team. The firm offers strategies focused on three primary client objectives in our areas of proven expertise: high active share, income solutions and low volatility. As more fully described in Item 8, we integrate Environmental, Social and Governance (“ESG”) considerations into our fundamental research process across all strategies.

At September 30, 2023, ClearBridge managed approximately \$148.2 billion in assets under management of which about \$30.8 billion were non-discretionary<sup>1</sup>.

**OUR CLIENTS**

ClearBridge provides discretionary investment management services in multiple formats, including institutional and retail separate accounts, mutual funds, both proprietary (as adviser and subadviser to various ClearBridge, Legg Mason and Franklin-branded funds), both U.S. and non-U.S., and as a subadviser to non-proprietary funds and to other commingled investment vehicles, including collective investment trusts (“CITs”) that are sponsored by third parties and available for investment only to certain qualified retirement plans.

**Institutional**

ClearBridge provides discretionary investment advice to institutions, including pension and profit sharing plans, unions, state and local government entities, insurance companies, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, endowments, family offices and other business entities.

Institutional clients can impose restrictions on certain securities or types of securities and structure their investment guidelines to accommodate a variety of client needs. These specific restrictions are usually negotiated with the client. Institutional clients can also specify reporting requirements and frequency.

ClearBridge may also provide model portfolios to institutional clients, including without limitation other investment advisers, on a non-discretionary basis. In non-discretionary model delivery relationships, the institutional client or such client’s designated agent will exercise discretion and may or may not follow the model ClearBridge provided.

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<sup>1</sup> ClearBridge’s total assets under management at September 30, 2023 were \$148,243,821,271 of which \$30,784,153,666 were non-discretionary.

### **Private Client**

ClearBridge also provides private client separate account investment advisory services directly to clients or through its affiliate, Franklin Templeton Private Portfolio Group, LLC ("FTPPG"). Private clients may have their accounts invested in a single strategy or in multiple ClearBridge strategies, including taxable and non-taxable fixed income, tailored to a client's specific needs. Private client management allows for the management of one account in multiple investment styles, rebalancing based on client needs, responsiveness to tax considerations and coordination of tax-sensitive selling. Although we generally follow specific investment strategy models, private clients can have these models modified to meet specific income requirements and restrictions on certain securities and industries.

### **Retail Investment Advisory Programs of Other Financial Firms**

Retail clients may also access ClearBridge's investment advisory services on a sub-advisory basis by entering into agreements with financial firms that retain ClearBridge as a subadviser directly or indirectly through ClearBridge's affiliate, FTPPG. These investment advisory programs, which may include "wrap fee arrangements" among other types of programs ("SMA Programs"), sponsored and offered by broker-dealers or other financial institutions, can be structured as single contract or dual contract. In a single contract arrangement, the client contracts with the SMA Program sponsor, which pays ClearBridge's fee. In a dual contract arrangement, ClearBridge (or FTPPG) contracts directly with the client for its advisory services. In most SMA Programs, client-imposed restrictions will be applied if ClearBridge determines that they are reasonably practical as an investment or operational matter.

***Information about these products can be found in the joint brochure entitled "ClearBridge/FTPPG Retail Client Brochure."***

ClearBridge also provides model portfolios to SMA Program sponsors and other investment advisers, either on a discretionary or non-discretionary basis. In non-discretionary model delivery relationships, the SMA Program sponsor or investment adviser will exercise discretion and may or may not follow the model ClearBridge provided.

### **Customization**

Although most ClearBridge strategies, including ESG-focused strategies, are available to both retail and institutional clients, some are not. These services/products may only be available in a closed or open-end fund or other commingled vehicle or may have minimum investment requirements that some clients cannot meet. Certain commingled vehicles have regulatory restrictions that prevent retail clients from investing in them or are designed for a specific type of institutional investor such as a pension plan. Also, institutional clients can specify reporting schedules and content and impose more restrictions on their accounts, such as percentage limitations in certain industries or sectors, that ClearBridge cannot provide to retail clients.

**Item 5**

## **FEES AND COMPENSATION**

The below discussion regarding fees and compensation pertains to ClearBridge's institutional strategies and clients. For information about the fees applicable to our retail investment strategies offered and made available to clients in SMA Programs and to other investment advisers and clients, either as model portfolios or as discretionary investment management services, please see the brochure entitled ClearBridge/FTPPG Retail Client Brochure.

### **Fees – How and When Clients Are Billed**

Advisory fees for separate accounts, which are generally based on assets under management, are usually billed quarterly and are payable in arrears or as mutually agreed upon with the client. Clients may agree to pay by having their accounts debited by their custodian or by separate invoice.

In the event a client pays ClearBridge fees in arrears and terminates its investment management agreement, the client will be charged a pro-rated fee through the termination date. In the event fees are paid in advance, a pro-rata refund of the fees will be made when the agreement is terminated prior to the end of the period for which fees have already been paid.

### **What's Not Included in Our Fee**

The fees set forth below are solely for the provision of investment advisory services to separate accounts and do not include other fees a client may incur, such as brokerage commissions and mark-ups and mark-downs (see Item 12 for a discussion of our brokerage practices), transfer fees, exchange or similar fees (such as for ADRs), custody and fees charged by other service providers, such as consultants.

### **Fees for Fund Management**

For fees charged by registered open and closed end investment companies advised or subadvised by ClearBridge, please see the appropriate fund prospectus. ClearBridge also manages funds that are not registered under the securities laws and that are only available to qualified purchasers or accredited investors. Fees for those alternative investments range from .70% to 1.25% of assets under management. These funds do not charge incentive fees.

### **In General**

While it is ClearBridge's general policy to charge fees to its clients in accordance with the fee schedules in effect at the time of executing the investment management agreement, fees are subject to negotiation and may vary from the schedules provided here to reflect circumstances that may apply to a specific client account. For example, fees may differ from those stated because of long-standing relationships, anticipated client additions to assets under management, changing market conditions, or for other reasons. Account minimums may be waived for similar or other reasons.

From time to time, ClearBridge may also charge performance-based advisory fees to qualified clients, the terms of which are negotiated between us and the client, but in all events, such arrangements comply with the applicable provisions under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act").

### Institutional Discretionary Account Fee Schedule

Each of the institutional strategies listed below has a \$5 million minimum account size which may be waived under certain circumstances.

U.S. Strategies	Account Asset Value	Annual Fee
• <b>All Cap Growth</b>	First \$25 million	0.75%
• <b>All Cap Growth ESG</b>	Next \$25 million	0.65%
• <b>All Cap Value</b>	Next \$50 million	0.55%
• <b>All Cap Value ESG</b>	Above \$100 million	0.45%
• <b>Growth</b>		
• <b>Large Cap Growth</b>	First \$25 million	0.65%
• <b>Large Cap Growth ESG</b>	Next \$25 million	0.55%
• <b>Large Cap Value</b>	Next \$50 million	0.45%
• <b>Large Cap Value ESG</b>	Above \$100 million	0.40%
• <b>Appreciation</b>	First \$25 million	0.60%
• <b>Appreciation ESG</b>	Next \$25 million	0.55%
• <b>Dividend Strategy</b>	Next \$50 million	0.45%
• <b>Dividend Strategy ESG</b>	Above \$100 million	0.40%
• <b>Value Equity</b>		
• <b>Mid Cap</b>	First \$25 million	0.75%
• <b>Mid Cap Growth</b>	Next \$25 million	0.65%
	Next \$50 million	0.55%
	Above \$100 million	0.45%

<b>U.S. Strategies</b>	<b>Account Value</b>	<b>Annual Fee</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Small Cap</b></li> <li>• <b>Small Cap Growth</b></li> <li>• <b>Small Cap Value</b></li> <li>• <b>SMID Cap Growth</b></li> </ul>	First \$25 million	0.85%
	Next \$25 million	0.80%
	Next \$50 million	0.75%
	Above \$100 million	0.65%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Energy MLPs</b></li> <li>• <b>Tactical Dividend Income</b></li> </ul>	First \$25 million	0.75%
	Next \$25 million	0.70%
	Next \$50 million	0.65%
	Above \$100 million	0.60%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Health Care Innovations</b></li> </ul>	First \$25 million	0.75%
	Next \$25 million	0.65%
	Above \$50 million	0.60%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Focused Growth</b></li> <li>• <b>Focus Value</b></li> </ul>	First \$25 million	0.70%
	Next \$25 million	0.60%
	Next \$50 million	0.50%
	Above \$100 million	0.45%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Select</b></li> </ul>	All Assets	0.95%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sustainability Leaders</b></li> </ul>	First \$25 million	0.65%
	Next \$25 million	0.55%
	Above \$50 million	0.45%

<b>Non-U.S. &amp; Global Strategies</b>	<b>Account Asset Value</b>	<b>Annual Fee</b>
• <b>International Value</b>	First \$25 million	0.75%
• <b>International Value ADR</b>	Next \$25 million	0.70%
• <b>International Value ADR ESG</b>	Next \$50 million	0.65%
• <b>International Growth EAFE</b>	Above \$100 million	0.60%
• <b>International Growth ACWI ex US</b>		
• <b>International Growth ADR</b>		
• <b>International Growth ADR ESG</b>		
• <b>Global Value Improvers</b>	First \$25 million	0.70%
• <b>Global Growth</b>	Next \$25 million	0.65%
• <b>Global Value ADR</b>	Next \$50 million	0.60%
• <b>Global Growth ADR</b>	Above \$100 million	0.55%
• <b>Emerging Markets Infrastructure</b>	First \$25 million	0.75%
• <b>Global Infrastructure Value</b>	Next \$25million	0.70%
• <b>Global Infrastructure Income</b>	Next \$50 million	0.65%
• <b>Global Sustainable Infrastructure</b>	Above \$100 million	0.60%

### **Institutional Model Portfolio Fee Schedule**

With respect to the model portfolios involving our institutional strategies delivered to clients or other investment advisers on a non-discretionary basis, ClearBridge generally receives fees in the range of 0.30%-0.49%. Such fees are highly negotiable and may be higher or lower than the fees specified here depending upon the selected strategy and the level of customization required by the particular client or investment adviser as well as the client's or the investment adviser's servicing needs and other factors relevant to the relationship with the client or the investment adviser.

### **Item 6**

## **PERFORMANCE-BASED FEES AND SIDE-BY-SIDE MANAGEMENT**

### **Performance-Based Fees and Conflicts of Interest**

ClearBridge generally charges fees based on assets under management but may enter into arrangements that allow for it to receive fees that are based on a share of the capital gains or capital appreciation of the assets of an account. Alternatively, ClearBridge may receive a fulcrum fee for the management of a registered fund. In a fulcrum fee arrangement, ClearBridge's performance is measured against an index of securities and the fee increases or decreases proportionately with such performance.

Performance-based fee arrangements may create an incentive for ClearBridge or its portfolio managers to favor

accounts with higher fees in the allocation of investment opportunities, especially those of limited availability.

### **Other Conflicts Created By Side-By-Side Management**

Other types of side-by-side management can cause conflicts of interest. For instance, ClearBridge and its employees, including its portfolio managers, research analysts and traders, may have significant interests in certain accounts managed by ClearBridge, including some of the unregistered funds referenced in Item 4 above. A ClearBridge employee's interest may be a direct ownership interest in the fund (or a fund that invests in the fund or a separate account) or an indirect interest in the fund, for example as a participant in a deferred compensation plan that invests in the fund (or a fund that invests in the account). The interests of ClearBridge and its employees in a fund or separate account may constitute all or substantially all of the assets of that fund/account. The interests of ClearBridge and its employees in these funds/accounts, which are generally treated as client accounts, may present a conflict of interest for ClearBridge and its employees in allocating investment opportunities among such funds/accounts and other client accounts.

On occasion, ClearBridge and/or its parent, Franklin Resources, Inc., may invest corporate money or, as with the case of deferred compensation, certain employees' deferred compensation, in one or more vehicles that it has "seeded" to establish a performance track record for a new strategy. These accounts are managed as client accounts and are subject to the same compliance oversight and testing as all other accounts to ensure they are not given favorable treatment because they contain insiders' money.

### **How We Address the Conflicts**

To manage these potential conflicts of interest, ClearBridge has adopted policies and procedures to ensure that all investment opportunities are allocated equitably to clients. ClearBridge's Compliance Department monitors the allocation of investment opportunities on a real-time basis before the trade has been executed to ensure that all accounts that should participate in a transaction are included. Furthermore, to the extent possible, orders for accounts are aggregated and executions are allocated without consideration of client fee structure or ownership components. Compliance also reviews these allocations on T+1 basis to ensure that allocations were consistent with policy and all clients paid the same average price and commission rates. In addition, all investments in initial public offerings and other fixed price offerings are reviewed by Compliance prior to their allocation to ensure the allocations comply with our policies. Furthermore, performance dispersion among similarly managed accounts is reviewed by Compliance on a quarterly basis to ensure there are no outliers because of favoritism.

### **Short Sales**

Finally, ClearBridge may engage in short sale transactions on behalf of certain client accounts, including certain commingled investment vehicles. ClearBridge's policies prohibit a portfolio manager from engaging in short sale transactions on behalf of one or more client accounts with respect to any security held long by such portfolio manager on behalf of any other client accounts, although other portfolio managers may engage in transactions in said security.

**Item 7**

**TYPES OF CLIENTS**

ClearBridge manages separate accounts for both institutional and retail clients. Institutional clients include corporate and government pension funds, state and local governments, Taft-Hartleys, endowments, foundations, family offices, insurance companies and collective investment trusts. The minimum investment in institutional accounts is generally \$5 million.

ClearBridge also acts as adviser or subadviser to the ClearBridge Funds, which are part of the Legg Mason family of mutual funds, as well as subadviser to non-proprietary funds. These funds are predominately sold through intermediaries, including broker-dealers, registered investment advisers and banks. ClearBridge also acts as subadviser to four proprietary closed-end funds whose shares trade on the New York Stock Exchange and four proprietary actively-managed exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), which are traded on the NASDAQ. ClearBridge also manages accounts and funds of non-U.S. clients either as adviser or subadviser. In addition, ClearBridge subadvise proprietary offshore funds which are offered and sold by its offshore affiliates.

Clients may access certain ClearBridge strategies through private funds, including the ClearBridge Investment Trust. In order to do so, clients must meet certain qualifications and be either qualified purchasers or accredited investors. Account minimums are generally \$1 million.

ClearBridge also manages separate accounts on behalf of high net worth individuals ("private clients"), either directly or through financial institution intermediaries. Private client account minimums are generally \$1 million.

Finally, ClearBridge participates as either a discretionary or non-discretionary manager in many SMA Programs, usually through its affiliate, FTPPG. Account minimums are set by the SMA Program sponsors, although they are generally at least \$50,000. Information about these products can be found in the brochure entitled "ClearBridge/FTPPG Retail Client Brochure."

**Item 8**

**METHODS OF ANALYSIS, INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISK OF LOSS**

**Our Methods of Analysis**

ClearBridge maintains a centralized research group that supports the portfolio management function while certain strategies utilize portfolio analysts who support specific products. ClearBridge performs research on an ongoing basis for the maintenance of existing investments and to identify new investment opportunities. Our bottom-up, fundamental research<sup>2</sup> targets companies with:

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<sup>2</sup> Fundamental Research is the analysis of factors that affect a company's underlying value such as revenues, cash flow, supply and demand of the company's products etc., as opposed to technical analysis which involves using historical price and trading data.

- Differentiated business models
- High sustainable returns
- Strong financial characteristics
- Seasoned management teams

Research materials are shared among ClearBridge's analysts and portfolio managers through a common technology platform, providing simultaneous access to past and current proprietary research as well as aggregated market intelligence from outside sources. Both internally generated research and externally generated research are available to ClearBridge's portfolio managers. The sources of information on which internal research may be based include, but are not limited to:

- Meetings with company managements
- Public company filings (10Ks, 10Qs, 8Ks, etc.)
- On-site company visits
- Services such as FactSet, Bloomberg, etc.
- Third-party research

External research may include research from across the spectrum of sell-side financial industry firms, as well as research and expertise from research boutiques and other firms. In addition, depending on the topic, ClearBridge may obtain external research such as proprietary surveys, industry-specific legal advice and other specialized research services from consultants. ClearBridge may also obtain external research from independent research institutes and established think tanks.

ClearBridge's portfolio managers each have their own distinct investment processes and priorities when managing client portfolios, but they all share a fundamental approach to security selection and valuation analysis. The investment teams employ various methods of analysis, which may include charting, cyclical, fundamental, technical and quantitative modeling.

### **Integration of ESG Factors<sup>3</sup>**

One of ClearBridge's hallmarks is its ESG approach, which integrates ESG principles, active company engagement and shareholder advocacy across the majority of its investment platform. ClearBridge has a long history of managing ESG mandates. A ClearBridge predecessor firm opened its first ESG account in 1975 and, in 1987, established one of Wall Street's first structured social investment programs. The ESG Investment approach has remained consistent in its basic tenets of integrating material, sector specific ESG factors into the research and stock-selection process but has continually evolved and grown. The process of assigning a proprietary ESG rating to a company is a policy for the analysts to measure and track their ESG integration and engagement. ClearBridge offers ESG-focused products for both institutional and individual investors.

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<sup>3</sup> A Note About Terminology: There are many ways to describe strategies for investing consistent with environmental, social and governance best practices. These include "sustainable investing," "socially responsible investing" and more recently "impact investing," among others. The term "ESG" represents the latest stage in the evolution away from merely screening out certain industries or companies.

We source investment ideas and construct portfolios by integrating ESG analysis into the fundamental research performed by analysts on ClearBridge's centralized sector research platform as well as analysts dedicated to specific portfolios. Our analysts and portfolio managers examine the ESG issues relevant to a company's business activities, measure and evaluate their impact on both qualitative and quantitative bases and suggest ways for companies to improve their ESG practices. This integrated approach results in a thorough and detailed evaluation of a company's risks and opportunities related to the specific ESG issues that are relevant to its business.

We believe ESG is rapidly evolving into an integral part of the way investors analyze companies. At ClearBridge, ESG is not merely a screen or an overlay; it is part of how we conduct fundamental research and it defines how we think about companies considered for investment. Our clients, whether or not they desire an explicit ESG mandate, all have long-term investment goals. We believe companies that plan carefully for what's ahead and operate sustainably in relation to their customers, communities and the environment should have a long-term competitive advantage over their peers. We believe our clients are well-served by investing in such companies.

Analysts and portfolio managers typically use an established proprietary research and engagement process to determine a company's profile on ESG issues. This includes generating an ESG rating, through its ESG ratings system, by assessing ESG factors both quantitatively and qualitatively. This system has four rating levels: AAA, AA, A & B, assigned to companies based on performance on key ESG issues (such as health & safety, gender diversity, climate risk, corporate governance risk and data security), including performance relative to the companies' industry peer set. ESG factors may also include, but are not necessarily limited to, environmentally-friendly product initiatives, labor audits of overseas supply chains and strong corporate governance. The choice of ESG factors for any particular company generally reflects the specific industry. Not every investment is assessed for ESG factors and, when it is, not every ESG factor may be identified or evaluated.

This overall stock selection process lends itself well to ESG integration, which ensures a more holistic approach to sustainability that measures progress and promotes improvement over time. Analysts rate companies on all three areas - Environmental, Social & Governance - based on how relevant these issues are to their industry, along a codified internal ratings scale. ClearBridge does not employ an exclusionary approach that avoids certain sectors entirely, but rather a continuous evaluation of a company's performance on ESG issues is made over time and relative to its peers. Companies in our coverage universe earn a proprietary ESG rating. We also work with companies to improve their ESG performance through direct engagement and proxy voting. The analysts continuously review their ESG ratings and monitor their scoring methodology. Throughout a given year, analysts may upgrade or downgrade their ESG ratings if the analyst believes such action is warranted. Otherwise, the analysts' ESG ratings will be reviewed formally at least once a year.

Furthermore, ClearBridge regularly engages with companies to drive impact in ESG areas that are material to their businesses. These engagements occur in various ways, including one-on-one meetings with senior management and through active participation in ESG organizations. As a firm, ClearBridge hosts around 1,000 company meetings every year. The Firm's high-conviction, concentrated approach to portfolio construction coupled with its large asset base and ESG expertise, puts us in a very unique position. Analysts communicate to managements as long-term shareowners on material and relevant ESG matters towards driving change within corporations. Proxy voting is another tool we utilize to signal confidence in the companies we own or suggest the need for a change in policies, disclosures or related business practices. While the Firm actively examines and votes proxies in line with

a thoughtfully constructed proxy voting guideline, it also focuses on the impact it can have during conversations with Chief Executive Officers and Chief Financial Officers over long periods of time. ClearBridge has found that sometimes just asking the right questions as a large institutional money manager, whether about gender equality, energy efficiency, better board governance or disclosure, can result in positive changes in the mindset and eventually the operations of large public companies. As long-term oriented investors who also happen to be among the largest shareholders of many companies it owns, ClearBridge can get a seat at management's table and emphasize material issues that are of concern to ourselves and clients.

## **OUR INSTITUTIONAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The following are ClearBridge's investment strategies followed by a discussion of risks. All investments carry the risk of loss of principal.

### **All Cap Growth**

Our All Cap Growth strategy seeks long-term capital appreciation by investing in a diversified portfolio of large, mid and small capitalization stocks the portfolio managers believe have substantial growth potential. While most investments are in U.S. companies, the portfolio managers may also invest in ADRs and U.S.-traded ordinary shares of non-U.S. companies in developed and emerging markets.

### **All Cap Value**

Our All Cap Value strategy seeks to achieve growth of capital by investing in stocks of varying capitalizations, which offer long-term investment value and deliver above-average returns while also providing downside protection. The portfolio managers apply value criteria to attempt to find the most inefficiently priced stocks in the small, mid, and large capitalization sectors.

### **Appreciation**

Our Appreciation strategy seeks long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in a core portfolio of quality large capitalization companies, although the portfolio managers may also invest in selected mid and small capitalization companies. Investments generally include companies the portfolio managers believe have superior demonstrated or expected growth characteristics and whose stocks are available at reasonable prices, and/or companies whose assets or earning power the portfolio managers believe are either unrecognized or undervalued by the market.

### **Dividend Strategy**

Our Dividend Strategy mandate seeks dividend income, growth of dividend income, and long-term capital appreciation. The portfolio managers invest primarily in equity and equity-related securities, which may include common stocks, convertibles and preferred stocks, that either pay an existing dividend or that they expect will pay a dividend in the near future. Although it is expected that most investments will be in U.S. companies, the portfolio managers may invest in shares of non-U.S. companies, either directly or through ADRs.

### **Focused Growth**

Our Focused Growth strategy seeks long-term capital growth by investing primarily in a concentrated portfolio of 25 to 30 large cap growth companies which are defined as companies with market capitalizations of \$15 billion or more. The portfolio managers invest in leadership companies where they believe the market price underestimates

the magnitude of future growth.

### **Focus Value**

Our Focus Value strategy seeks long-term capital appreciation by primarily investing in a concentrated portfolio of 30 to 40 companies. At least 80% of the holdings will be in equities of large cap companies, *i.e.*, companies with capitalizations similar to those contained in the Russell 1000 Index. The portfolio managers use both quantitative and fundamental methods to identify stocks, primarily of larger capitalization companies, that the portfolio managers believe have a high probability of outperforming other stocks in the same industry or sector.

### **Global Value Improvers**

Our Global Value Improvers strategy seeks long-term growth of capital by investing in common stocks and other equity securities of companies trading at significant discount to intrinsic value that have unique opportunities to improve their ESG profiles and generate outsized impact. ESG improvement opportunities include mature companies seeing new revenue opportunities from ESG initiatives, current poor performers that are targeting substantial improvement in their alignment with ESG mandates, and other company-specific stories which are underappreciated by the market. In terms of impact, the strategy will focus on the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals ("SDG"s) and target companies with direct contribution or products that enable others to further the SDG objectives.

### **Global Growth**

Our Global Growth strategy seeks long-term growth of capital through investment in common stocks of U.S. and non-U.S. companies in both developed and emerging markets. The portfolio managers employ a research process centered on valuation, high active share and a long-term investment horizon. The strategy invests in companies that the portfolio managers believe will offer above-average growth potential and trade at a discount to the portfolio managers' assessment of their intrinsic value.

### **Global Growth ADR**

Our Global Growth ADR strategy seeks long-term growth of capital through investment in U.S. companies and non-U.S. companies in both developed and emerging markets. These investments may include stocks of U.S. companies, ADRs of non-U.S. companies, U.S.-traded stocks that result from the conversion of ADRs and ordinary shares of non-U.S. companies that trade on U.S. exchanges. The portfolio managers employ a research process centered on valuation, high active share and a long-term investment horizon. The strategy invests in companies that the portfolio managers believe will offer above-average growth potential and trade at a discount to the portfolio managers' assessment of their intrinsic value.

### **Global Value ADR**

Our Global Value ADR strategy seeks to provide a value-based, global equity strategy that will outperform the MSCI World Index over 3-5 years, with risk similar to the Index. The portfolio managers invest in ADRs drawn from the universe of international companies with ADRs listed on the major U.S. exchanges and that have market capitalizations of greater than \$100 million.

## **Growth**

Our Growth strategy seeks long-term capital appreciation by investing in stocks of companies the portfolio managers believe have the potential for sustainable above-average long-term earnings and/or cash flow growth. The strategy invests primarily in common stocks of companies the portfolio managers believe are experiencing, or will experience, growth in earnings exceeding the average rate of earnings growth of companies across market capitalizations. The portfolio managers focus primarily on emerging growth companies that have passed their "start-up" phase, show positive earnings, and the prospect of achieving significant profit gains two to three years after the strategy acquires their stocks. As long-term business owners, the portfolio managers expect to hold companies for many years to allow for compounding of earnings and cash flows.

## **Health Care Innovations**

Our Health Care Innovations strategy seeks to provide long-term capital appreciation by investing in securities issued by medical, health care and therapeutics companies with growth potential. The portfolio managers will invest in companies involved in the research, development, production, marketing, distribution, sales and payment of products and services related to health care and the life sciences. These companies include, but are not limited to those in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device products and health care services industries. Investments may be made in equity securities of U.S. and non-U.S. companies that the portfolio managers believe may have superior cash flows over time and economic returns relative to their risk-adjusted valuations. Investments in non-U.S. companies may include companies in emerging markets.

## **International Growth**

Our International Growth strategies seek long-term capital appreciation and consistently superior returns versus their indices by investing primarily in the stock of companies believed to have above-average potential for growth in revenue, earnings, cash flow or other similar criteria. Investments are made outside the U.S. including across developed and emerging markets in Canada, Europe, Asia, Australia, Central and Latin America and Africa. The portfolio managers evaluate foreign markets around the world and choose large, mid and small capitalization companies where we have a differentiated view on the duration and/or magnitude of growth. International Growth strategies consist of the following:

### ***International Growth ADR***

Our International Growth ADR strategy is for clients who are interested in an international growth EAFE strategy that invests in non-U.S. developed markets by utilizing primarily ADRs.

### ***International Growth EAFE***

Our International Growth EAFE strategy is for clients who are interested in investing in non-U.S. developed markets with limited exposure to emerging markets.

### ***International Growth ACWI ex U.S.***

Our International Growth ACWI ex U.S. strategy is for clients who are interested in investing in non-U.S. markets, with greater exposure to emerging markets.

### **International Value**

Our International Value strategy seeks total return on its assets from growth of capital. Investments are made from a universe of approximately 5,000 non-U.S. publicly traded securities with a market capitalization greater than \$100 million. The portfolios typically invest in securities from developed and emerging markets diversified across both market sectors and capitalizations.

### **International Value ADR**

Our International Value ADR strategy seeks total return on its assets from growth of capital. Investments are made from the universe of 5,000 international companies with ADRs listed on the major U.S. exchanges that have market capitalizations greater than \$100 million. The portfolios typically invest in securities from developed and emerging markets diversified across both market sectors and capitalizations.

### **Large Cap Growth**

Our Large Cap Growth strategy seeks consistent growth of capital while minimizing volatility. It seeks to outperform the Russell 1000 Growth Index over a full market cycle and perform well in rising markets while outperforming the Russell 1000 Growth Index in declining markets.

### **Large Cap Value**

Our Large Cap Value strategy seeks long-term capital appreciation by employing fundamental research in an effort to identify securities with favorable return characteristics. The portfolio management team constructs the accounts on a bottom-up basis by focusing on high-quality franchises with resilient and durable businesses at attractive valuations, capable of generating superior risk-adjusted returns over the medium to long-term.

### **Mid Cap**

Our Mid Cap strategy seeks long-term growth of capital and consistently superior returns relative to the Russell Midcap Index. To pursue these objectives, the portfolio managers invest in medium capitalization equity securities using a disciplined process combining quantitative and fundamental analysis. The portfolio managers seek out companies with the ability to generate strong free cash flow, supportive balance sheets, undervalued earnings potential and/or management teams that demonstrate capital discipline.

### **Mid Cap Growth**

Our Mid Cap Growth strategy seeks long-term appreciation and consistently superior returns relative to the Russell Midcap Growth Index. The portfolio managers pursue these objectives by investing in a concentrated group of stocks selected for their long-term growth potential.

### **Select**

Our Select strategy seeks long-term growth of capital by taking an unconstrained approach to investing with an emphasis on equity securities and equity-related securities of U.S. and non-U.S. companies. The strategy has no geographic limits and may invest in issuers of any market capitalization. The strategy may enter into short positions and may invest in various types of derivatives either as a hedging technique, as a substitute for buying or selling securities, as a cash-flow management technique or as a means of enhancing returns.

### **Small Cap**

Our Small Cap strategy seeks long-term capital appreciation. The portfolio managers invest primarily in equity securities of small capitalization companies. The portfolio managers may also make limited investments in mid-sized companies. The portfolio managers follow a core discipline in selecting securities and seek to purchase securities at discounts to their assessment of the companies' intrinsic value.

### **Small Cap Growth**

Our Small Cap Growth strategy seeks long-term growth of capital. The portfolio managers select investments using a growth-oriented investment style that emphasizes small companies believed to have one or more positive investment attributes. These attributes may include superior management teams, good prospects for growth, dominant positions in a niche market or large company customers, and strong or improving financial conditions, as well as other positive investment attributes.

### **Small Cap Value**

Our Small Cap Value strategy seeks long-term capital growth and to outperform the Russell 2000 Value Index over a full market cycle. These objectives are pursued by seeking small capitalization stocks that the portfolio managers believe sell at low prices relative to multiple measures of value and have price appreciation potential based on an anticipated dynamic company or industry change.

### **SMID Cap Growth**

Our SMID Cap Growth strategy seeks long-term capital appreciation and consistently superior returns versus the Russell 2500 Growth Index. The portfolio will pursue its investment objective by investing in a concentrated, non-diversified group of stocks selected for their long-term growth potential. The strategy will invest at least 80% of its assets in the securities of small and medium sized companies as defined by the market capitalization range of the Russell 2500 Growth Index.

### **Tactical Dividend Income**

Our Tactical Dividend Income strategy seeks to generate high current income, with capital appreciation as a secondary objective by investing in a diversified portfolio of equity and equity-related securities, including common stocks, preferred stocks, convertible securities, master limited partnerships, real estate investment trusts, closed-end funds, including business development companies and royalty trusts.

### **Value Equity**

Our Value Equity strategy seeks to provide long-term capital appreciation by actively selecting securities the portfolio managers believe are trading at a discount to their intrinsic value. The portfolio managers primarily invest in equity securities of large capitalization companies that they believe are selling significantly below their expected value due to market inefficiencies or uncertainties about the company.

## **SPECIALIZED PRODUCTS**

### **Energy MLPs**

Our Energy MLP strategy seeks to provide a high level of total return with an emphasis on cash distributions. It

seeks to achieve its objective by investing primarily in Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs) in the energy sector. The portfolio managers consider MLPs to be in the energy sector if they derive at least 50% of their revenues from the businesses of exploring, developing, producing, gathering, transporting, processing, storing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing natural gas, natural gas liquids (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products or coal.

### **Infrastructure<sup>4</sup>**

We deem companies to be engaged in the infrastructure business if at least 50% or more of their assets, income, sales or profits are committed to, derived from or related to, the construction, renovation, ownership, development, financing, management or operation of infrastructure assets or the provision of raw materials necessary for the construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets.

### **Emerging Markets Infrastructure**

Our Emerging Markets Infrastructure strategy aims to deliver the growth of emerging markets with the attractive risk/return outcome available from infrastructure companies.

### **Global Infrastructure Income**

Our Global Infrastructure Income strategy invests in global listed infrastructure companies with a combined focus on income and capital growth.

### **Global Infrastructure Value**

Our Global Infrastructure Value strategy is a global portfolio that aims to deliver risk-adjusted returns to equity with a balance between income and capital returns over a rolling five-year period.

### **Global Sustainable Infrastructure**

Our Global Sustainable Infrastructure strategy is a global portfolio that aims to provide income and capital appreciation, as well as favorable ESG outcomes, from a portfolio of infrastructure securities.

### **ESG-FOCUSED INVESTING**

Many of the strategies described above are also available in ESG-focused portfolios designed for clients who wish to limit investments to companies that meet certain ESG quality criteria or exclude from their portfolios certain industries or issuers, or go beyond passive avoidance and emphasize companies with certain quality attributes.

### **Sustainability Leaders**

Our Sustainability Leaders strategy seeks long-term capital growth by investing in companies that meet the portfolio managers' financial and sustainability/ESG criteria. The portfolio managers' ESG and sustainability evaluation is integrated into a thorough assessment of investment worthiness based on financial criteria. The

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<sup>4</sup> Due to Australian tax regulations, Infrastructure products managed by ClearBridge's Australian affiliates, ClearBridge Investments Limited and its subsidiary, ClearBridge Investments (North America) Pty Limited, which is SEC registered, must be contracted directly by clients with one of these entities or indirectly, as a subadviser to ClearBridge. For more information about the relationship, see Item 10.

portfolio managers consider a sustainable company to be one that (i) offers products and services that have a positive impact on society; (ii) manages its own operations sustainably; and (iii) has well-defined strategies in place to ensure longevity as an investment. Sustainability is not limited to environmental stewardship, but also includes a company's policies in regard to treating employees fairly and furthering their professional development, interacting in a positive way within its local community, promoting safety at all times, managing its supply chain responsibly, and employing corporate governance practices that are shareholder friendly and transparent. Companies are assigned a proprietary ESG Rating by the covering analyst (e.g., A, AA, AAA), and the portfolio managers and analysts frequently engage with company management to promote best practices.

### **Other ESG-Focused Strategies**

As discussed above, all portfolio candidates for ESG accounts are reviewed by the ClearBridge analysts and by the respective portfolio managers, for their investment attractiveness and ESG characteristics. Certain portfolio company candidates may be excluded due to investments in companies that the portfolio managers or analysts determine are significantly involved in the manufacture of tobacco and alcohol products, the provision of gaming services, the production of nuclear power, and the manufacture of weapons. ClearBridge also offers ESG portfolios that incorporate faith-based screens.

Clients may request additional, customized social screens for the ESG strategies (such as specific mission-consistent, or faith-based screens, etc.).

### **Private Client – Fixed Income**

In addition to the investment strategies described above, we offer management for both taxable and non-taxable fixed income investments. Clients generally are able to work with ClearBridge to develop an investment approach that reflects the desired risk/reward profile for the portfolio and other investment preferences. Non-taxable fixed income investments consist of municipal securities. Taxable fixed income investments may include U.S. Government and Agency securities, taxable municipal securities, corporate notes and bonds, commercial paper, planned amortization class collateralized mortgage obligations ("CMOs") and other early-tranche CMOs.

For descriptions of our strategies offered to Private Clients through our affiliate, FTPPG and their risks, please see the brochure entitled ClearBridge/FTPPG Retail Client Brochure.

### **Alternative Investments**

ClearBridge also offers alternative investment strategies through private placements to qualified purchasers and/or accredited investors.

### **Retail Investment Strategies**

For descriptions of our retail investment strategies offered and made available to clients in SMA Programs and other investment advisers or clients and their risks, please see the brochure entitled ClearBridge/FTPPG Retail Client Brochure.

## Risks

There can be multiple factors that contribute to investment risk and risks vary, depending upon investment strategy. ClearBridge does not guarantee the future performance of a client's account or any specific level of performance. The following are certain important risks that should be considered by clients before investing.

### All Investments

- **Risk of Loss:** Investing in securities involves risk of loss, including the risk of loss of principal.
- **Issuer Risk:** Securities may decline in value because of changes in the financial condition of the issuer. An individual security may perform differently than the market as a whole.

### Equity Investments

- **Equity Risk:** Investments in equity securities (e.g., common stocks, preferred stocks, convertible securities, right, warrants and depository receipts) are subject to greater price volatility than fixed income securities. Investments in income-producing equities are subject to the risk that the issuer may reduce or discontinue the dividend.
- **Style Risk:** Our strategies reflect different investment styles. Some of our strategies follow a growth strategy; others follow a value strategy while others follow a blend or core strategy. At any point in time, one strategy or another may be in or out of favor with investors which means that the strategy will underperform other investment styles.
- **Concentration Risk:** Some of our strategies can take large positions in a single company and/or invest in fewer companies. Investing in a strategy that holds fewer securities involves greater risk because the poor performance of even one large holding can cause the strategy to significantly underperform the market.
- **Market Capitalization Risk:** Risks may vary depending upon an issuer's market capitalization. Strategies that primarily invest in either large, mid, or small cap stocks take on the risk that one category may be out of favor. The stocks of small and mid cap companies may carry more risks than those of large capitalization companies as their businesses may have less financial resources and their prices are often more volatile. Small and mid cap stocks may underperform larger capitalization companies and their shares may be less liquid and therefore harder to sell.
- **Industry/Sector Risk:** A strategy that concentrates its investments in particular sectors or industries will experience greater price volatility and price declines if those industries/sectors fall out of favor. Concentration risk is the risk of loss from concentrating investments in a particular industry or sector and not more broadly diversifying investments across multiple industries. An investment management portfolio that concentrates investments in a particular industry or sector will have a greater risk of loss from developments that negatively affect companies in that industry or sector.

- **Non-U.S. Securities:** Our strategies usually have investments in securities of non-U.S. issuers. These investments are made in the form of ADRs (American Depositary Receipts), shares of non-U.S. issuers traded in U.S. markets or ordinary shares of non-U.S. companies traded in non-U.S. markets. Investments in non-U.S. securities carry greater risks than those of U.S. securities. Non-U.S. markets may be more volatile and less liquid than U.S. markets, be affected by political and economic instability and there may be less information available about companies and markets than in the U.S. and lower accounting standards and regulatory oversight. Non-U.S. securities are also subject to currency exchange rate fluctuations which may have a negative effect on investments.
- **Emerging Markets:** The risks of foreign investing are increased when investments are made in emerging markets countries. These countries tend to have economic, political and legal systems that are less developed and less stable than those of the U.S. and other developed countries. In addition, securities markets in emerging markets may be relatively illiquid and subject to greater price volatility.
- **Currency Forwards:** Our portfolio managers may try to mitigate the risk of exposure to non-U.S. currencies by buying and selling currency forwards which are binding contracts that lock in the exchange rate for the purchase or sale of a currency on a future date. The risk in transacting in currency forwards is an adverse move in the currency exchange rate.
- **American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”):** Generally, ADRs, in registered form, are denominated in U.S. dollars and are designed for use in the U.S. securities market. Usually issued by a U.S. bank or trust company, ADRs are receipts that demonstrate ownership of underlying non-U.S. securities. ADRs may be sponsored or unsponsored. Issuers of securities underlying unsponsored ADRs are not contractually obligated to disclose material information in the United States. Accordingly, there may be less information available about such issuers than there is with respect to U.S. companies and non-U.S. issuers of securities underlying sponsored ADRs. As an alternative to purchasing or selling ADRs in the U.S. market, ADRs may be created and purchased or canceled and sold through a custodian bank in the local market for the ADRs’ underlying non-U.S. securities. The bank usually charges a fee for converting the underlying non-U.S. securities to ADRs (in the case of a purchase) or the ADRs to the underlying non-U.S. securities (in the case of a sale). ADRs that are purchased via such a conversion may have low trading liquidity in the U.S. market and may therefore need to be sold in the local market for the ADRs’ underlying non-U.S. securities in order to avoid excessive transaction costs that likely would result from selling such ADRs in the U.S. market.
- **Master Limited Partnerships (“MLPs”)** MLPs are limited partnerships that are publicly traded and which have the tax benefits of a limited partnership (no taxation at the partnership level, only the limited partner level). Investments in units of MLPs involve different risks. As limited partners, unit holders have limited control and limited voting rights so that if the MLP wants to issue additional units, it may do so without limited partner approval which may result in a dilution to existing unit holders. Finally, there are certain tax risks associated with investments in MLPs.
- **Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs):** Investments in REITs carry the same risks generally found in investing in equities. In addition, REITs are subject to the risks of the real estate markets as well as the management of the REITs and the underlying properties. Many factors can impact these areas, including

national and regional economic conditions.

- **ESG Investing Risk:** A strategy subject to ESG policy guidelines and restrictions could underperform accounts invested in a similar strategy without the same restrictions because the ESG guidelines can force a portfolio manager to avoid or liquidate a well-performing security because it does not meet the ESG criteria. The assessment of an issuer's ESG factors is subjective and may differ from those of third-party ratings providers. Securities selected may not reflect the beliefs and values of any particular client. Further, we are dependent on the availability of timely, complete and accurate ESG data reported by issuers and/or third-party research providers, the timeliness, completeness and accuracy of which is out of our control. Finally, ESG factors may be defined or measured differently, which could impact our assessment of an issuer.
- **Derivatives Risk:** Using derivatives may have a leveraging effect which may result in a disproportionate increase in losses and reduce opportunities for gains when market prices, interest rates or the derivative instruments themselves behave in a way that is not anticipated. Derivatives can also increase volatility and may be difficult to sell, unwind or value and the counterparty may default on its obligations. The U.S. government and non-U.S. governments have adopted and implemented or are in the process of adopting and implementing regulations governing derivatives markets. The ultimate impact of the regulations remains unclear. Additional regulation of derivatives may make derivatives more costly, limit their availability or utility, otherwise adversely affect their value or performance or disrupt markets. Such additional regulations may expose investors to additional risks.
- **Short Sales Risk:** If the price of the security sold short increases between the time of the short sale and the time the borrowed security is replaced, a loss will be realized, which may be substantial.
- **Options Risk:** Buying puts and selling calls may reduce a strategy's volatility and provide up-front cash (on a sale of a call) but it also limits a strategy's ability to profit from increases in the market value of its stock holdings. Portfolios can also lose all or a part of the cash paid for buying put options.
- **Interest Rate Risk:** Changes in interest rates can also have a positive or negative impact directly or indirectly on investment values or returns. For example, hybrid securities, cash and other interest-bearing securities are very sensitive to fluctuations in interest rates. Infrastructure securities tend to be more sensitive to interest rate fluctuations than industrial securities.
- **Unlisted Securities Risk:** Where an investment is made in an unlisted security, additional risks may be assumed, including that the investment will be less liquid than a listed security, that distributable income is likely to be lower and that the underlying investment may not appreciate in value. Valuations for unlisted investments will be based on references to any recent comparable equity sales or by reference to independent third-party valuations.

### Fixed Income Investments

- **Fixed Income Securities Risk:** Fixed Income securities, which include traditional debt issued by corporations, governmental agencies and taxable and tax-exempt debt issued by states and municipalities, are subject to the credit risk of the issuer. Fixed Income securities are also subject to inflation risk because

rising costs lower the value of fixed rate debt.

- **Interest Rate Risk:** Fixed Income securities are subject to the risk that they may lose value because of interest rate changes. Generally, as interest rates rise, bonds tend to decrease in value. The longer the duration of a bond or other debt instrument, the greater the interest rate risk.
- **Municipal Securities Risk:** In addition to the risks generally associated with fixed income investing, adverse economic and political changes can negatively affect the municipal securities markets. The reduction of tax revenues may impede a municipality's ability to repay the bond. Municipals may also be callable, i.e., if interest rates decline, the issuer may call the bond so that the investor has to reinvest the proceeds in a lower yielding bond. Also, certain bonds are subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax which may make them less attractive to an investor looking for tax-exempt income. Finally, investors who live in high tax states and seek income that is exempt from state and local taxes take concentration risk.

#### Item 9

### DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION

There are no reportable legal or disciplinary events for ClearBridge or its employees.

#### Item 10

### OTHER FINANCIAL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS

#### 1. Our Limited Purpose Broker-Dealer Affiliate

ClearBridge has an affiliate, Franklin Distributors, LLC ("FD"), which is registered as a limited purpose broker-dealer. Its primary purpose is to act as the principal underwriter of several fund families sponsored by Franklin Resources, Inc. and its affiliates and to market retail separate account products to the financial institutions that sponsor SMA Programs. In order to enable its portfolio managers and sales team to assist FD in marketing such ClearBridge products, sales team members and many portfolio managers are registered representatives. ClearBridge's sales team and its portfolio managers do not receive any compensation based on the sale of any ClearBridge products nor do they receive commissions on client transactions.

In addition to acting as principal underwriter of the U.S. registered investment companies for which ClearBridge serves as adviser or subadviser, FD also serves as placement agent for certain unregistered funds which ClearBridge manages. FD does not collect a fee for such services and ClearBridge employees do not receive transaction-based compensation for the sale of interests in these funds.

#### 2. Commodities

Neither ClearBridge nor any of our management persons are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, commodity trading advisor, or an associated person of the foregoing entities. To the extent that we may provide advice on commodity interests to clients, we do so only to the limited extent permitted by law for firms that are not so registered.

### 3. Related Person Relationships

#### **FRANKLIN TEMPLETON PRIVATE PORTFOLIO GROUP, LLC**

As noted above in Item 4, and more fully described in the disclosure brochure that ClearBridge shares with FTPPG and certain other affiliated managers (see ClearBridge/FTPPG Retail Client Brochure), ClearBridge participates as an investment adviser on a subadvisory basis through FTPPG in certain SMA Programs. In these arrangements, FTPPG contracts with SMA Program sponsors to provide discretionary investment advisory services to their clients. ClearBridge provides FTPPG with instructions that FTPPG either implements and trades or provides to the sponsors for their implementation and trading. ClearBridge may also participate in non-discretionary SMA Programs where FTPPG delivers ClearBridge's recommendations to the sponsors which determine whether to use the model. Further, FTPPG's trading desk generally trades ClearBridge Private Client accounts in situations where the client has directed that ClearBridge use the services of one broker-dealer. See discussion of directed brokerage in Item 12 below.

Furthermore, ClearBridge has a relationship with FTPPG in which ClearBridge supports FTPPG in the following functional areas pursuant to a services agreement between them: management, legal, compliance, technology, finance and human resources. Moreover, ClearBridge's Chief Executive Officer is FTPPG's Chief Executive Officer, ClearBridge's Head of Client Service is FTPPG's Chief Operating Officer, ClearBridge's General Counsel is FTPPG's General Counsel and ClearBridge's Chief Compliance Officer is FTPPG's Chief Compliance Officer.

#### **CLEARBRIDGE INVESTMENTS LIMITED**

#### **CLEARBRIDGE INVESTMENTS (NORTH AMERICA) PTY LIMITED**

ClearBridge has a relationship with its affiliates, ClearBridge Investments Limited and its SEC-registered subsidiary ClearBridge Investments (North America) Pty Limited (collectively, "CIL"), pursuant to which ClearBridge has integrated CIL's business functions into its own and the entities' personnel provide functional services to all three entities pursuant to services arrangements between them. CIL specializes in infrastructure mandates. See Item 5. ClearBridge's Chief Executive Officer is also CIL's Chief Executive Officer and its portfolio managers report to ClearBridge's Chief Investment Officer. The various functional heads of CIL report to their counterparts in ClearBridge (e.g., General Counsel, Chief Operating Officer, etc.). So as to prevent any conflicts of interest from arising, especially in view of the fact that ClearBridge traders trade for CIL accounts and vice versa, CIL compliance policies were amended to mirror ClearBridge's. In that way, all accounts are treated the same.

#### **FRANKLIN TEMPLETON INVESTMENTS CORP. (D/B/A CLEARBRIDGE INVESTMENTS)**

Effective November 6, 2023 and pursuant to an intercompany services agreement, an equity investment management team at Franklin Bissett Investment Management, an investment management division within Franklin Templeton Investments Corp. ("FTIC"), a Canadian affiliate of ClearBridge that is wholly owned by Franklin Resources, Inc. ("Franklin Bissett Equity Team"), became operationally integrated with ClearBridge. The Franklin Bissett Equity Team is based in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

As a result of this integration, the business and operational functions of the Franklin Bissett Equity Team became integrated with those of ClearBridge. In particular, the Franklin Bissett Equity Team became integrated

into ClearBridge's operating and trading platforms and its portfolio managers began reporting to ClearBridge's Chief Investment Officer, while its functional personnel, such as, for example, Trading, Distribution and Client Service functions, began reporting to their management counterparts in ClearBridge. However, the Franklin Bissett Equity Team was not legally integrated with ClearBridge and continues to provide services to its clients as part of FTIC and in accordance with investment management agreements between clients and FTIC, but under a "doing business as" name of "ClearBridge Investments". So as to prevent any conflicts of interest from arising, especially in view of the fact that ClearBridge traders may trade for client accounts of the Franklin Bissett Equity Team and vice versa, the Franklin Bissett Equity Team personnel became subject to ClearBridge's policies and procedures, which was intended to ensure that all client accounts are treated the same. This integration did not include any other investment teams at FTIC or other business lines at Franklin Bissett Investment Management, such as the Franklin Bissett Fixed Income team, which continues to operate as part of FTIC. The Franklin Bissett Equity Team currently does not provide investment advisory services to any U.S.-based clients.

#### **FRANKLIN ADVISERS, INC.**

ClearBridge has a relationship with Franklin Advisers, Inc., an affiliated manager ("FAV"), pursuant to which ClearBridge, for agreed-upon compensation, makes available and delivers to Franklin Templeton Investment Solutions ("FTIS"), an investment management group within FAV, one or more of its investment management portfolios described in this brochure in the form of investment models on a non-discretionary basis for use by FTIS in providing investment management and advisory services to certain FAV clients. ClearBridge may enter into similar arrangements with other affiliated managers from time to time.

#### **FRANKLIN TEMPLETON FUND ADVISER, LLC**

ClearBridge acts as adviser or subadviser to various registered open and closed end investment companies pursuant to agreements with its affiliate, Franklin Templeton Fund Adviser, LLC, formerly known as Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC ("FTFA"), wherein FTFA acts as Administrator or Adviser, respectively. ClearBridge also acts as subadviser to various offshore funds sponsored by Franklin affiliates.

#### **FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY INTERNATIONAL**

From time to time, ClearBridge may, upon a client's request, suggest or recommend that the client use its affiliate, Fiduciary Trust Company International ("FTCI"), to provide custodial services to the client in connection with ClearBridge's management of such client's account. When a client chooses to use FTCI as its custodian, FTCI will charge fees to the client for its custodial services; however, ClearBridge does not receive any fees or compensation in connection with its recommendation or the client's use of FTCI's services, which are operationally independent from those of ClearBridge.

Item 11

## **CODE OF ETHICS, PARTICIPATION OR INTEREST IN CLIENT TRANSACTIONS AND PERSONAL TRADING**

ClearBridge has adopted a code of ethics (the "Code") imposing standards of business conduct, including requirements to put client interests first and not to take inappropriate advantage of employment-related information. The Code is intended to mitigate or obviate potential conflicts of interest between employees and investment advisory clients and assure compliance with applicable laws and regulations. To ensure that employees do not take advantage of the knowledge of which securities are being purchased and sold on behalf of clients, the Code imposes restrictions on employee personal securities transactions. The Code requires ClearBridge employees to obtain pre-approval of most personal securities transactions from the Compliance Department. If there is an open order for a security on the trading desk, unless there is a de minimis exception where it is believed that the size of the employee's trade will not impact those of clients, the Code prohibits the employee from trading. The Code imposes greater restrictions on portfolio managers, who cannot trade in the same securities for their personal accounts for seven days before and after they have implemented a trade for client accounts. By having these "black-out" periods, the Code seeks to prevent employees from "front-running" client trades, possibly benefiting from the impact of client trades on the market. In addition, when seeking preclearance to trade in personal accounts, employees are required to certify that they are not (i) taking an investment opportunity from a client and (ii) trading on material non-public information.

Additional restrictions imposed by the Code include minimum holding periods for profitable trades so that employees, especially portfolio managers and analysts, devote their time to managing client accounts and not their own, as well as mandatory holding periods for mutual funds we manage to prevent market-timing. Upon employment, all employees are required to report their personal securities accounts, transactions and holdings to the Compliance Department and to certify to the completeness of the information and their compliance with the Code on an annual basis.

Existing and prospective ClearBridge clients may obtain copies of the Code by mailing a written request for such document to:

ClearBridge Investments, LLC  
620 8th Avenue  
New York, NY 10018  
Attention: Compliance Department

As discussed above in Item 6, ClearBridge and its employees, including its portfolio managers, research analysts and traders, may have significant interests in certain accounts managed by ClearBridge, including the unregistered funds referenced in Item 4 above. Clients may be solicited to invest in some of the unregistered funds.

Item 12

## **BROKERAGE PRACTICES**

### **A. FACTORS CONSIDERED IN SELECTING BROKER/DEALERS**

It is ClearBridge's policy to seek best execution when executing transactions on behalf of clients. Best execution consists of obtaining the most favorable result, considering the full range of services provided, within the current parameters of the market. Best execution is not necessarily measured by the circumstances surrounding a single transaction but may be measured over time through multiple transactions.

In selecting broker-dealers to execute securities transactions, ClearBridge considers the difficulty of the trade and other market-related factors that may influence trading costs, such as the liquidity of the security being traded and the size of the transaction. Criteria ClearBridge considers include whether a broker-dealer is willing to commit capital, counterparty risk, the broker-dealer's record of timely and proper delivery of securities and payment for trades and the broker-dealer's expertise in the types of securities traded. ClearBridge also considers the value of research services provided by broker-dealers, as described below. Alternative execution services venues (such as electronic communications networks ("ECNs"), crossing networks, direct market access, algorithmic trading and program trading) are also utilized to seek best execution. In selecting broker-dealers to execute fixed-income securities transactions, ClearBridge generally engages a selected pool of broker-dealer firms in bid/offer negotiations or uses Alternative Trading Systems which provide us with the ability to see multiple bids or offers at one time.

Currency trading for settlement of stock and bond transactions ("Spot FX") has been outsourced and is primarily executed by a third party which specializes in FX trading. Such trading is subject to review by our third-party trade cost analysis vendor and such reviews are sent to our Head of Trading and to our Brokerage Committee for oversight. Under its arrangement with the FX trading vendor, ClearBridge retains the right to take execution back in-house should it determine that it is in the best interest of clients. Fixed income and equity mandates follow the same processes in regards to currency. Currency trades for hedging purposes ("Currency Forwards") are individually negotiated by ClearBridge with counterparties with which we have agreements.

ClearBridge maintains a Brokerage Committee whose responsibility is to oversee its trading activities to ensure that client transactions are executed in the most cost-effective manner and that client brokerage is utilized in an efficient and beneficial manner. Members of the Brokerage Committee consist of representatives from the business, research, trading, portfolio management, legal, compliance and risk. An objective of the Brokerage Committee is to assure that the broker-dealers selected to execute transactions are the most appropriate, considering several factors, such as price, execution capabilities, and the receipt of research or other benefits.

Twice a year, the portfolio managers and analysts engage in a "broker vote" for the purpose of selecting those brokers who they believe provide the best overall services. These services include company meetings, idea generation, proprietary research, surveys and channel checks, among others. The broker vote methodology is overseen by our Brokerage Committee. The target amounts determined by this voting process are

considered by the trading desk in selecting broker-dealers, but achievement of any specific target is always subject to best execution.

On a daily basis, the Head of Trading, with assistance from the Business Risk group, monitors counterparty risk. On a daily basis, ClearBridge's Head of Trading also monitors the performance of executing brokers by reviewing trade cost analyses within the order management system and/or provided by a third-party vendor utilized to measure and monitor equity securities trading performance. On a quarterly basis, our Brokerage Committee reviews the broker-dealers the firm has used to effect transactions on behalf of clients in each prior quarter, utilizing trade cost analyses provided by the third-party vendor to enable it to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the trading desk's trading activities.

### **1. Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits**

ClearBridge uses "soft dollars" to obtain research which supplements our internally generated research. By using our clients' commissions, we receive a benefit because we do not have to pay for this research with our own money. This creates a conflict of interest because we may have an incentive to select a broker-dealer in order to receive research, not because that broker-dealer is providing best execution.

We mitigate those conflicts by unbundling the costs of trade execution from those of research when paying for both proprietary and third-party research obtained from broker-dealers. In the latter instance, ClearBridge has entered into Client Commission Arrangements ("CCAs") to allow it to compensate research providers even when it does not use them for trade execution. Such arrangements are subject to the firm's policy of seeking best execution and come within the safe harbor of Section 28(e). ClearBridge has retained an unaffiliated broker-dealer ("Aggregator") to provide aggregation services with respect to commission credits that were generated at various broker dealers (CCA providers). The Aggregator maintains information about the earned credits, collection of credits from the CCA providers and facilitates payments to research providers and vendors at the direction of ClearBridge's Head of Trading.

When paying for proprietary research, execution costs and the costs of research are similarly unbundled and documentation of the breakdown between them transmitted to the executing brokers through the trading system and maintained internally at ClearBridge.

All payments for research are subject to the firm's policy of seeking best execution and come within the safe harbor of Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which permits the payment of commissions that exceed commissions other broker-dealers may charge if ClearBridge determines that the commissions are reasonable in relation to the research or brokerage services provided. We pay higher commissions when we pay for research, as well as execution. In those instances, we have made a good faith determination that the higher commissions are reasonable in relation to the value of research and brokerage services provided, viewed in terms of either that particular transaction or our overall responsibilities with respect to all of our clients' accounts.

Under Section 28(e), ClearBridge may only use soft dollars to obtain brokerage and research services that provide lawful and appropriate assistance to it in carrying out its investment decision-making responsibilities. Research received may include proprietary research generated by the broker-dealers that execute the transactions or research generated by a third party.

The research service must provide lawful and appropriate assistance to the investment decision-making process, and may only include:

- a. Advice as to the value of securities, the advisability of investing in, purchasing or selling securities, and the availability of securities or purchasers or sellers of securities; or
- b. Analyses and reports concerning issuers, industries, securities, economic factors and trends, portfolio strategy and the performance of accounts.

Specific types of research ClearBridge may receive include, without limitation, reports on insider transactions, meetings with security analysts, government representatives and company and industry representatives, attendance at research conferences (including conferences relating to ESG investing issues), reports of third-party market strategists, earnings information (including estimates), surveys and custom research reports and performance attribution software and analyses.

Certain services paid for with soft dollars may be deemed "mixed-use". This includes services that are used in carrying out our investment decision-making responsibilities but also used for non-research purposes. In these cases, ClearBridge, in its good-faith judgment, will make an allocation of its costs according to its use and will pay out of its own resources for that portion of the mixed-use product or service that does not relate to investment or brokerage purposes.

ClearBridge does not allocate the relative costs or benefits of research, believing that the research received is, in the aggregate, of assistance in fulfilling its overall responsibilities to clients. Accordingly, any research received from a particular client's brokerage commissions may be useful to the client, but also may be useful in the management of other client accounts. We may also use research paid through client commissions to benefit accounts other than the accounts that paid the soft dollar commissions.

We have a number of proprietary offshore funds and separate accounts which are subject to MiFID II, which places certain requirements and restrictions on the use of soft dollars to pay for research. Our former parent company had mandated that its advisory subsidiaries pay for research for the proprietary funds out of our P & L, rather than using research payment accounts. This is consistent with the position of our current parent company. We have also determined that for the time being, it is more cost effective to treat all accounts that are subject to MiFID II in this manner, so ClearBridge also pays the research costs for those accounts. Because ClearBridge is paying these research expenses, there is no reallocation of the costs of research and therefore no impact on other clients.

## **2. Brokerage for Client Referrals**

We do not consider whether we, or any of our related persons, receive referrals from a broker-dealer before selecting that broker-dealer to execute client transactions.

## **3. Directed Brokerage**

When requested by institutional separate account clients or mutual funds that wish to recapture part of their brokerage, ClearBridge will attempt to accommodate a client request to direct us to use a specific broker-dealer. Our policy is to accept reasonable directed brokerage instructions for a client's

commissions on an annual basis. ClearBridge will use best efforts to honor the client requests for directed business while our primary responsibility remains best execution. We use correspondent brokers as a means to meet client requests for directed broker credit. This process allows ClearBridge to aggregate the client's orders with other clients to obtain best execution. ERISA accounts may be subject to additional requirements and restrictions.

We discourage clients who request to direct all their brokerage to a specific broker as ClearBridge will not be able to negotiate the broker's compensation for executing the transactions nor be able to monitor for best execution. Such clients will also not be able to participate in initial and secondary offerings. Furthermore, if a client directs all its brokerage, its order will generally be placed after orders for clients that give ClearBridge discretion in selecting brokers are completed. Therefore, such clients may receive a less advantageous price than other clients who give ClearBridge discretion over broker selection.

In situations where a client has been introduced to ClearBridge through a registered representative, the client may direct us in writing to execute securities transactions for its account through the registered representative's employer broker-dealer ("Directed Broker"). The client may direct us to execute with the Directed Broker subject to best execution, in which case our affiliate, FTPPG will place the trades, subject to its policies (see discussion below). If the client directs us to send all transactions to the Directed Broker, ClearBridge will place the transactions directly with the Directed Broker. Under these circumstances, the client should be aware that: (i) ClearBridge will not negotiate trade execution services for the client's account or the Directed Broker's compensation for such services, (ii) ClearBridge will not be in a position to, and will not monitor for best price and execution of the transactions the Directed Broker executes for the client's account, and (iii) there may be a disparity between the prices and execution quality achieved for the client's account and the prices and execution quality achieved for other clients. In addition, ClearBridge may have business relationships with a Directed Broker. The relationship may be perceived to give ClearBridge an incentive to recommend that a client direct its brokerage to the Directed Broker, although ClearBridge makes no such recommendations. A client that directs ClearBridge to use a Directed Broker to execute trades may terminate the direction by giving written notice to ClearBridge. Termination will become effective after ClearBridge has made any necessary adjustments to its trading systems and/or practices for the client's account, and ClearBridge shall have a reasonable amount of time after receipt of notice to make any such adjustments. Accounts subject to client directions to use Directed Brokers for trade execution generally are excluded from purchasing securities in initial or secondary offerings.

Clients whose accounts are traded by FTPPG should be aware of the following. For securities transactions driven by a change in ClearBridge's investment model and that need to be simultaneously effected for many clients (i.e., model-change trades), FTPPG has executed and expects to continue to execute all or substantially all of these transactions as an aggregated block trade through a single broker-dealer for all clients whose accounts are making the change. This will include accounts contracted with FTPPG or SMA Program accounts whose sponsors have contracted with FTPPG. A client account included in a block trade frequently will be charged commission equivalents or spreads which are reflected in the net security price paid by the client. Occasionally, transaction-specific commissions are reflected by a separate commission charge paid to the executing broker. In addition, a Directed Broker may charge

clearing and settlement-related processing charges on trades executed away from it. Although FTPPG tries to avoid such fees or charges, they will be in addition to any fee the client pays as part of its arrangement with the Directed Broker. The executing broker-dealer may separately charge these fees or charges to the client's account or reflect them in the net security price paid or received. For securities transactions driven by client account-specific activity, such as account contributions and withdrawals, FTPPG expects to select the client's Directed Broker to execute all or a large percentage of these transactions. Clients typically will not pay any transaction-specific commissions on these securities transactions.

## **B. ALLOCATION AND AGGREGATION OF CLIENT ORDERS**

Our policy is to treat each client account fairly and equitably in the aggregation of trade orders and the allocation of available securities. Trades are generally aggregated, and the allocation documented, prior to execution. It is our policy to aggregate or bunch client orders when it is determined that it is in the best interests of clients. Our trade allocation procedures are designed to ensure that: (i) clients are treated fairly as to the securities purchased and sold for their accounts; (ii) clients are treated fairly with respect to the priority of execution of orders; (iii) clients are treated fairly with respect to the allocation of trades; (iv) allocation of trades is done on a timely basis; and (v) all accounts receive the same treatment with respect to average price on transactions. Aggregated transactions are allocated according to one or more methods designed to ensure equitable and fair treatment. These methods include pro rata allocation, which is the usual allocation method. In situations where the trading desk determines that a partial execution quantity falls short of allowing a meaningful pro rata allocation, the trading system will randomly allocate the fill. If a client prohibits the aggregation of its order with those of other clients or directs that ClearBridge use a specific broker and does not allow for the use of correspondent brokers, the effect of which prevents aggregation, such client's order is placed after the execution of the order for accounts that allow aggregation. If there is more than one client that prohibits aggregation, order placement is rotated among those clients. Clients should be aware that prohibiting us from aggregating their accounts' orders with those of other clients or directing brokerage may result in them receiving a less favorable execution than they would if their orders were aggregated.

As discussed in Item 6, ClearBridge does not consider account performance or fee structure in making investment opportunity allocation decisions. Orders for accounts in which ClearBridge employees have an interest are aggregated with orders for other accounts. ClearBridge's Compliance Department monitors investment allocations, on a real-time basis to ensure that every account that should be in an order is included.

ClearBridge maintains an "IPO Allocation Policy" to ensure that shares of initial public offerings and secondary offerings are allocated in a manner that, over time, treats all advisory accounts fairly. The procedures are designed to allocate IPO shares in as objective a manner as possible among accounts for which the security is suitable. (Clients who direct their brokerage usually cannot participate in these fixed price offerings.) These policies and procedures require fair and equitable allocation of IPO shares among accounts.

Portfolio managers who are interested in obtaining an allocation of an IPO must prepare an IPO Eligibility/Suitability Form expressing his or her interest, detailing the client account participation and indicating whether they are "long-term holders" or "short-term holders" (long-term holders are expected to

hold their shares for at least 60 days, unless there is an increase or decrease of 30% or more from the IPO price). IPO shares are first allocated based upon whether the portfolio managers who submitted indications of interest are long-term holders or short-term holders, pursuant to percentages reflected in a matrix covered in the policy. Allocations of securities which are the primary investments in specialized mandates (e.g., MLP, and certain companies designated as sustainability leaders) are allocated the first 50% of an MLP or sustainability leaders IPO. The Compliance Department monitors each instance of an IPO and follow-on or secondary offering to ensure the allocations are in accordance with the policy.

Under the ClearBridge-FTPPG arrangement described in Item 8 above, whereby private and retail client accounts are managed by FTPPG following ClearBridge instructions, ClearBridge has no responsibility for the trade execution functions carried out by FTPPG. FTPPG's trading desk operates independently of ClearBridge's trading desk. Accordingly, trades placed by ClearBridge's trading desk are not aggregated with trades that are placed by FTPPG's trading desk.

In order to treat all of its clients fairly and equitably, ClearBridge generally transmits investment instructions at the same time to its trading desk and to FTPPG and any other financial firm to which it provides a non-discretionary model. In addition, trade orders placed for private or retail clients who have directed the use of a specific broker generally are placed at the same time any corresponding investment instructions are transmitted to ClearBridge's trading desk, FTPPG and any other applicable financial firm. As a result of the simultaneous transmission of orders, trades placed by ClearBridge's trading desk in most cases may end up competing in the marketplace with orders placed by the trading desks of FTPPG and any other financial firm (including a Directed Broker). This competition has the potential to negatively impact all clients involved, though competition concerns are mitigated where the securities involved have significant trading volume and are highly liquid. In the case of less liquid securities, ClearBridge seeks to mitigate competition concerns through the use of limit orders, or specific price targets or suggest an over the day trading strategy. Given these mitigants to competition concerns, ClearBridge believes that simultaneously communicating investment instructions to the ClearBridge trading desk, FTPPG and any other applicable financial firm is, as a general rule, preferable to following a rotation process. Issues associated with a rotation process include detrimental market impact (i.e., earlier trades may move the market causing subsequent trades to receive an inferior price), "signaling" concerns (i.e., broker-dealers anticipate additional trades in the same security and use this information to the detriment of the manager's client), and timing differences that result in clients obtaining different execution prices and performance dispersion among accounts. If there are circumstances in which ClearBridge determines not to transmit investment instructions to all relevant parties at the same time, ClearBridge will execute the trade using rotation procedures designed to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of clients. Since the establishment of FTPPG, ClearBridge has never had the need to use a trade rotation.

For accounts traded by FTPPG, in the case of a partially-filled aggregated order, FTPPG allocates the securities purchased or sold among participating accounts according to one or more methods designed to ensure that the allocation is equitable and fair. These methods include pro rata allocation and random allocation. Under the pro rata method, FTPPG allocates all securities purchased or sold pro rata to all of the accounts included in the order based upon the amount of securities FTPPG intended to purchase or sell for each participating account. Under the random allocation method, FTPPG allocates the partially-filled order to

accounts included in the aggregated order on a random basis. The random allocation method is intended for situations in which the partial execution quantity is an amount that does not allow for a pro rata allocation of securities to all accounts or does not allow for a meaningful allocation of securities to all accounts. Where an aggregated order covers clients in multiple investment programs, FTPPG first allocates the securities to the investment programs participating in the order following one of the accepted trade allocation methods. FTPPG then allocates the securities to clients within each investment program following one of the accepted trade allocation methods.

### **C. ERROR RESOLUTION PROCEDURES**

ClearBridge's Breaches and Error Resolution Procedures cover errors made in the investment decision-making process as well as errors in the trading process or errors in communicating a model change to another firm that has portfolio implementation responsibility for client accounts. The correction method used by ClearBridge for an error must put the client in the same position the client would have been in had the error not occurred (i.e., the client must be made whole for any error-related losses and costs suffered). Gains realized in a client account because of an error caused by ClearBridge generally will remain in the client's account. In the case of an error discovered before settlement, ClearBridge may seek to have the broker cancel the erroneous transaction if it is flat or at a loss; provided, that, in the case of an error affecting a U.S.-registered investment company ("fund") client, a trade cancellation may be effected to correct the error only if it would not change the net asset value of the fund.

ClearBridge, like other investment managers and investment advisers, have a conflict of interest in connection with the identification and resolution of trade errors, operational errors and other errors. Specifically, ClearBridge, as a party who may bear some or all of the financial responsibility to correct an error, has an incentive to determine that an error did not occur or, if it is determined that one has occurred, to resolve it in a manner that minimizes the financial impact on it. However, ClearBridge endeavors to make determinations concerning errors in good faith and in accordance with applicable legal standards. In addition, such determinations typically are made in consultation with ClearBridge's Compliance Department.

#### **Item 13**

### **REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS**

On a daily basis, ClearBridge portfolio managers review client accounts and approve the securities trades they initiate for client accounts. These reviews generally focus on account performance relative to applicable benchmarks and the continued investment appropriateness of the account's composition, in light of factors such as the strategy selected and market conditions. Portfolio managers also utilize performance attribution analysis to help understand the sources of alpha (i.e., sector and stock selection components) for their investment strategies relative to applicable benchmarks and to assess portfolio diversification.

ClearBridge also maintains a Risk Management Committee that meets no less frequently than quarterly to review investment strategy performance, performance attribution, tracking error and other key performance-

related matters. These strategy reviews focus on identifying and managing investment risk by evaluating risk factors associated with each strategy. The Risk Management Committee consists of ClearBridge's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Investment Officer, Chief Investment Officer Emeritus, the Head of Investment Risk and the Head of Business Risk. The Risk Management Committee receives reports from the two Risk Management teams on a daily (counterparty, leverage, derivatives, etc.), weekly (credit instruments, top holdings, watch list, sector concentration, etc.), monthly (Northfield Risk Model results) and quarterly (risk profile analysis for each strategy) basis.

ClearBridge's Compliance Department performs a daily review of accounts to ensure consistency with regulatory and guideline restrictions. In addition, Compliance performs a daily trade blotter review to ensure that investment opportunities are equitably allocated and that clients that participated in aggregated trades receive appropriate allocations.

ClearBridge's Client Services Department provides value-added service to clients through frequent client meetings and discussions, prompt dissemination of pertinent organizational and portfolio information, and timely responses to client-requested deliverables. As part of a client's relationship with ClearBridge, the client may receive quarterly statements describing performance of the client's account in absolute terms and relative to the client's benchmark, as well as a breakdown of the account's current structure with changes during the period outlined. Monthly statements are also available. To meet specific needs, the Client Services Department also can produce customized monthly or quarterly reports containing in-depth performance data and metrics.

Clients who access ClearBridge's products through financial institutions will generally receive quarterly reports from those institutions. For those who also request reports from ClearBridge, we urge them to carefully compare our reports with those of the clients' custodians.

#### Item 14

### **CLIENT REFERRALS AND OTHER COMPENSATION**

Other than research services described in Item 12, ClearBridge does not receive economic benefits from anyone who is not a client in connection with the advisory services we provide to our clients.

ClearBridge may enter into agreements with, and pay fees to, individuals and firms that solicit clients for ClearBridge's investment advisory services. For every arrangement with an unaffiliated third-party solicitor, the structure of the solicitation agreement, including the compensation payable to the solicitor, will be disclosed to the client as required by applicable law. ClearBridge currently has no agreements pursuant to which it pays referral fees to third parties.

ClearBridge, or its distribution affiliates, may pay firms that sponsor or recommend ClearBridge's products to their clients for the costs of marketing or promotional expenses, for expenses incurred in connection with training or educational seminars for personnel of the firms or for expenses incurred in connection with client or prospective client meetings relating to ClearBridge investment services. These benefits could give firms and their personnel incentives to favor ClearBridge investment management services and ClearBridge-managed products over those

of firms that do not provide the same payments and benefits. These payments and benefits are subject to internal policies and regulatory restrictions.

## Item 15

### **CUSTODY**

We do not take physical custody of our clients' assets. Clients typically retain their own custodians under arrangements negotiated independently between them and their custodians. Although we do not have possession of client assets, under SEC rules we may be deemed to have custody of client assets if an affiliate is deemed to have custody of them or if the client directs its custodian to pay ClearBridge its advisory fee. In the latter circumstance, ClearBridge ascertains that the custodian sends the client an account statement at least quarterly. Clients are urged to compare their custodial statements with those provided by ClearBridge.

We may also be deemed to have custody of client assets when we or one of our affiliates act as a general partner of a limited partnership. ClearBridge has three subsidiaries that act as general partner to the three limited partnerships that ClearBridge manages. These limited partnerships are currently subject to surprise audits by an independent auditor that files Form ADV-E with the SEC.

Under SEC rules, we are also deemed to have custody of the private funds we manage. The funds which comprise the ClearBridge Investment Trust are audited annually by an independent auditor.

ClearBridge may also be deemed to have custody of client assets if its affiliate has or is deemed to have custody, which may happen to the extent a client retains FTCI to act as its custodian, as described in Item 10.

## Item 16

### **INVESTMENT DISCRETION**

We require clients to enter into written agreements with us that set forth the terms of our relationship. Under these agreements, ClearBridge generally has discretionary authority to determine the securities to be bought and sold for client accounts, including the amounts of such securities. We also generally have the authority to select broker-dealers to execute transactions and to determine the price at which to transact such transactions.

Our discretionary authority is in all cases subject to the specific objectives, guidelines and restrictions in the investment management agreement. Investment guidelines generally set forth permitted investments and usually provide a benchmark against which the account is managed. Guidelines may also contain restrictions or limitations on issuers or types of issuers, percentage limitations on issuers, sectors or foreign securities, prohibited investments and prohibitions or limitations on investments in specific instruments, such as derivatives.

Clients in SMA Programs usually enter into an agreement with the sponsor that contains a power of attorney

appointing us to manage the client account in a specific strategy or strategies. In dual contract programs, clients enter into agreements directly with us to manage their accounts according to specific strategies or as a private client account. Please see the ClearBridge/FTPPG Retail Client Brochure for a discussion of client-imposed restrictions in those circumstances.

ClearBridge has self-imposed rules with regard to maximum size of positions in a security that may be held across the firm and in individual accounts. In addition, ClearBridge may be prohibited from purchasing or holding certain securities by virtue of legal, regulatory or issuer-imposed restrictions, including, without limitation, restrictions on the amount of securities that may be held or controlled by any one entity.

Under ClearBridge's Policy on Material Non-Public Information, if ClearBridge is in possession of material non-public information about an issuer, whether acquired unintentionally or otherwise, in general, neither ClearBridge nor its employees are permitted to trade in that issuer's securities for client accounts or their own accounts, until such time as the information is no longer deemed to be material non-public information. As such, there may be circumstances which will prevent the purchase or sale of securities for client accounts for a period of time.

Finally, clients may limit ClearBridge's authority by directing that all or a portion of a client's brokerage transactions be executed through a directed broker. See discussion in Item 12 above regarding directed brokerage.

## Item 17

### VOTING CLIENT SECURITIES

ClearBridge has adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures that seek to ensure that it votes proxies in the best interest of client accounts. The following is a brief overview of the policies.

ClearBridge votes proxies for each client account with respect to which it has been authorized or is required by law to vote proxies. In voting proxies, ClearBridge is guided by general fiduciary principles and seeks to act prudently and solely in the best interest of the beneficial owners of the accounts it manages. ClearBridge attempts to consider all factors that could affect the value of the investment and will vote proxies in the manner that it believes will be consistent with efforts to maximize shareholder values. ClearBridge may utilize an external service provider to provide it with information and/or a recommendation with regard to proxy votes. However, such recommendations do not relieve ClearBridge of its responsibility for the proxy vote.

In the case of a proxy issue for which there is a stated position in the policies, ClearBridge generally votes in accordance with such stated position. In the case of a proxy issue for which there is a list of factors set forth in the policies that ClearBridge considers in voting on such issue, ClearBridge considers those factors and votes on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the general principles set forth above. In the case of a proxy issue for which there is no stated position or list of factors that ClearBridge considers in voting on such issue, ClearBridge votes on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the general principles set forth above. Issues for which there is a stated position set forth in the policies or for which there is a list of factors set forth in the policies that

ClearBridge considers in voting on such issues fall into a variety of categories, including election of directors, ratification of auditors, proxy and tender offer defenses, capital structure issues, executive and director compensation, mergers and corporate restructuring, and social and environmental issues. The stated position on an issue set forth in the policies can always be superseded, subject to the duty to act solely in the best interest of the beneficial owners of accounts, by the investment management professionals responsible for the account whose shares are being voted. There may be occasions when different investment teams vote differently on the same issue. In addition, in the case of Taft-Hartley clients, ClearBridge will comply with a client direction to vote proxies in accordance with Institutional Shareholder Services' (ISS) PVS Voting guidelines, which ISS represents to be fully consistent with AFL-CIO guidelines.

In furtherance of ClearBridge's goal to vote proxies in the best interest of clients, ClearBridge follows procedures designed to identify and address material conflicts that may arise between ClearBridge's interests and those of its clients before voting proxies on behalf of such clients. To seek to identify conflicts of interest, ClearBridge periodically notifies ClearBridge employees in writing that they are under an obligation (i) to be aware of the potential for conflicts of interest on the part of ClearBridge with respect to voting proxies on behalf of client accounts both as a result of their personal relationships or ClearBridge's business relationships or the personal or business relationships of other Franklin units' employees, and (ii) to bring conflicts of interest of which they become aware to the attention of ClearBridge's Chief Compliance Officer. ClearBridge also maintains and considers a list of significant ClearBridge relationships that could present a conflict of interest for ClearBridge in voting proxies.

ClearBridge's Proxy Committee reviews and addresses conflicts of interest. A proxy issue that will be voted in accordance with a stated ClearBridge position on such issue or in accordance with the recommendation of an independent third party is not brought to the attention of the Proxy Committee for a conflict of interest review because ClearBridge's position is that to the extent a conflict of interest issue exists, it is resolved by voting in accordance with a pre-determined policy or in accordance with the recommendation of an independent third party. With respect to a conflict of interest brought to its attention, the Proxy Committee first determines whether such conflict of interest is material. A conflict of interest is considered material to the extent that it is determined that such conflict is likely to influence, or appear to influence, ClearBridge's decision-making in voting proxies. If it is determined by the Proxy Committee that a conflict of interest is not material, ClearBridge may vote proxies notwithstanding the existence of the conflict.

If it is determined by the Proxy Committee that a conflict of interest is material, the Proxy Committee is responsible for determining an appropriate method to resolve such conflict of interest before the proxy affected by the conflict of interest is voted. Such determination is based on the particular facts and circumstances, including the importance of the proxy issue and the nature of the conflict of interest.

You may request:

- (i) a copy of ClearBridge's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures; and/or
- (ii) information concerning how ClearBridge voted proxies with respect to the securities held in your account.

Such request may be made by sending a written request to:

ClearBridge Investments, LLC  
620 8th Avenue  
New York, NY 10018  
Attention: Client Services

### **Legal Proceedings Relating to Portfolio Securities**

Except as may be otherwise agreed to in writing with a particular client, ClearBridge does not render any advice to or take any actions on behalf of clients with respect to any legal proceedings, including bankruptcies and shareholder litigation, to which any securities or other investments held in client accounts, or the issuers thereof, become subject, and does not initiate or pursue legal proceedings, including without limitation shareholder litigation, on behalf of clients with respect to transactions, securities or other investments held in client accounts, or the issuers thereof. Except as may be otherwise agreed to in writing with a particular client, the right to take any actions with respect to any legal proceedings, including without limitation bankruptcies and shareholder litigation, and the right to initiate or pursue any legal proceedings, including without limitation shareholder litigation, with respect to transactions, securities or other investments held in a client account is expressly reserved to the client.

### **Item 18**

### **OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Not Applicable

## APPENDIX A

### **Your Privacy at ClearBridge Investments, LLC**

We are concerned about the privacy of the individuals for whom we provide advisory services. We are sending this notice to individuals (“you”) who invest, for personal, family, or household purposes, in accounts that we manage. This is to help you understand how we handle, protect and limit certain non-public personal information that we may collect in order to conduct and process your business with us. The provisions of this notice apply to former individual advisory clients as well as current individual advisory clients unless we state otherwise.

#### **Information We Collect**

The personal information that we may collect about you (such as, for example, your name, contact information and financial and transaction-related information) comes from the following sources:

- Information received from you, such as on applications or other forms.
- Information about your transactions with us, our affiliates and nonaffiliated third parties; and
- Information we may receive about you from other sources, such as your broker.

Our affiliates are the family of companies controlled by Franklin Resources, Inc. If you are a customer of other Franklin Resources, Inc. affiliates and you receive notices from them, you will need to read those notices separately.

#### **Disclosure Policy**

We do not disclose any non-public personal information about you except as permitted by law. For example, we are permitted to disclose non-public personal information to our affiliates and nonaffiliated third parties that perform various services on our behalf, including custodians, broker-dealers and companies that perform marketing services on our behalf. We ensure that our outside service providers working on our behalf are obligated, pursuant to a written agreement or otherwise, to protect the confidentiality of your information and use it only to provide the services we asked to perform. Further, we do not sell and do not intend to sell your personal data to any third parties.

#### **Safeguarding Your Personal Information**

We have in place necessary and appropriate administrative, technological, physical, and procedural safeguards, including, but not limited to, state-of-the art technologies and security controls, corporate governance, and cybersecurity tools, as well as business continuity and disaster recovery plans and procedures, designed to protect your personal data. Third parties who have access to such personal information must agree to follow appropriate standards of security and confidentiality. Our employees are trained in and are required to follow procedures with respect to maintaining the confidentiality of our clients’ non-public personal information. We restrict access using a “least privilege” model, meaning that our employees are given access to your information only on a “need-to-know” basis, including your personal data, and only for our business purposes.

CLEARBRIDGE INVESTMENTS, LLC - ADVISORY BROCHURE

At all times, you may contact ClearBridge Investments, LLC by e-mail at [privacy@clearbridge.com](mailto:privacy@clearbridge.com), by mail at: ClearBridge Investments, LLC, 620 8th Avenue, 48th Fl, NY, NY 10018 Attn: ClearBridge Privacy or by Phone at 1-800-691-6960.

This Privacy Notice was last updated on December 1, 2023

## **PRIVACY NOTICE SPECIFIC TO U.S. RESIDENTS PURSUANT TO STATE PRIVACY LAWS**

We care about your privacy and value the trust you place in us when you share your personal information. Accordingly, we want to let you know how we handle the personal information you give us or is given to us by another party. Please review the following notice for information about how we collect, use, and share your personal information.

If you are a resident of the United States, and, with respect to an account managed by ClearBridge Investments, LLC ("ClearBridge") for an individual or entity client, you are a broker, dealer, investment adviser, agent, fiduciary, or representative acting on behalf of or for the account of such individual or entity client, the provisions of this Privacy Notice apply to your personal information.

As a result of your relationship with ClearBridge, your personal information may be processed in the following ways:

### **Personal Information We Collect or Receive About You**

- Contact information, such as your name, email address, firm name, phone number, or address.
- Financial and transaction-related information, such as, for example, account numbers, bank information, transaction history, and assets under management.

### **How We Use Your Personal Information**

- To provide the information, products, or services you or your representative requested or as reasonably expected given the context in which the personal information was collected.
- To communicate with you concerning your or your clients' accounts and to facilitate the management and servicing of such accounts.
- For legal and regulatory compliance, including all uses and disclosures of personal information that are required by law or reasonably needed for compliance with company policies and procedures.

Please note, personal information, including sensitive personal information, of clients is not sold to or shared with third parties. Additionally, ClearBridge does not use or disclose sensitive personal information for the purpose of inferring characteristics about clients.

### **Recipients of Your Personal Information**

We may disclose your personal information to the following recipients for a business or commercial purpose as described below:

- To our affiliated companies and entities for the purpose of servicing your account.

- To government or regulatory agencies to meet legal or regulatory obligations.
- To other service providers who perform services on our behalf and at our instructions in order to support and assist us in conducting our ordinary course of business.
- To our advisors, such as legal counsel, accountants and auditors, who are required to maintain the confidentiality of any information that we share with them in their capacity as our fiduciaries.

### **Retention Periods**

The retention periods for personal information within each category may vary depending on the nature of the business records in which the personal information is maintained. Retention periods for our business records are set based on the following criteria: (1) the length of time the record is needed for the purposes for which it was created, (2) the time the record is needed for other operational purposes, such as audits and reporting, and (3) the length of time the record is needed for legal or regulatory compliance purposes, including without limitation in connection with any legal defense and legal holds or to satisfy regulatory record retention requirements.

### **Personal Information About Minors**

We do not collect information from minors under 18 years of age.

### **Privacy Rights and Controls**

The state you reside in may provide you with certain privacy rights over your personal information as described below:

- Right to know – Requires that we inform you about the personal information that we collect.
- Right to access – Allows you to request a copy of the personal information we have on file for you and to be informed about how we use and share your personal information.
- Right to delete – Allows you to request that we delete or anonymize your personal information where we do not have a legal or regulatory obligation or other valid reason to continue to retain it.
- Right to correct – Allows you to request that we correct inaccuracies in your personal information, taking into account the nature of the personal information and the purposes of the processing of your personal information.
- Right to appeal – Allows you to request that we review a decision to not fulfill a privacy rights request.

If you wish to exercise any of the rights you have in respect of your personal information, you should advise ClearBridge by contacting it as set forth below under the contact information section. The rights

noted above are subject to our other legal and regulatory obligations. You may designate an authorized agent to make a rights request on your behalf, subject to the identification process described below. We do not discriminate based on requests for information related to our use of your personal information, and you have the right not to receive discriminatory treatment related to the exercise of your privacy rights.

We may request information from you in order to verify your identity or authority in making such a request. This process may include providing a password/passcode, a copy of government issued identification, an affidavit or other applicable documentation, *i.e.* written permission, if you have appointed an authorized agent to make a request on your behalf or you are an authorized agent making such a request (*e.g.*, pursuant to a power of attorney or other written permission). We may require you to verify your identity directly even when using an authorized agent, unless a power of attorney has been provided. We reserve the right to deny a request submitted by an agent if suitable and appropriate proof is not provided.

**Contact Information**

**Address:**

ClearBridge Investments, LLC  
620 8th Avenue, 48th Fl  
New York, NY 10018  
Attn: ClearBridge Privacy

**Email:**

[privacy@clearbridge.com](mailto:privacy@clearbridge.com)

**Phone:**

1-800-691-6960