## ERISA Section 408(b)(2) Disclosure Retail Direct Mutual Fund and 3rd Party Recordkeeping Platforms

This document (Notice) includes a description of the services that Avantax Investment Services<sup>SM</sup> (Firm) is providing to you with respect to your defined contribution retirement plan (Plan) and the compensation that we receive in connection with these services.

### The Firm

The Firm provides certain services on behalf of your Plan as described below in *Description of Services*. These services are provided by a registered representative of the Firm.

### **Description of Services**

We provide investment-related consulting services and other related assistance (Investment-Related Services) that are intended to assist you with your duties in your capacity as the sponsor and fiduciary of your Plan. These services entail providing assistance with the establishment or maintenance of a broad range of investment options for the Plan and providing certain related brokerage services, such as effecting securities transactions in connection with investments in the Plan's investment options.

Our services also include assisting you, as applicable, with the maintenance of an investment policy statement for the Plan, making recommendations with respect to the selection of investments for the Plan's menu of investment options, assisting you with the monitoring of the selected investment options, and providing education for your employees. We may also provide related ancillary assistance concerning the Plan's ongoing administration and operation. All Investment-Related Services are non-discretionary in nature, and we do not have discretionary investment management authority or control over the Plan's assets or any participant's investments under the Plan.

#### Status

Avantax Investment Services provides its brokerage services and certain other Investment-Related Services in its capacity as a broker-dealer registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and as a fiduciary within Section 3(21) under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as amended.

### **Direct Compensation Payable to the Firm from the Plan**

The Firm does not receive any compensation directly from your Plan.

### **Indirect Compensation Payable to the Firm**

#### From Sources other than the Plan or the Plan Sponsor

As a registered broker-dealer, the Firm receives payments from the Plan's investment funds (Funds) as indirect compensation for the Investment-Related Services provided on behalf of the Plan, including certain related brokerage services, such as effecting securities transactions in connection with investments in the Plan's investment options. Funds may include mutual funds and other similar investment products.

When the Plan invests in a Fund that is a mutual fund, depending on the particular share class, the purchase of Fund shares by the Plan may be subject to a front-end sales commission, resulting in additional compensation for the Firm as described in the Fund's prospectus. (Investments in the Fund may be subject to other charges that are not payable to the Firm, such as a contingent deferred sales charge payable to a Fund affiliate as described in the Fund's prospectus.) The indirect compensation received by the Firm may also include 12b-1 fees paid by the Funds for providing distribution-related services as well as administrative and informational services, as applicable, to the Plan. The 12b-1 fees paid by an applicable mutual fund are described in its prospectus. For more information, please refer to the relevant mutual fund prospectuses previously provided to you and which are generally available at the relevant Fund's website.

Avantax Wealth Management<sup>®</sup> is the holding company for the group of companies providing financial services under the Avantax<sup>®</sup> name. Securities offered through Avantax Investment Services<sup>™</sup>, Member FINRA, SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through Avantax Advisory Services<sup>™</sup>. Insurance services offered through licensed agents of Avantax Insurance Agency<sup>™</sup> and Avantax Insurance Services<sup>™</sup>. 3200 Olympus Blvd., Suite 100, Dallas, TX 75019. 972-870-6000.



Companies for some of the investment products the Firm sells participate in activities that are designed to help facilitate the distribution of their products. The marketing activities and educational programs provided by these product sponsors include, but are not limited to, attendance by product representatives at our conferences, cash and non-cash marketing assistance paid to the Firm, and training and education presentations provided to the Firm's registered representatives about their products and services. In return for assistance in facilitating the activities described above, the Firm receives additional compensation, commonly referred to as "revenue sharing," from these companies. These companies are part of what the Firm calls our Educational Partners Program. These revenue sharing payments are in addition to the commissions and distribution fees (known as 12b-1 fees), and other fees and expenses paid to us, as disclosed in the respective product's prospectus. It is important to note, however, that these revenue sharing payments are paid out of the company's own assets—not from the investment's assets themselves—and, therefore, would not appear as items in a fund's expense table.

### **Compensation Paid Among Related Parties**

As described in *Indirect Compensation Payable to the Firm from Sources Other Than the Plan or the Plan Sponsor,* the Firm receives fees from the Plan's Funds and, as applicable, may receive revenue sharing payments from the Manager of a Fund. These payments are not shared with any entities affiliated with the Firm or with any other entities.

### **Compensation for Termination of Services**

We do not receive any additional compensation in connection with the termination of the Plan's Investment-Related Services.

### Manner of Receipt of Compensation

With regard to the annual 12b-1 fees and, if applicable, any commissions earned that are payable to the Firm from the Funds, such amounts will be deducted directly from the Fund's assets automatically. Any revenue sharing payments made to the Firm by a Fund's Manager are paid directly from the Manager's own separate assets and are not deducted from the Fund's assets or the Plan's account.

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# **Important Information**

Please note that the information included in this Disclosure is not intended to replace or modify any existing or prospective agreement relating to the Plan. This document is intended to provide you an overview of sources of "Direct" and "Indirect" Compensation" that can be received by Avantax in either its capacity as a broker-dealer (Avantax Investment Services) or in its capacity as a registered investment adviser (Avantax Advisory Services). For additional information we encourage you to review important information and specifics related to your account that can be found in your account opening documentation and agreements. You may also contact your Avantax Financial Advisor directly for any questions or other assistance including obtaining copies of these documents.

Avantax also maintains copies of its most current disclosures which can be found on-line at: <u>https://www.avantax.com/disclosures</u>. These disclosures include but are not limited to:

- Form CRS and Regulation Best Interest Disclosures
- Account Fees and Costs
- Account Agreements & Features (including the Mutual Fund Buyers Guide)
- Retirement Plans (including ERISA 408(b)(2) Disclosures) and the firm's Indirect Compensation Supplemental Disclosure)\*
- Advisory Services and Managed Accounts (including the Firm Brochures)

We encourage you to contact your Avantax Financial Advisor if you have any questions about any of the above disclosures and/or the disclosures in the applicable AAS Form ADV Part 2A disclosure brochure ("Firm Brochures").

To request a copy of the most current Firm Brochures at any time, please email <u>AdvisoryCompliance@Avantax.com</u> or call 877-959-8400. A copy will be sent promptly, at no charge to you, and you can always find the latest version online at: <u>https://www.avantax.com/disclosure-catalog/advisory-services-managed-accounts/</u> or at <u>https://adviserinfo.sec.gov</u>

\***PLEASE BE ADVISED:** As permitted under Department of Labor regulations Avantax the firm will continue to post updated 408(b)(2) Disclosure Documents to the website but will no longer mail a separate notification for these updates. In the event you do wish to receive a hard copy form or have any questions on the content or of which disclosure(s) are applicable to your plan, please contact your Financial Professional for assistance.

We appreciate your continued relationship with us and your trusted Financial Advisor.

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