Robert Bender & Associates

Client Relationship Summary (Form CRS)

Is an Investment Advisory Account Right for You?

There are different ways you can get help with your investments. You should carefully consider which types of accounts and services are right for you.

Item 1. Introduction

Robert Bender & Associates ("RBA", "Firm", "We", "Us", "Our") is an SEC registered investment advisor and provides advisory services for a fee rather than for brokerage commissions. As a retail investor, it is important to understand the differences between services and fees of an investment advisor and a broker-dealer. Investor.gov/CRS offers free and simple tools to research firms and financial professionals. Additionally, it also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisors, and investing.

Item 2. Relationships and Services

What investment services and advice can you provide me?

We offer the following investment advisory services to you:

Asset Management: We will offer you advice on a regular basis. We will discuss your investment goals, design with you a strategy to achieve your investment goals, and regularly monitor your account. We will manage your account on a discretionary basis (we can buy and sell investments in your account without asking you in advance).

We generally do not limit advisors to proprietary products or a limited menu of products and types of investments. This service will continue pursuant to the terms of the executed Advisory Agreement. We do not have a minimum to open an account.

Additional Information

For more information about our services, we recommended reading our ADV Part 2A Items 4, 7.

Conversation Starters

"Given my financial situation, should I choose an investment advisory service? Why or why not?"

"How will you choose investments to recommend to me?"

"What is your relevant experience, including your licenses, education and other qualifications? What do these qualifications mean?"

Item 3. Fees, Costs, Conflicts and Standard of Conduct

What fees will I pay?

We are paid for our services as follows:

Asset Management: The amount paid to our firm and your financial professional generally does not vary based on the type of investments selected on your behalf. The asset-based fee reduces the value of your account and will be generally deducted from your account. Some investments (such as mutual funds and variable annuities) impose additional fees that will reduce the value of your investment over time. Also, with certain investments such as variable annuities, you may have to pay fees such as "surrender charges" to sell the investment. Fees are billed quarterly in advance. Our fees vary and are negotiable. Generally, the more assets you have in the advisory account, the more you will pay in total fees. We therefore have an incentive to increase the assets in your account in order to increase our fees. You may also pay a transaction fee when we buy and sell an investment for you if you do not participate in a wrap program. You will also pay fees to a broker-dealer or bank that will hold your assets (called "custody"). You pay our advisory fee even if there were no transactions within the account.

You may also pay fees and costs applicable to common categories such as custodian fees, account maintenance fees, fees related to mutual funds and variable annuities, and other transactional fees and product-level fees.

You will pay fees and costs whether you make or lose money on your investments. Fees and costs will reduce any amount of money you make on your investments over time. Please make sure you understand what fees and costs you are paying. For more information regarding our fees and costs, review ADV Part 2A Item 5.

Conversation Starters

"Help me understand how these fees and costs might affect my investments. If I give you $10,000 to invest, how much will go to fees and costs, and how much will be invested for me?"

What are your legal obligations to me when acting as my investment adviser? How else does your firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?

When we act as your investment adviser, we have to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours. At the same time, the way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests. You should understand and ask us about these conflicts because they can affect the investment advice we provide you. Here are some examples to help you understand what this means.

Investment Accounts: Generally, we get paid based on the assets in your account. We may recommend that you add assets or funds into that account. Even though that advice may be in your best interest, that advice is conflicted because the more money in your account, the more we would collect in fees from you.

Referrals: We receive client referrals from third parties to whom we pay referral fees. This is a conflict of interest because we have an incentive to pay referral fees so that the third parties will refer clients to us that they otherwise might not refer to us.

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

Additional Information
For more information about our conflicts of interest, we recommend reading our ADV Part 2A, Items 4 and 10.

How do your financial professionals make money?
As our financial professionals are compensated based on a salary, there is no conflict of interest as their income does not vary based on your account value or service provided.

Item 4. Disciplinary History

Do you or your financial professionals have legal or disciplinary history?
No, please visit Investor.gov/CRS for a free and simple search tool to research RBA and our financial professionals.

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

Item 5. Additional Information

To find additional information about RBA, such as a full copy of the ADV Part 2, and to request a copy of the Customer Relationship Summary, please go to www.robertbender.com or send us an email at Info@robertbender.com. If you would like to request up-to-date information as well as to request a copy of the relationship summary, please contact us via phone at (626) 397-9072. You may also find a copy of the most recent ADV Part 2 here.

Conversation Starters
"Who is my primary contact person? Is he or she a representative of an investment advisor or a broker-dealer? Who can I talk to if I have concerns about how this person is treating me?"