# ETC Brokerage Services, LLC Client Relationship Summary – March 2, 2024

**ETC Brokerage Services, LLC** is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as a broker-dealer and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA) and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC). Brokerage and investment advisory services and fees differ, and it is important for you to understand the differences. This Client Relationship Summary provides details about our brokerage services, fees, and other important information.

Free and simple tools are available to research firms and financial professionals at <u>Investor.gov/CRS</u> which also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisers, and investing.

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

We provide brokerage services to retail investors where they can buy and sell from a limited menu of products, such as publicly traded stocks, options, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, and fixed income securities (bonds, U.S. Treasury obligations, and certificates of deposit). We act solely on your instructions or those from your designated financial representatives, who utilize our services to execute trades for you. You make the ultimate decision regarding the purchase or sale of investments. We do not have offices that you can visit to meet with financial professionals. We do not offer recommendations to retail investors. We do not monitor your investments. We do not determine whether transactions are meeting your investment goals. We do not impose account value or investment minimums to open or maintain a brokerage account with our firm, however, some mutual funds may have initial purchase minimums.

For additional information on our services, please refer to our website at <a href="https://etcbrokerage.com/resources/">https://etcbrokerage.com/resources/</a> or to our Account Owner Agreement at <a href="https://s3.us-east-">https://etcbrokerage.com/resources/</a>

 $\underline{\textbf{2.amazonaws.com/forms.equitytrustcompany.info/ETCBrokerage/ETCB+Account+Owner+Agreement.pdf}$ 

# **CONVERSATION STARTERS:** Ask us or your financial professional:

Given my financial situation, should I choose a brokerage service? Why or why not? How will you choose investments to recommend to me? What is your relevant experience, including your licenses, education, and other qualifications? What do these qualifications mean?

## What fees will I pay?

You will pay commissions for purchases and sales you decide to execute in your account, which we charge on a per transaction basis. The more trades you place, the more commissions we earn. This creates an incentive for ETC Brokerage to want you to trade more often. These commissions are separate from any fees or charges that your financial professional or investments may charge you. You may also pay fees for certain services that you request that we provide to you, such as fees for certain types of asset or securities transfers. If your account has margin capabilities, we collect a fee by way of charging you interest for borrowing money from us. For additional information, please refer to our fee schedule at https://etcbrokerage.com/form-crs-and-disclosures/.

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.

## **CONVERSATION STARTERS:** Ask us or your financial professional:

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

What are your legal obligations to me when providing recommendations as my broker-dealer? How else does your firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?

**We do not provide recommendations**. The way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests. You should understand and ask us about these conflicts, as they can affect our services. Here are examples to help you understand what this means.

Our firm makes money based upon a percentage of the fees/costs paid by you to execute trades. These fees include transaction costs, margin interest costs, and other processing fees. The higher the number of transactions, the higher the charge to you.

<u>Payment for Order Flow</u>: We earn compensation for routing certain trade orders to third-party market centers and other broker-dealers, subject to our applicable best execution obligations. For more information, see your Account Owner Agreement.

<u>Insured Deposit Program</u>: If you enroll in our program where we can sweep the cash in your account to an FDIC-insured bank account, then we retain a portion of the interest earned through this program as our fee. If you choose not to participate in this program, then we will not earn this fee, but we would earn a fee if your cash is used, as permitted by regulations, to fund margin loans of other customers. We retain the difference between the margin interest rate we charge and the amount we pass to you.

For additional information, please refer to our website at https://etcbrokerage.com/form-crs-and-disclosures/.

# **CONVERSATION STARTERS:** Ask us or your financial professional:

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

## How do our financial professionals make money?

Our financial professionals are compensated based on salary and bonus which are based on operational and service metrics and company performance. No compensation is tied to firm revenue, transactions, commissions, or any product sales.

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

Yes. Visit Investor.gov/CRS for a free and simple search tool to research our firm and financial professionals.

#### CONVERSATION STARTERS: Ask us or your financial professional:

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

#### **Additional Information**

For additional information about us, please see our website at <u>etcbrokerage.com/form-crs-and-disclosures</u>. You may also call 877-403-0369 to request up to date information or a copy of this Client Relationship Summary.

# **CONVERSATION STARTERS: Ask us or your financial professional:**

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