

November 03, 2023

# **Customer Relationship Summary**

Helping you make an informed decision

Form CRS

Introduction	<ul> <li>Linden Thomas and Company, LLC ("LTCo") has three affiliated entities.</li> <li>Linden Thomas and Company Securities, LLC, a registered broker-dealer with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") &amp; the Securities Exchange Commission ("SEC"), and</li> <li>Linden Thomas Advisory Services, LLC, a registered investment adviser with the SEC.</li> <li>Indexperts, LLC, a registered investment adviser with the SEC.</li> </ul>
	Securities services are offered through Linden Thomas and Company Securities, LLC; member FINRA and Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC"). Advisory services are offered through Linden Thomas Advisory Services, LLC.
	Brokerage and investment advisory services fees differ, and it is important to understand the differences.
	Free and simple tools are available for you to use at <u>Investor.gov/CRS</u> , a website maintained by the SEC. These tools can provide you with educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisers, and investing.
	This relationship summary provides information that helps you make an informed decision about whether or not to invest with us and will answer the following questions:
	<ul> <li>What investment services and advice can you provide me?</li> <li>What fees will I pay?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>What are your legal obligations to me when providing recommendations as my broker-dealer, or when acting as my investment adviser? How else does the firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?</li> </ul>
	How do your financial professionals make money?
	<ul><li>Do you or your financial professionals have legal or disciplinary history?</li><li>Where can I find additional information?</li></ul>
Terms to know	<ul> <li>A broker-dealer is a firm that acts as an intermediary between buyers and sellers of securities for which they will usually receive a commission and may purchase or sell those securities in/out of their own account.</li> <li>An Investment adviser is generally any person or group that provides investment advice or conducts securities analysis in exchange for a fee.</li> </ul>

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

LTCo offers brokerage services and investment advisory services, to retail investors. Within a brokerage account, clients may invest in equities, fixed income (bonds), options, and mutual funds. Within an advisory account, clients may access the proprietary index funds managed by LTCo, as well as account management by 3<sup>rd</sup> party money managers.

Additional detailed information about these services is available at <u>www.lindenthomas.com</u>, and on the Form ADV, Part 2A brochure available upon request.

#### Brokerage Services

Linden Thomas & Company Securities, LLC offers brokerage services to retail investors, including buying and selling securities, and recommendations to retail investors.

Linden Thomas & Company Securities, LLC does not provide account monitoring.

#### Investment Advisory Services

Linden Thomas Advisory Services, LLC and Indexperts, LLC offers investment advisory services to retail investors, including financial planning and wrap fee programs.

Linden Thomas Advisory Services, LLC does not provide account monitoring.

Additional detailed information about advisory services and programs is available on the Firm's website.

#### What fees will I pay?

Fees are different for Brokerage and Advisory accounts and services.

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."

#### Brokerage Services Fees

These are transaction-based fees investors pay every time they buy or sell an investment. This fee, commonly referred to as a commission, is based on the specific transaction and not the value of your account. This fee can be charged in many ways, including as a separate and distinct fee, included as a part of the purchase of the security, or in the case of mutual funds as an embedded cost of the fund, which may include a redemption fee. The Firm may charge clients additional fees, disclosed at account opening and in a mailing on an annual basis. From a cost perspective it may be beneficial to a client to incur a transaction-based fee if they do not trade often or if they plan to buy and hold investment for a long period of time. The Firm does not have any limitations regarding account minimum size or investment amount.

#### Investment Advisory Services

Fees and costs you may incur for investment advisory services, and/or financial planning services are provided as follows:

The Firm may charge its customers in one or more of the following manners: a percentage of assets under management, or an hourly or fixed fee for financial planning.

• A fee calculated on assets under management typically applies to account management

Fees vary depending on the program and the total assets under management. Fees for asset management programs are generally calculated and charged quarterly in advance based on period ending balance of assets under management at the end of the preceding quarter. Fees for partial quarters are prorated based on the number of days assets are under management. Fees are generally deducted directly from client accounts, but clients may elect to alternatively pay fees by check.

• Hourly and/or fixed fees typically apply to financial planning services, which may include estate planning, retirement planning, tax planning, education funding, risk management, and employee benefits planning.

Fees charged for financial planning services may be charged in advance or in arrears depending on the service provided. Fees are negotiated in advance, and generally range from .30% to 1.00% depending on the level of complexity of the

#### **Conversation corner**

Questions you might wish to ask when considering our services:

- Given my financial situation, should I choose an investment advisory service? Should I choose a brokerage service? Should I choose both types of services? 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?

**Conversation corner** 

Questions you might wish to ask when considering our services:

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

engagement. Fee rates are based on actual services provided rather than being based on the level of assets managed as detailed above for investment management services. In some cases, fees may be deducted directly from client accounts, but clients generally are billed directly on a quarterly basis

The Firm offers wrap-fee programs, and as such there may be asset-based fees associated with the wrap fee program which may include transaction costs and fees to a broker-dealer or bank that has custody of these assets. This may result in a higher than typical asset based advisory fee.

The Firm does not charge asset-based fees that vary with the size of the account. This prevents a potential conflict of interest where an investment adviser may encourage a customer to consolidate their assets so as to achieve a lower fee rate.

For additional information please view the Firm's Form ADV available at:

Linden Thomas Advisory Services, LLC: https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/288557

Indexperts, LLC: https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/314858

#### **Other Fees and Costs**

There may be additional fees and costs related to your brokerage or investment advisory services and investments in addition to the firm's principal fees and costs disclosed above that you will pay directly or indirectly. Examples of these categories of the most common fees and costs applicable to you may include but are not limited to the following: custodian fees, account maintenance fees, fees related to mutual funds, and other transactional fees and product-level fees.

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

#### **Standard of Conduct**

When we provide you with a recommendation as your broker-dealer or 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 recommendations and investment advice we provide you. Here are some examples to help you understand what this means.

#### Examples of Ways We Make Money and Conflicts of Interest

Proprietary Products: Index mutual fund investments are issued, sponsored, and managed by LTCo.

Revenue Sharing: 3rd Party money managers of investment advisory accounts may share revenue earned on those investments.

For additional information about potential conflicts of interest, please see:

#### Form ADV:

Linden Thomas Advisory Services, LLC: https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/288557

Indexperts, LLC: <u>https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/314858</u>

Regulation Best Interest Disclosure: available upon request

#### **Conversation corner**

Questions you might wish to ask when considering our services:

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

### How do your financial professionals make money?

The Firm's financial professionals are compensated by commission in brokerage accounts and by management fees in advisory accounts. Financial professionals are not compensated based on factors such as the amount of client assets they service, the time and complexity required to meet a client's needs, the product sold, or revenue the firm earns from the financial professional's advisory services or recommendations.

For additional detailed information about these fees, please refer to advisory fees on the Firm's Form ADV (URL provided below) and brokerage fees provided within your new acct documents.

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

Yes - please refer to https://brokercheck.finra.org and/or investor.gov/CRS which are free sites to research the background and experience of financial brokers, advisers and firms.

#### Where can I find additional information?

You can always ask your financial advisor for more information and request a copy of this relationship summary at 704-554-8150 / toll free at 877-554-8150 / fax 704-554-8350 Linden Thomas and Company, LLC: <u>https://lindenthomas.com</u>

• URL to Form ADV:

Linden Thomas Advisory Services, LLC: <u>https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/288557</u> Indexperts, LLC: <u>https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/314858</u>

Form CRS (this document), Regulation Best Interest Disclosure, Legal Disclosure, Margin Disclosure, and Cash Sweep Program Disclosure are either included within your account opening documents or are available upon your request.

#### **Conversation corner**

Questions you might wish to ask when considering our services

- As a financial professional, do you have any disciplinary history? For what type of conduct?
- Who is my primary contact person? Is he or she a representative of an investment adviser or a brokerdealer? Whom can I talk to if I have concerns about how this person is treating me?

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# Exhibit A – Material Changes to Client Relationship Summary

In Item 4, Disciplinary History – we have changed the answer to "yes" for disclosure regarding financial professionals at the firm.

*Yes*, please see <u>www.Investor.gov/CRS</u> or <u>https://brokercheck.finra.org</u> for a free and simple tool to research the background and experience of us and our financial professionals.

**Conversation Starter: Ask your financial professional -**As a financial professional, do you have any disciplinary history? For what type of conduct?