

#### **Item 1 – Introduction**

Howard Capital Management, Inc. ("HCM", "we" or "us") is registered with the Securities Exchange Commission ("SEC") as a Registered Investment Adviser ("RIA"). As an RIA, our services and compensation structure differ from that of a registered broker-dealer, and it is important for you to understand the differences. Free and simple tools are available to research firms and financial professionals at Investor.gov/CRS. The site also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisers and investing.

## Item 2 – Relationships and Services

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

We provide investment advisory services, including through our Diversified Portfolio Development/Management/Ongoing Monitoring, Self-Directed Brokerage Account, 401(K) Optimizer<sup>TM</sup>, 401(K) Optimizer<sup>TM</sup> Guided Retirement, and TSP Optimizer<sup>TM</sup> programs. These services are available to individuals, high net worth individuals, trusts, and estates (our "retail investors").

Under our Diversified Portfolio Development/Management/Ongoing Monitoring, Self-Directed Brokerage Account, and 401(K) Optimizer<sup>TM</sup> Guided Retirement programs, we shall monitor, on a continuous basis, the investments in the accounts over which we have investment authority. Furthermore, when engaged on a discretionary basis, we shall have the authority, without prior consultation with you (unless you impose restrictions on our discretionary authority), to buy, sell, trade and allocate the investments within your account(s) consistent with your investment objectives. Our discretionary authority over your account(s) shall continue until our engagement is terminated.

Under our 401(K) Optimizer<sup>TM</sup> and TSP Optimizer<sup>TM</sup> programs, we offer assistance to retirement plan and thrift savings plan participants who are seeking advice in choosing and allocating investments within their plan accounts. Based on the information submitted to our firm, we will provide a report of recommendations personally designed for the client's particular investment goals. The report includes advice on which investments to choose to properly diversify your portfolio, as well as an asset allocation strategy. We continuously monitor your investments and will update your recommendations at least quarterly. In these programs, the retail investor makes the ultimate decision regarding the purchase or sale of investments and is solely responsible for implementation of any recommendations provided by us.

We do not limit the scope of our investment advisory services to proprietary products or a limited group or type of investment.

We require a minimum account size of \$25,000 to open and maintain an advisory account, and a \$15,000 minimum account size for Self-Directed Brokerage Account program. Certain investment allocation models that we utilize may also maintain minimum asset level requirements, including our Ultra Aggressive model, which requires a minimum asset level of \$500,000. We may waive or reduce these minimum asset level requirements at our sole discretion. We generally do not impose a minimum annual fee requirement.

<u>Additional Information</u>: For more detailed information about our *Advisory Business* and the *Types of Clients* we generally service, please see Items 4 and 7, respectively in our <u>ADV Part 2A</u>.

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 provide our investment advisory services on a fee basis. When engaged to Diversified Portfolio Development/Management/Ongoing Monitoring services, we shall charge a fee calculated as a percentage of your assets under our management (our "AUM Fee"). Our annual AUM Fee for Diversified Portfolio Development/Management/Ongoing Monitoring is negotiable and based on a variety of factors, but the portion we retain will not exceed 1.10%. For this service, a separate asset-based fee is paid to your professional adviser. Our 401(K) Optimizer<sup>TM</sup> and TSP Optimizer<sup>TM</sup> services are available for an annual subscription cost of \$108, payable in equal monthly installments, in advance. Our 401(K) Optimizer<sup>TM</sup> Guided Retirement service is available for an annual AUM Fee of 0.88%, billed quarterly in arrears, of which 0.15% is paid to your professional adviser and 0.02% to the retirement plan platform, while we retain the

remaining portion.

Our Self-Directed Brokerage Account services are provided without a direct advisory fee. Instead, we are compensated through the receipt of management fees payable to certain affiliated mutual funds and exchange-traded funds that we manage, which funds are made available for investment through the retail investor's self-directed brokerage window.

For Diversified Portfolio Development/Management/Ongoing Monitoring clients, we typically deduct our AUM Fee from one or more of your investment accounts, in advance, on a monthly basis. Because our AUM Fee is calculated as a percentage of your assets under management, the more assets you have in your advisory account, the more you will pay us for our investment management services. Therefore, we have an incentive to encourage you to increase the assets maintained in accounts we manage.

<u>Other Fees and Costs</u>: Your investment assets will be held with a qualified custodian. Custodians generally charge brokerage commissions and/or transaction fees for effecting certain securities transactions (for example, transaction and redemption fees are charged for certain mutual fund transactions). These charges will be assessed in accordance with the qualified custodian's transaction fee/brokerage commission fee schedule. In addition, relative to certain mutual fund and exchange traded fund purchases, certain charges will be imposed at the fund level (e.g. management fees and other fund expenses).

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.

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?

<u>Additional Information</u>: For more detailed information about our fees and costs related to our management of your account, please see Item 5 in our <u>ADV Part 2A</u>.

# 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:

- \* We manage several mutual funds and exchange-traded funds, which may be recommended to clients or utilized in the management of a client accounts. We collect our AUM Fee for management of the client account, as well as a management fees for serving as investment adviser to the affiliated funds. We, therefore, have a conflict of interest in using or recommending these funds, as we have a financial incentive to invest your assets in the affiliated funds or to recommend that you invest in the affiliated funds rather than other investments.
- \* We may recommend a particular custodian from whom we receive support services and/or products, certain of which assist us to better monitor and service your account.

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

Additional Information: For more detailed information about our conflicts of interest, please review our ADV Part 2A.

#### How do your financial professionals make money?

Our financial professionals are generally compensated with salary, commission, and bonus opportunity. Commission and bonus opportunities are based on new assets brought to HCM to manage. This compensation structure presents a conflict of interest as it incentivizes our financial professionals to recommend that you place additional assets under our management. You should discuss your financial professional's compensation directly with your financial professional.

#### **Item 4 – Disciplinary History**

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

No. We encourage you to visit <a href="www.Investor.gov/CRS">www.Investor.gov/CRS</a> to research our firm and our financial professionals. Furthermore, we encourage you to ask your financial professional: As a financial professional, do you have any disciplinary history? If so, for what type of conduct?

#### Item 5 – Additional Information

Additional information about our firm is available on the SEC's website at <a href="www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>. You may contact our Chief Compliance Officer at any time to request a current copy of your ADV Part 2A or our *relationship summary*. Our Chief Compliance Officer may be reached by phone: 770-642-4902.

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

A copy of our Part 2A is available at:

### **Exhibit of Material Changes**

Since our most recent filing dated June 16, 2020, this Client Relationship Summary has been revised at Items 2 and 3 to incorporate discussion of our 401(K) Optimizer<sup>TM</sup> Guided Retirement services and related fees. This Client Relationship Summary has also been revised at Item 2 to update details regarding minimum account requirements and at Item 3 to update details regarding the AUM Fee charged for Diversified Portfolio Development/Management/Ongoing Monitoring services.