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# SIMPLIFY WOLFE US EQUITY 150/50 ETF WUSA

(a series Simplify Exchange Traded Funds)

# Supplement dated May 1, 2025 to the Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") dated September 20, 2024

The Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Simplify Exchange Traded Funds (the "Trust") has determined that it is in the best interests of shareholders to liquidate the Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF (the "Fund"), a series of the Trust, following a recommendation by the Fund's investment adviser, Simplify EQLS LLC. The Board has determined to liquidate the Fund with the liquidation payment to shareholders expected to take place on or about May 30, 2025 ("Liquidation Date").

After the close of business on May 23, 2025, the Fund no longer will accept creation orders. The last day of trading in the Fund on the NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange") will be May 23, 2025. Shareholders should be aware that while the Fund is preparing to liquidate, it will not be pursuing its stated investment objective or engaging in any business activities except for the purposes of winding up its business and affairs, preserving the value of assets, paying its liabilities, and distributing its remaining assets to shareholders.

Shareholders may sell their holdings of the Fund on the Exchange until market close on May 23, 2025 and may incur typical transaction fees from their broker-dealer. The Fund's shares will no longer trade on the Exchange after market close on May 23, 2025, and the shares will be subsequently delisted. Shareholders who do not sell their shares of the Fund before market close on May 23, 2025 will receive cash equal to the amount of the net asset value of their shares, which will include any capital gains and dividends, in the cash portion of their brokerage accounts, on or about the Liquidation Date.

Shareholders generally will recognize a capital gain or loss equal to the amount received for their shares over their adjusted basis in such shares. You may wish to consult your tax advisor about your particular situation.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact your financial advisor directly or the Fund at (855) 722-8488.

This Supplement and the Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information dated November 1, 2024, provide relevant information for all shareholders and should be retained for future reference. Both the Prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and are incorporated by reference and can be obtained without charge by calling the Fund at (855) 722-8488.

#### U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM N-1A

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER

☑ *THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933* □ Pre-Effective Amendment No. \_\_\_\_\_
 ☑ Post-Effective Amendment No. 121

#### AND/OR

☑ THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940 ☑ Amendment No. 122

## **Simplify Exchange Traded Funds**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

222 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor New York NY 10038 (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code: 646-585-0476

The Corporation Trust Company Corporation Trust Center 1209 Orange Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801 (Name and address of agent for service)

Copy to: JoAnn M. Strasser Thompson Hine LLP 41 South High Street, Suite 1700 Columbus, Ohio 43215

It is proposed that this filing will become effective:

- Immediately upon filing pursuant to paragraph (b)
- $\Box$  On (date) pursuant to paragraph (b)
- $\Box$  60 days after filing pursuant to paragraph (a)(1)
- $\Box$  On (date) pursuant to paragraph (a)(1)
- $\Box$  75 days after filing pursuant to paragraph (a)(2)
- $\Box$  On (date) pursuant to paragraph (a)(2) of Rule 485.

If appropriate, check the following box:

□ This post-effective amendment designates a new effective date for a previously filed post-effective amendment

## Fund Name

Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF

#### Ticker Symbol (Exchange)

[\*] (NYSE Arca, Inc.)
WUSA (NYSE Arca, Inc.)
[\*] (NYSE Arca, Inc.)
[\*] (NYSE Arca, Inc.)

each a series of Simplify Exchange Traded Funds

#### PROSPECTUS

September 20, 2024

www.simplify.us/etfs

phone: 1 (855) 772-8488

This Prospectus provides important information about the Funds that you should know before investing. Please read it carefully and keep it for future reference.

These securities have not been approved or disapproved by the Securities and Exchange Commission or Commodity Futures Trading Commission nor has the Securities and Exchange Commission or Commodity Futures Trading Commission passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Each Fund's shares are listed and traded on the respective Exchange listed above.

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## FUND SUMMARY - SIMPLIFY WOLFE ALPHA CAPTURE ETF

Investment Objective: The Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF (the "Fund" or "[\*]") seeks to provide capital appreciation.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund: This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the Fund. You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the expense table or example below.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	
Management Fees	1.00%
Distribution and Service (12b-1) Fees	0.00%
Other Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	0.00%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	1.00%

(1) Other Expenses are estimated for the Fund's initial fiscal year.

Example: This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based upon these assumptions your costs would be:

1 Year	3 Years
\$102	\$318

**Portfolio Turnover:** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. The Fund is a new fund and has no portfolio turnover information as of the date of this Prospectus.

### **Principal Investment Strategies:**

The adviser seeks to achieve the Fund's investment objective by investing primarily in equity securities of U.S. companies. The Fund invests in securities that the sub-adviser believes can outperform the overall market. "Alpha Capture" in the Fund's name refers to the strategy goal of achieving excess returns on investments relative to overall market returns when adjusted for risk. The Fund will use fundamental, bottom-up analysis that seeks to identify high-quality companies and the most compelling investment opportunities. The adviser then selects the companies that it believes will outperform their respective peers over the following 12-month period considering factors such as, but not limited to, valuation, growth, and profitability measures. The Fund invests in companies without restrictions as to capitalization.

The Fund defines U.S. companies as those organized in the U.S.; having a class of securities whose principal securities market is in the U.S.; or derives 50% or more of its total revenues or earnings from goods produced, sales made, or services provided in the U.S., or maintains 50% or more of its employees, assets, investments, operations, or other business activity in the U.S.

The Fund is an actively managed ETF. The adviser rebalances the Fund's portfolio monthly and may rebalance more frequently to reduce industry or company specific concentration or other risks.

The Fund is classified as a "non-diversified" investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, which means that the Fund may invest a higher percentage of its assets in a fewer number of issuers than is permissible for a "diversified" fund.



**Principal Investment Risks:** As with all funds, there is the risk that you could lose money through your investment in the Fund. Many factors affect the Fund's net asset value and price of shares and performance. The following describes the risks the Fund bears with respect to its investments. As with any fund, there is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its goal.

Active Management Risk. The Fund is subject to the risk that its investment management strategy may not produce the intended results and may negatively impact Fund performance.

*Equity Securities Risk.* The net asset value of the Fund will fluctuate based on changes in the value of the equity securities held by the Fund. Equity prices can fall rapidly in response to developments affecting a specific company or industry, or to changing economic, political or market conditions.

*Early Close/Trading Halt Risk.* An exchange or market may close or issue trading halts on specific securities, or the ability to buy or sell certain securities or financial instruments may be restricted, which may prevent the Fund from buying or selling certain securities or financial instruments. In these circumstances, the Fund may be unable to rebalance its portfolio, may be unable to accurately price its investments and may incur substantial trading losses.

ETF Structure Risk. The Fund is structured as an ETF. As a result, the Fund is subject to the special risks, including:

- Not Individually Redeemable. The Fund's shares ("Shares") are not redeemable by retail investors and may be redeemed only by Authorized Participants at net asset value ("NAV") and only in Creation Units. A retail investor generally incurs brokerage costs when selling shares.
- *Trading Issues*. Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange") may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable, such as extraordinary market volatility. There can be no assurance that Shares will continue to meet the listing requirements of the Exchange which may result in the Shares being delisted. An active trading market for the Shares may not be developed or maintained. If the Shares are traded outside a collateralized settlement system, the number of financial institutions that can act as Authorized Participants that can post collateral on an agency basis is limited, which may limit the market for the Shares.
- *Market Price Variance Risk.* The market prices of Shares will fluctuate in response to changes in NAV and supply and demand for Shares and will include a "bid-ask spread" charged by the exchange specialists, market makers or other participants that trade the Shares. There may be times when the market price and the NAV vary significantly. This means that Shares may trade at a discount to NAV.
  - In times of market stress, market makers may step away from their role market making in the Shares and in executing trades, which can lead to differences between the market value of the Shares and the Fund's NAV.
  - The market price of the Shares may deviate from the Fund's NAV, particularly during times of market stress, with the result that investors may pay significantly more or significantly less the Shares than the Fund's NAV, which is reflected in the bid and ask price for the Shares or in the closing price.
  - In stressed market conditions, the market for the Shares may become less liquid in response to the deteriorating liquidity of the Fund's portfolio. This adverse effect on the liquidity of the Shares may, in turn, lead to differences between the market value of the hares and the Fund's NAV.

• Authorized Participant Risk. Only an Authorized Participant may engage in creation or redemption transactions directly with the Fund. The Fund has a limited number of institutions that may act as an Authorized Participant on an agency basis (i.e., on behalf of other market participants). To the extent that Authorized Participants exit the business or are unable to proceed with creation or redemption orders with respect to the Fund and no other Authorized Participant is able to step forward to create or redeem Creation Units, Fund shares may be more likely to trade at a premium or discount to net asset value and possibly face trading halts or delisting. Authorized Participant concentration risk may be heightened for securities or instruments that have lower trading volumes.

*Large Capitalization Risk.* Large-capitalization companies may be less able than smaller capitalization companies to adapt to changing market conditions. Large-capitalization companies may be more mature and subject to more limited growth potential compared with smaller capitalization companies. During different market cycles, the performance of large capitalization companies has trailed the overall performance of the broader securities markets.

Limited History Risk. The Fund is a new ETF and has a limited history of operations for investors to evaluate.

*Market and Geopolitical Risk.* The increasing interconnectivity between global economies and financial markets increases the likelihood that events or conditions in one region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. Securities in the Fund's portfolio may underperform due to inflation (or expectations for inflation), interest rates, global demand for particular products or resources, natural disasters, pandemics, epidemics, terrorism, international conflicts, regulatory events and governmental or quasi-governmental actions. The occurrence of global events similar to those in recent years may result in market volatility and may have long term effects on both the U.S. and global financial markets. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic and the aggressive responses taken by many governments, including closing borders, restricting international and domestic travel, and the imposition of prolonged quarantines or similar restrictions, as well as the forced or voluntary closure of, or operational changes to, many retail and other businesses had negative impacts, and in many cases severe negative impacts, on markets worldwide. It is not known how long such impacts, or any future impacts of other significant events described above, will or would last, but there could be a prolonged period of global economic slowdown, which may impact your Fund investment.

Non-Diversification Risk. The Fund's portfolio may focus on a limited number of investments and will be subject to potential for volatility more than a diversified fund.

Small and Medium Capitalization Risk. The earnings and prospects of small and medium sized companies are more volatile than larger companies and may experience higher failure rates than larger companies. Small and medium sized companies normally have a lower trading volume than larger companies, which may tend to make their market price fall more disproportionately than larger companies in response to selling pressures and may have limited markets, product lines, or financial resources and lack management experience.

Volatility Risk. Significant short-term price movements could adversely impact the performance of the Fund's performance may be volatile, which means that the Fund's performance may be subject to substantial short-term changes up or down.

**Performance:** Because the Fund has only recently commenced investment operations, no performance information is presented for the Fund at this time. In the future, performance information will be presented in this section of the Prospectus. Also, shareholder reports containing financial and performance information will be mailed to shareholder semi-annually. Updated performance information will be available at no cost by visiting www.simplify.us or by calling 1 (855) 772-8488.

Investment Adviser: Simplify Asset Management Inc. ("SAMI").

Investment Sub-Adviser: Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC ("Wolfe"), located at 757 Third Avenue 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY, serves as sub-adviser to the Fund.

**Portfolio Managers:** David Berns, Chief Investment Officer and David Jackson, Vice President of Portfolio Management, SAMI and Sheng Wang of Wolfe serve as portfolio managers of the Fund. Dr. Berns and Messrs. Jackson and Wang have each served the Fund as a portfolio manager since it commenced operations and are jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund.

**Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares:** The Fund will issue and redeem Shares at NAV only in large blocks of 25,000 Shares (each block of Shares is called a "Creation Unit"). Creation Units are issued and redeemed primarily in-kind for securities but may include cash. Individual Shares may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. Except when aggregated in Creation Units in transactions with Authorized Participants, the Shares are not redeemable securities of the Fund.

Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on the Exchange and trade at market prices rather than NAV. Shares of the Fund may trade at a price that is greater than, at, or less than NAV. An investor may incur costs attributable to the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase shares of the Fund (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for shares of the Fund (ask) when buying or selling shares in the secondary market. Recent information on the Fund's NAV, market price, premiums and discounts, and bid-ask spreads is available at www.simplify.us/etfs.

Tax Information: The Fund's distributions generally will be taxable as ordinary income or long-term capital gains. A sale of Shares may result in capital gain or loss.

**Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries:** If you purchase the Fund through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund and its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## FUND SUMMARY - SIMPLIFY WOLFE US EQUITY 150/50 ETF

Investment Objective: The Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF (the "Fund" or "WUSA") seeks to provide capital appreciation.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund: This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the Fund. You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the expense table or example below.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	
Management Fees	0.75%
Distribution and Service (12b-1) Fees	0.00%
Other Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	0.00%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	0.75%

(1) Other Expenses are estimated for the Fund's initial fiscal year.

Example: This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based upon these assumptions your costs would be:

1 Year	3 Years
\$77	\$240

**Portfolio Turnover:** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. The Fund is a new fund and has no portfolio turnover information as of the date of this Prospectus.

## **Principal Investment Strategies:**

The Fund invests primarily in total return swaps that provide the returns, long or short, of a basket of common stocks. The adviser seeks to achieve the Fund's investment objective by pursuing a long-short strategy, taking both long and short positions in the Fund's portfolio. "150/50" in the Fund's name refers to the strategy goal of the Fund's portfolio weighted 150% in long positions and 50% in short positions, resulting in a 100% net long portfolio. The Fund may deviate from a 150/50 long-short allocation as investment opportunities change.

The sub-adviser recommends companies to include in the swap basket by using a multi-factor quantitative ranking system that seeks to identify the factors that drive both positive and negative returns and classify securities based on forward-looking return expectations. The sub-adviser's quantitative ranking system analyses raw data, detects patterns, and translates those patterns into mathematical formulas that can be used to forecast security prices. The quantitative ranking system takes into consideration about 300 fundamental factors. Common factors include strong earnings growth, positive profitability, and positive momentum. The sub-adviser then constructs a model portfolio of company names and weightings, using a customized risk model to constrain portfolio risk according to the Fund's investment strategy. The adviser selects and aims to include the names of about 250 stocks with the best expected returns in the long basket and the names of about 150 stocks with lowest expected returns in the short basket.

Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in equity securities of U.S. companies. Equity securities include investments that provide long or short exposure to equity securities, including total return swaps. The Fund also holds cash and invests in cash-equivalents (money market funds) or high-quality short term fixed income securities as collateral for the swaps.

The Fund defines equity securities as common stock, preferred stock, or futures on common or preferred stock. The Fund defines US companies as those organized in the U.S.; having a class of securities whose principal securities market is in the U.S.; or derives 50% or more of its total revenues or earnings from goods produced, sales made, or services provided in the U.S., or maintains 50% or more of its employees, assets, investments, operations, or other business activity in the U.S. The Fund invests in companies without restrictions as to capitalization.

The Fund is an actively managed ETF. The adviser rebalances the Fund's portfolio monthly based on the ranking system, may rebalance more frequently to reduce industry or company specific concentration or other risks, and may tactically shift the Fund's net long/short exposure to equity markets based on its proprietary research.

The Fund's 80% policy may be changed by the Board of Trustees upon 60 days' written notice to shareholders.

**Principal Investment Risks:** As with all funds, there is the risk that you could lose money through your investment in the Fund. Many factors affect the Fund's net asset value and price of shares and performance. The following describes the risks the Fund bears with respect to its investments. As with any fund, there is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its goal.

Derivatives Risk. Trading derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities. Leverage inherent in derivatives will tend to magnify the Fund's losses if the derivative strategy is ineffective.

- Total Return Swap Risk. Total return swaps are contracts pursuant to which a party makes periodic payments to another party for a specified time period based on the change in market value of an underlying asset, in this case a basket of long and short equity positions. Leverage inherent in derivatives such as total return swaps will tend to magnify the Fund's losses if the price of the short positions rise or the price of the long positions fall.
- Counterparty Risk. The Fund invests in total return swaps and other derivative instruments with counterparties that are privately negotiated in the over-the-counter market. These contracts involve exposure to credit risk because contract performance depends, in part, on the financial condition of the counterparty. If the creditworthiness of the counterparty declines, the Fund may not receive payments owed under the contract, or such payments may be delayed and the value of agreements with the counterparty can be expected to decline, potentially resulting in losses to the Fund.

*Equity Securities Risk.* The net asset value of the Fund will fluctuate based on changes in the value of the equity securities held by the Fund. Equity prices can fall rapidly in response to developments affecting a specific company or industry, or to changing economic, political or market conditions.

Leverage Risk. The use of leverage by the Fund, such as through the use of derivatives, will cause the Fund to incur additional expenses and magnify the Fund's gains or losses.

Active Management Risk. The Fund is subject to the risk that the investment management strategy may not produce the intended results and may negatively impact Fund performance. The adviser's overlay strategy will not fully protect the Fund from declines in the market.

*Cash or Cash Equivalents Risk.* At any time, the Fund may have significant investments in cash or cash equivalents. When a substantial portion of a portfolio is held in cash or cash equivalents, there is the risk that the value of the cash account, including interest, will not keep pace with inflation, thus reducing purchasing power over time. Additionally, in rising markets, holding cash or cash equivalents may adversely affect the Fund's performance and the Fund may not achieve its investment objective.

*Early Close/Trading Halt Risk.* An exchange or market may close or issue trading halts on specific securities, or the ability to buy or sell certain securities or financial instruments may be restricted, which may prevent the Fund from buying or selling certain securities or financial instruments. In these circumstances, the Fund may be unable to rebalance its portfolio, may be unable to accurately price its investments and may incur substantial trading losses.

ETF Structure Risk. The Fund is structured as an ETF. As a result, the Fund is subject to the special risks, including:

- Not Individually Redeemable. The Fund's shares ("Shares") are not redeemable by retail investors and may be redeemed only by Authorized Participants at net asset value ("NAV") and only in Creation Units. A retail investor generally incurs brokerage costs when selling shares.
- *Trading Issues.* Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange") may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable, such as extraordinary market volatility. There can be no assurance that Shares will continue to meet the listing requirements of the Exchange which may result in the Shares being delisted. An active trading market for the Shares may not be developed or maintained. If the Shares are traded outside a collateralized settlement system, the number of financial institutions that can act as Authorized Participants that can post collateral on an agency basis is limited, which may limit the market for the Shares.
- *Market Price Variance Risk.* The market prices of Shares will fluctuate in response to changes in NAV and supply and demand for Shares and will include a "bid-ask spread" charged by the exchange specialists, market makers or other participants that trade the Shares. There may be times when the market price and the NAV vary significantly. This means that Shares may trade at a discount to NAV.
  - In times of market stress, market makers may step away from their role market making in the Shares and in executing trades, which can lead to differences between the market value of the Shares and the Fund's NAV.
  - The market price of the Shares may deviate from the Fund's NAV, particularly during times of market stress, with the result that investors may pay significantly more or significantly less the Shares than the Fund's NAV, which is reflected in the bid and ask price for the Shares or in the closing price.
  - In stressed market conditions, the market for the Shares may become less liquid in response to the deteriorating liquidity of the Fund's portfolio. This adverse effect on the liquidity of the Shares may, in turn, lead to differences between the market value of the hares and the Fund's NAV.
- Authorized Participant Risk. Only an Authorized Participant may engage in creation or redemption transactions directly with the Fund. The Fund has a limited number of institutions that may act as an Authorized Participant on an agency basis (i.e., on behalf of other market participants). To the extent that Authorized Participants exit the business or are unable to proceed with creation or redemption orders with respect to the Fund and no other Authorized Participant is able to step forward to create or redeem Creation Units, Fund shares may be more likely to trade at a premium or discount to net asset value and possibly face trading halts or delisting. Authorized Participant concentration risk may be heightened for securities or instruments that have lower trading volumes.

*Large Capitalization Risk.* Large-capitalization companies may be less able than smaller capitalization companies to adapt to changing market conditions. Large-capitalization companies may be more mature and subject to more limited growth potential compared with smaller capitalization companies. During different market cycles, the performance of large capitalization companies has trailed the overall performance of the broader securities markets.

Limited History Risk. The Fund is a new ETF and has a limited history of operations for investors to evaluate.

*Market and Geopolitical Risk.* The increasing interconnectivity between global economies and financial markets increases the likelihood that events or conditions in one region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. Securities in the Fund's portfolio may underperform due to inflation (or expectations for inflation), interest rates, global demand for particular products or resources, natural disasters, pandemics, epidemics, terrorism, international conflicts, regulatory events and governmental or quasi-governmental actions. The occurrence of global events similar to those in recent years may result in market volatility and may have long term effects on both the U.S. and global financial markets. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic and the aggressive responses taken by many governments, including closing borders, restricting international and domestic travel, and the imposition of prolonged quarantines or similar restrictions, as well as the forced or voluntary closure of, or operational changes to, many retail and other businesses had negative impacts, and in many cases severe negative impacts, on markets worldwide. It is not known how long such impacts, or any future impacts of other significant events described above, will or would last, but there could be a prolonged period of global economic slowdown, which may impact your Fund investment.

*Over-the-Counter Market Risk.* Derivatives traded in over-the-counter markets may trade less frequently and in limited volumes and thus exhibit more volatility and liquidity risk, and the prices paid by the Fund in over-the-counter transactions may include an undisclosed dealer markup. The Fund is also exposed to default by the over-the-counter derivative writer who may be unwilling or unable to perform its contractual obligations to the Fund.

Small and Medium Capitalization Risk. The earnings and prospects of small and medium sized companies are more volatile than larger companies and may experience higher failure rates than larger companies. Small and medium sized companies normally have a lower trading volume than larger companies, which may tend to make their market price fall more disproportionately than larger companies in response to selling pressures and may have limited markets, product lines, or financial resources and lack management experience.

*U.S. Treasuries Risk.* U.S. Treasury obligations are backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. government and generally have negligible credit risk. Securities issued or guaranteed by federal agencies or authorities and U.S. government-sponsored instrumentalities or enterprises may or may not be backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.

*U.S. Treasury Market Risk.* The U.S. Treasury market can be volatile, and the value of instruments correlated with these markets may fluctuate dramatically from day to day. U.S. Treasury obligations may provide relatively lower returns than those of other securities. Similar to other debt instruments, U.S. Treasury obligations are subject to debt instrument risk and interest rate risk. In addition, changes to the financial condition or credit rating of the U.S. Government may cause the value of U.S. Treasury obligations to decline.

**Performance:** Because the Fund has only recently commenced investment operations, no performance information is presented for the Fund at this time. In the future, performance information will be presented in this section of the Prospectus. Also, shareholder reports containing financial and performance information will be mailed to shareholder semi-annually. Updated performance information will be available at no cost by visiting www.simplify.us or by calling 1 (855) 772-8488.

Investment Adviser: Simplify EQLS LLC ("EQLS LLC").

Investment Sub-Adviser: Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC ("Wolfe"), located at 757 Third Avenue 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY, serves as sub-adviser to the Fund.

**Portfolio Managers:** David Berns, Chief Investment Officer and David Jackson Vice President of Portfolio Management, EQLS LLC and Sheng Wang of Wolfe serve as portfolio managers of the Fund. Dr. Berns and Messrs. Jackson and Wang have each served the Fund as a portfolio manager since it commenced operations and are jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund.

**Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares:** The Fund will issue and redeem Shares at NAV only in large blocks of 25,000 Shares (each block of Shares is called a "Creation Unit"). Creation Units are issued and redeemed primarily in-kind for securities but may include cash. Individual Shares may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. Except when aggregated in Creation Units in transactions with Authorized Participants, the Shares are not redeemable securities of the Fund.

Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on the Exchange and trade at market prices rather than NAV. Shares of the Fund may trade at a price that is greater than, at, or less than NAV.

Tax Information: The Fund's distributions generally will be taxable as ordinary income or long-term capital gains. A sale of Shares may result in capital gain or loss.

**Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries:** If you purchase the Fund through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund and its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.



## FUND SUMMARY - SIMPLIFY WOLFE MARKET NEUTRAL SHIELD ETF

Investment Objective: The Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF (the "Fund" or "[\*]") seeks to provide positive absolute returns and income.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund: This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the Fund. You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the expense table or example below.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	
Management Fees	1.00%
Distribution and Service (12b-1) Fees	0.00%
Other Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	0.00%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	1.00%

(1) Other Expenses are estimated for the Fund's initial fiscal year.

Example: This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based upon these assumptions your costs would be:

1 Year	3 Years
\$102	\$318

**Portfolio Turnover:** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. The Fund is a new fund and has no portfolio turnover information as of the date of this Prospectus.

### **Principal Investment Strategies:**

The Fund invests primarily in total return swaps that provide the returns, long or short, of a basket of common stocks. The companies in the swap basket will include large capitalization equity securities listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange. The sub-adviser uses a multi-factor quantitative ranking system that seeks to identify the factors that drive both positive and negative returns and classify securities based on forward-looking return expectations. Common factors include strong earnings growth, positive profitability, and positive momentum. The sub-adviser's quantitative ranking system analyses raw data, detects patterns, and translates those patterns into mathematical formulas that can be used to forecast security prices. The sub-adviser then constructs a model portfolio of company names and weightings, using a customized risk model to constrain portfolio risk according to the Fund's investment strategy. The adviser selects securities based on about 300 stocks with the best expected returns in the long basket and about 300 stocks with lowest expected returns in the short basket. "SHIELD" in the Fund's name refers to the strategy goal of focusing on investments that are market defensive (i.e., stocks of companies that are characterized by high profitability, good accounting quality, and a lower likelihood of default).

Equity securities include investments that provide long or short exposure to equity securities, including total return swaps. The direct and indirect equity investments are primarily large capitalization U.S. companies but may include Nasdaq-listed companies from developed foreign markets. The Fund also holds cash and invests in cash-equivalents (money market funds) or high-quality short term fixed income securities as collateral for the swaps.

This market neutral strategy primarily aims to provide profits when Nasdaq-listed stocks are falling and to generate flat returns during market rallies. The total return swaps provide the Fund equity exposure of approximately 200% long the stocks of companies exhibiting positive performance factors, and 200% short the stocks of companies exhibiting negative performance factors. The 200% long and short positions are not direct hedges, and the adviser constructs the portfolio in a manner that it believes will achieve a market neutral result.

The Fund is an actively managed ETF. The adviser rebalances the Fund's portfolio monthly based on the ranking system, may rebalance more frequently to reduce industry or company specific concentration or other risks, and may tactically shift the Fund's net long/short exposure to equity markets based on its proprietary research. The Fund is "market neutral" because of the equal notional exposure on the long and short side when the Fund's portfolio is rebalanced.

**Principal Investment Risks:** As with all funds, there is the risk that you could lose money through your investment in the Fund. Many factors affect the Fund's net asset value and price of shares and performance. The following describes the risks the Fund bears with respect to its investments. As with any fund, there is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its goal.

Derivatives Risk. Trading derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities. Leverage inherent in derivatives will tend to magnify the Fund's losses if the derivative strategy is ineffective.

- Total Return Swap Risk. Total return swaps are contracts pursuant to which a party makes periodic payments to another party for a specified time period based on the change in market value of an underlying asset. Leverage inherent in derivatives such as total return swaps will tend to magnify the Fund's losses if the price of the short positions rise or the price of the long positions fall.
- Counterparty Risk. The Fund invests in total return swaps and other derivative instruments with counterparties that are privately negotiated in the over-the-counter market. These contracts involve exposure to credit risk because contract performance depends, in part, on the financial condition of the counterparty. If the creditworthiness of the counterparty declines, the Fund may not receive payments owed under the contract, or such payments may be delayed and the value of agreements with the counterparty can be expected to decline, potentially resulting in losses to the Fund.

*Equity Securities Risk.* The net asset value of the Fund will fluctuate based on changes in the value of the equity securities held by the Fund. Equity prices can fall rapidly in response to developments affecting a specific company or industry, or to changing economic, political or market conditions.

Leverage Risk. The use of leverage by the Fund, such as through the use of derivatives, will cause the Fund to incur additional expenses and magnify the Fund's gains or losses.

Active Management Risk. The Fund is subject to the risk that the investment management strategy may not produce the intended results and may negatively impact Fund performance. The adviser's overlay strategy will not fully protect the Fund from declines in the market.

*Cash or Cash Equivalents Risk.* At any time, the Fund may have significant investments in cash or cash equivalents. When a substantial portion of a portfolio is held in cash or cash equivalents, there is the risk that the value of the cash account, including interest, will not keep pace with inflation, thus reducing purchasing power over time. Additionally, in rising markets, holding cash or cash equivalents may adversely affect the Fund's performance and the Fund may not achieve its investment objective.

*Early Close/Trading Halt Risk.* An exchange or market may close or issue trading halts on specific securities, or the ability to buy or sell certain securities or financial instruments may be restricted, which may prevent the Fund from buying or selling certain securities or financial instruments. In these circumstances, the Fund may be unable to rebalance its portfolio, may be unable to accurately price its investments and may incur substantial trading losses.

ETF Structure Risk. The Fund is structured as an ETF. As a result, the Fund is subject to the special risks, including:

- Not Individually Redeemable. The Fund's shares ("Shares") are not redeemable by retail investors and may be redeemed only by Authorized Participants at net asset value ("NAV") and only in Creation Units. A retail investor generally incurs brokerage costs when selling shares.
- *Trading Issues.* Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange") may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable, such as extraordinary market volatility. There can be no assurance that Shares will continue to meet the listing requirements of the Exchange which may result in the Shares being delisted. An active trading market for the Shares may not be developed or maintained. If the Shares are traded outside a collateralized settlement system, the number of financial institutions that can act as Authorized Participants that can post collateral on an agency basis is limited, which may limit the market for the Shares.
- *Market Price Variance Risk.* The market prices of Shares will fluctuate in response to changes in NAV and supply and demand for Shares and will include a "bid-ask spread" charged by the exchange specialists, market makers or other participants that trade the Shares. There may be times when the market price and the NAV vary significantly. This means that Shares may trade at a discount to NAV.
  - In times of market stress, market makers may step away from their role market making in the Shares and in executing trades, which can lead to differences between the market value of the Shares and the Fund's NAV.
  - The market price of the Shares may deviate from the Fund's NAV, particularly during times of market stress, with the result that investors may pay significantly more or significantly less the Shares than the Fund's NAV, which is reflected in the bid and ask price for the Shares or in the closing price.
  - In stressed market conditions, the market for the Shares may become less liquid in response to the deteriorating liquidity of the Fund's portfolio. This adverse effect on the liquidity of the Shares may, in turn, lead to differences between the market value of the hares and the Fund's NAV.
- Authorized Participant Risk. Only an Authorized Participant may engage in creation or redemption transactions directly with the Fund. The Fund has a limited number of institutions that may act as an Authorized Participant on an agency basis (i.e., on behalf of other market participants). To the extent that Authorized Participants exit the business or are unable to proceed with creation or redemption orders with respect to the Fund and no other Authorized Participant is able to step forward to create or redeem Creation Units, Fund shares may be more likely to trade at a premium or discount to net asset value and possibly face trading halts or delisting. Authorized Participant concentration risk may be heightened for securities or instruments that have lower trading volumes.

Foreign Investment Risk. The Fund may invest in securities domiciled in countries outside the U.S. that may experience more rapid and extreme changes in value than a fund that invests exclusively in securities of U.S. companies.



*Large Capitalization Risk.* Large-capitalization companies may be less able than smaller capitalization companies to adapt to changing market conditions. Large-capitalization companies may be more mature and subject to more limited growth potential compared with smaller capitalization companies. During different market cycles, the performance of large capitalization companies has trailed the overall performance of the broader securities markets.

Limited History Risk. The Fund is a new ETF and has a limited history of operations for investors to evaluate.

*Market and Geopolitical Risk.* The increasing interconnectivity between global economies and financial markets increases the likelihood that events or conditions in one region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. Securities in the Fund's portfolio may underperform due to inflation (or expectations for inflation), interest rates, global demand for particular products or resources, natural disasters, pandemics, epidemics, terrorism, international conflicts, regulatory events and governmental or quasi-governmental actions. The occurrence of global events similar to those in recent years may result in market volatility and may have long term effects on both the U.S. and global financial markets. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic and the aggressive responses taken by many governments, including closing borders, restricting international and domestic travel, and the imposition of prolonged quarantines or similar restrictions, as well as the forced or voluntary closure of, or operational changes to, many retail and other businesses had negative impacts, and in many cases severe negative impacts, on markets worldwide. It is not known how long such impacts, or any future impacts of other significant events described above, will or would last, but there could be a prolonged period of global economic slowdown, which may impact your Fund investment.

*Over-the-Counter Market Risk.* Derivatives traded in over-the-counter markets may trade less frequently and in limited volumes and thus exhibit more volatility and liquidity risk, and the prices paid by the Fund in over-the-counter transactions may include an undisclosed dealer markup. The Fund is also exposed to default by the over-the-counter derivative writer who may be unwilling or unable to perform its contractual obligations to the Fund.

*U.S. Treasuries Risk.* U.S. Treasury obligations are backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. government and generally have negligible credit risk. Securities issued or guaranteed by federal agencies or authorities and U.S. government-sponsored instrumentalities or enterprises may or may not be backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.

*U.S. Treasury Market Risk.* The U.S. Treasury market can be volatile, and the value of instruments correlated with these markets may fluctuate dramatically from day to day. U.S. Treasury obligations may provide relatively lower returns than those of other securities. Similar to other debt instruments, U.S. Treasury obligations are subject to debt instrument risk and interest rate risk. In addition, changes to the financial condition or credit rating of the U.S. Government may cause the value of U.S. Treasury obligations to decline.

**Performance:** Because the Fund has only recently commenced investment operations, no performance information is presented for the Fund at this time. In the future, performance information will be presented in this section of the Prospectus. Also, shareholder reports containing financial and performance information will be mailed to shareholder semi-annually. Updated performance information will be available at no cost by visiting www.simplify.us or by calling 1 (855) 772-8488.

Investment Adviser: Simplify Asset Management Inc. ("SAMI").

Investment Sub-Adviser: Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC ("Wolfe"), located at 757 Third Avenue 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY, serves as sub-adviser to the Fund.

**Portfolio Managers:** David Berns, Chief Investment Officer and David Jackson Vice President of Portfolio Management, SAMI and Sheng Wang of Wolfe serve as portfolio managers of the Fund. Dr. Berns and Messrs. Jackson and Wang have each served the Fund as a portfolio manager since it commenced operations and are jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund.

**Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares:** The Fund will issue and redeem Shares at NAV only in large blocks of 25,000 Shares (each block of Shares is called a "Creation Unit"). Creation Units are issued and redeemed primarily in-kind for securities but may include cash. Individual Shares may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. Except when aggregated in Creation Units in transactions with Authorized Participants, the Shares are not redeemable securities of the Fund.

Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on the Exchange and trade at market prices rather than NAV. Shares of the Fund may trade at a price that is greater than, at, or less than NAV.

Tax Information: The Fund's distributions generally will be taxable as ordinary income or long-term capital gains. A sale of Shares may result in capital gain or loss.

**Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries:** If you purchase the Fund through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund and its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## FUND SUMMARY - SIMPLIFY WOLFE MARKET NEUTRAL QUALITY ETF

Investment Objective: The Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF (the "Fund" or "[\*]") seeks to provide positive absolute returns and income.

Fees and Expenses of the Fund: This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the Fund. You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the expense table or example below.

Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	
Management Fees	1.00%
Distribution and Service (12b-1) Fees	0.00%
Other Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	0.00%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	1.00%

(1) Other Expenses are estimated for the Fund's initial fiscal year.

Example: This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based upon these assumptions your costs would be:

1 Year	3 Years
\$102	\$318

**Portfolio Turnover:** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. The Fund is a new fund and has no portfolio turnover information as of the date of this Prospectus.

### **Principal Investment Strategies:**

The Fund invests primarily in total return swaps that provide the returns, long or short, of a basket of common stocks. The sub-adviser recommends companies that it believes exhibit sustainable earnings, effective working capital management and operational efficiency, and the ability to turn shareholder investments into earnings and cash flow. Effective working capital (the difference between current assets and liabilities) and operational efficiency are evaluated by looking at a company's accruals, cash flow return on net operating expenses, and cash flow return on shareholder equity. Companies are ranked based on these factors. The sub-adviser uses a multi-factor quantitative ranking system that seeks to identify the factors that drive both positive and negative returns and classify securities based on forward-looking return expectations. The sub-adviser's quantitative ranking system analyses raw data, detects patterns, and translates those patterns into mathematical formulas that can be used to forecast security prices. The sub-adviser then constructs a model portfolio of company names and weightings, using a customized risk model to constrain portfolio risk according to the Fund's investment strategy. The adviser selects and aims to include the names of about 300 stocks with the best expected returns in the long basket and the names of about 300 stocks with lowest expected returns in the short basket.

Equity securities include investments that provide long or short exposure to equity securities, including total return swaps. The direct and indirect equity investments are primarily large capitalization U.S. companies. The Fund also holds cash and invests in cash-equivalents (money market funds) or high-quality short term fixed income securities as collateral for the swaps.

A market neutral strategy is one that seeks to provide profits during both rising and falling markets. The total return swaps provide the Fund equity exposure of approximately 200% long the stocks of companies exhibiting positive performance factors, and 200% short the stocks of companies exhibiting negative performance factors. The 200% long and short positions are not direct hedges and the adviser constructs the portfolio in a manner that it believes will achieve a market neutral result.

"Quality" in the Fund's name refers to the strategy goal of investing, for the long exposure, in securities of issuers that exhibit strong earnings and stable balance sheets.

The Fund is an actively managed ETF. The adviser rebalances the Fund's portfolio monthly based on the ranking system, may rebalance more frequently to reduce industry or company specific concentration or other risks, and may tactically shift the Fund's net long/short exposure to equity markets based on its proprietary research. The Fund is "market neutral" because of the equal notional exposure on the long and short side when the Fund's portfolio is rebalanced.

**Principal Investment Risks:** As with all funds, there is the risk that you could lose money through your investment in the Fund. Many factors affect the Fund's net asset value and price of shares and performance. The following describes the risks the Fund bears with respect to its investments. As with any fund, there is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its goal.

Derivatives Risk. Trading derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities. Leverage inherent in derivatives will tend to magnify the Fund's losses if the derivative strategy is ineffective.

- *Total Return Swap Risk.* Total return swaps are contracts pursuant to which a party makes periodic payments to another party for a specified time period based on the change in market value of an underlying asset. Leverage inherent in derivatives such as total return swaps will tend to magnify the Fund's losses if the price of the short positions rise or the price of the long positions fall.
- Counterparty Risk. The Fund invests in total return swaps and other derivative instruments with counterparties that are privately negotiated in the over-the-counter market. These contracts involve exposure to credit risk because contract performance depends, in part, on the financial condition of the counterparty. If the creditworthiness of the counterparty declines, the Fund may not receive payments owed under the contract, or such payments may be delayed and the value of agreements with the counterparty can be expected to decline, potentially resulting in losses to the Fund.

*Equity Securities Risk.* The net asset value of the Fund will fluctuate based on changes in the value of the equity securities held by the Fund. Equity prices can fall rapidly in response to developments affecting a specific company or industry, or to changing economic, political or market conditions.

Leverage Risk. The use of leverage by the Fund, such as through the use of derivatives, will cause the Fund to incur additional expenses and magnify the Fund's gains or losses.

Active Management Risk. The Fund is subject to the risk that the investment management strategy may not produce the intended results and may negatively impact Fund performance. The adviser's overlay strategy will not fully protect the Fund from declines in the market.

*Cash or Cash Equivalents Risk.* At any time, the Fund may have significant investments in cash or cash equivalents. When a substantial portion of a portfolio is held in cash or cash equivalents, there is the risk that the value of the cash account, including interest, will not keep pace with inflation, thus reducing purchasing power over time. Additionally, in rising markets, holding cash or cash equivalents may adversely affect the Fund's performance and the Fund may not achieve its investment objective.

*Early Close/Trading Halt Risk.* An exchange or market may close or issue trading halts on specific securities, or the ability to buy or sell certain securities or financial instruments may be restricted, which may prevent the Fund from buying or selling certain securities or financial instruments. In these circumstances, the Fund may be unable to rebalance its portfolio, may be unable to accurately price its investments and may incur substantial trading losses.

ETF Structure Risk. The Fund is structured as an ETF. As a result, the Fund is subject to the special risks, including:

- Not Individually Redeemable. The Fund's shares ("Shares") are not redeemable by retail investors and may be redeemed only by Authorized Participants at net asset value ("NAV") and only in Creation Units. A retail investor generally incurs brokerage costs when selling shares.
- *Trading Issues.* Trading in Shares on NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange") may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable, such as extraordinary market volatility. There can be no assurance that Shares will continue to meet the listing requirements of the Exchange which may result in the Shares being delisted. An active trading market for the Shares may not be developed or maintained. If the Shares are traded outside a collateralized settlement system, the number of financial institutions that can act as Authorized Participants that can post collateral on an agency basis is limited, which may limit the market for the Shares.
- *Market Price Variance Risk.* The market prices of Shares will fluctuate in response to changes in NAV and supply and demand for Shares and will include a "bid-ask spread" charged by the exchange specialists, market makers or other participants that trade the Shares. There may be times when the market price and the NAV vary significantly. This means that Shares may trade at a discount to NAV.
  - In times of market stress, market makers may step away from their role market making in the Shares and in executing trades, which can lead to differences between the market value of the Shares and the Fund's NAV.
  - The market price of the Shares may deviate from the Fund's NAV, particularly during times of market stress, with the result that investors may pay significantly more or significantly less the Shares than the Fund's NAV, which is reflected in the bid and ask price for the Shares or in the closing price.
  - In stressed market conditions, the market for the Shares may become less liquid in response to the deteriorating liquidity of the Fund's portfolio. This adverse effect on the liquidity of the Shares may, in turn, lead to differences between the market value of the hares and the Fund's NAV.
- Authorized Participant Risk. Only an Authorized Participant may engage in creation or redemption transactions directly with the Fund. The Fund has a limited number of institutions that may act as an Authorized Participant on an agency basis (i.e., on behalf of other market participants). To the extent that Authorized Participants exit the business or are unable to proceed with creation or redemption orders with respect to the Fund and no other Authorized Participant is able to step forward to create or redeem Creation Units, Fund shares may be more likely to trade at a premium or discount to net asset value and possibly face trading halts or delisting. Authorized Participant concentration risk may be heightened for securities or instruments that have lower trading volumes.

*Large Capitalization Risk.* Large-capitalization companies may be less able than smaller capitalization companies to adapt to changing market conditions. Large-capitalization companies may be more mature and subject to more limited growth potential compared with smaller capitalization companies. During different market cycles, the performance of large capitalization companies has trailed the overall performance of the broader securities markets.

Limited History Risk. The Fund is a new ETF and has a limited history of operations for investors to evaluate.

*Market and Geopolitical Risk.* The increasing interconnectivity between global economies and financial markets increases the likelihood that events or conditions in one region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. Securities in the Fund's portfolio may underperform due to inflation (or expectations for inflation), interest rates, global demand for particular products or resources, natural disasters, pandemics, epidemics, terrorism, international conflicts, regulatory events and governmental or quasi-governmental actions. The occurrence of global events similar to those in recent years may result in market volatility and may have long term effects on both the U.S. and global financial markets. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic and the aggressive responses taken by many governments, including closing borders, restricting international and domestic travel, and the imposition of prolonged quarantines or similar restrictions, as well as the forced or voluntary closure of, or operational changes to, many retail and other businesses had negative impacts, and in many cases severe negative impacts, on markets worldwide. It is not known how long such impacts, or any future impacts of other significant events described above, will or would last, but there could be a prolonged period of global economic slowdown, which may impact your Fund investment.

*Over-the-Counter Market Risk.* Securities traded in over-the-counter markets may trade less frequently and in limited volumes and thus exhibit more volatility and liquidity risk, and the prices paid by the Fund in over-the-counter transactions may include an undisclosed dealer markup. The Fund is also exposed to default by the over-the-counter derivative writer who may be unwilling or unable to perform its contractual obligations to the Fund.

*U.S. Treasuries Risk.* U.S. Treasury obligations are backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. government and generally have negligible credit risk. Securities issued or guaranteed by federal agencies or authorities and U.S. government-sponsored instrumentalities or enterprises may or may not be backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.

*U.S. Treasury Market Risk.* The U.S. Treasury market can be volatile, and the value of instruments correlated with these markets may fluctuate dramatically from day to day. U.S. Treasury obligations may provide relatively lower returns than those of other securities. Similar to other debt instruments, U.S. Treasury obligations are subject to debt instrument risk and interest rate risk. In addition, changes to the financial condition or credit rating of the U.S. Government may cause the value of U.S. Treasury obligations to decline.

**Performance:** Because the Fund has only recently commenced investment operations, no performance information is presented for the Fund at this time. In the future, performance information will be presented in this section of the Prospectus. Also, shareholder reports containing financial and performance information will be mailed to shareholder semi-annually. Updated performance information will be available at no cost by visiting www.simplify.us or by calling 1 (855) 772-8488.

Investment Adviser: Simplify Asset Management Inc. ("SAMI").

Investment Sub-Adviser: Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC ("Wolfe"), located at 757 Third Avenue 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY, serves as sub-adviser to the Fund.

**Portfolio Managers:** David Berns, Chief Investment Officer and David Jackson, Vice President of Portfolio Management, SAMI and Sheng Wang of Wolfe serve as portfolio managers of the Fund. Dr. Berns and Messrs. Jackson and Wang have each served the Fund as a portfolio manager since it commenced operations and are jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Fund.

**Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares:** The Fund will issue and redeem Shares at NAV only in large blocks of 25,000 Shares (each block of Shares is called a "Creation Unit"). Creation Units are issued and redeemed primarily in-kind for securities but may include cash. Individual Shares may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. Except when aggregated in Creation Units in transactions with Authorized Participants, the Shares are not redeemable securities of the Fund.

Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on the Exchange and trade at market prices rather than NAV. Shares of the Fund may trade at a price that is greater than, at, or less than NAV.

Tax Information: The Fund's distributions generally will be taxable as ordinary income or long-term capital gains. A sale of Shares may result in capital gain or loss.

**Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries:** If you purchase the Fund through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund and its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RELATED RISKS

## **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE:**

Fund	Investment Objective	
Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF	seeks to provide capital appreciation	
Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF	seeks to provide capital appreciation	
Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF	seeks to provide positive absolute returns and income	
Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF	seeks to provide positive absolute returns and income	

Each Fund's investment objective may be changed by the Board of Trustees upon 60 days' written notice to shareholders.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES:

### Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF

The adviser seeks to achieve the Fund's investment objective by investing primarily in equity securities of U.S. companies. The Fund invests in securities that the sub-adviser believes can outperform the overall market. "Alpha Capture" in the Fund's name refers to the strategy goal of achieving excess returns on investments relative to overall market returns when adjusted for risk. The Fund will use fundamental, bottom-up analysis that seeks to identify high-quality companies and the most compelling investment opportunities. The adviser then selects the companies that it believes will outperform their respective peers over the following 12-month period considering factors such as, but not limited to, valuation, growth, and profitability measures. The Fund invests in companies without restrictions as to capitalization.

The Fund defines U.S. companies as those organized in the U.S.; having a class of securities whose principal securities market is in the U.S.; or derives 50% or more of its total revenues or earnings from good produced, sales made, or services provided in the U.S., or maintains 50% or more of its employees, assets, investments, operations, or other business activity in the U.S.

The Fund is an actively managed ETF. The adviser rebalances the Fund's portfolio monthly and may rebalance more frequently to reduce industry or company specific concentration or other risks.

The Fund is classified as a "non-diversified" investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, which means that the Fund may invest a higher percentage of its assets in a fewer number of issuers than is permissible for a "diversified" fund.

#### Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF

The Fund invests primarily in total return swaps that provide the returns, long or short, of a basket of common stocks. The adviser seeks to achieve the Fund's investment objective by pursuing a long-short strategy, taking both long and short positions in the Fund's portfolio. "150/50" in the Fund's name refers to the strategy goal of the Fund's portfolio weighted 150% in long positions and 50% in short positions, resulting in a 100% net long portfolio. The Fund may deviate from a 150/50 long-short allocation as investment opportunities change.

The sub-adviser recommends companies to include in the swap basket by using a multi-factor quantitative ranking system that seeks to identify the factors that drive both positive and negative returns and classify securities based on forward-looking return expectations. The sub-adviser's quantitative ranking system analyses raw data, detects patterns, and translates those patterns into mathematical formulas that can be used to forecast security prices. The quantitative ranking system takes into consideration about 300 fundamental factors. Common factors include strong earnings growth, positive profitability, and positive momentum. The sub-adviser then constructs a model portfolio of company names and weighting, using a customized risk model to constrain portfolio risk according to the Fund's investment strategy. The adviser selects and aims to include the names of about 250 stocks with the best expected returns in the long basket and the names of about 150 stocks with lowest expected returns in the short basket.

Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in equity securities of U.S. companies. Equity securities include investments that provide long or short exposure to equity securities, including total return swaps. The Fund also holds cash and invests in cash-equivalents (money market funds) or high-quality short term fixed income securities as collateral for the swaps.

The Fund defines equity securities as common stock, preferred stock, or futures on common or preferred stock. The Fund defines US companies as those organized in the U.S.; having a class of securities whose principal securities market is in the U.S.; or derives 50% or more of its total revenues or earnings from goods produced, sales made, or services provided in the U.S., or maintains 50% or more of its employees, assets, investments, operations, or other business activity in the U.S. The Fund invests in companies without restrictions as to capitalization.

The Fund is an actively managed ETF. The adviser rebalances the Fund's portfolio monthly based on the ranking system, may rebalance more frequently to reduce industry or company specific concentration or other risks, and may tactically shift the Fund's net long/short exposure to equity markets based on its proprietary research.

The Fund's 80% policy may be changed by the Board of Trustees upon 60 days' written notice to shareholders.

## Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF

The Fund invests primarily in total return swaps that provide the returns, long or short, of a basket of common stocks. The companies in the swap basket will include large capitalization equity securities listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange. The sub-adviser uses a multi-factor quantitative ranking system that seeks to identify the factors that drive both positive and negative returns and classify securities based on forward-looking return expectations. Common factors include strong earnings growth, positive profitability, and positive momentum. The sub-adviser's quantitative ranking system analyses raw data, detects patterns, and translates those patterns into mathematical formulas that can be used to forecast security prices. The sub-adviser then constructs a model portfolio of company names and weightings, using a customized risk model to constrain portfolio risk according to the Fund's investment strategy. The adviser selects securities based on about 300 stocks with the best expected returns in the long basket and about 300 stocks with lowest expected returns in the short basket. "SHIELD" in the Fund's name refers to the strategy goal of focusing on investments that are market defensive (i.e., stocks of companies that are characterized by high profitability, good accounting quality, and a lower likelihood of default).

Equity securities include investments that provide long or short exposure to equity securities, including total return swaps. The direct and indirect equity investments are primarily large capitalization U.S. companies but may include Nasdaq-listed companies from developed foreign markets. The Fund also holds cash and invests in cash-equivalents (money market funds) or high-quality short term fixed income securities as collateral for the swaps.

This market neutral strategy primarily aims to provide profits when Nasdaq-listed stocks are falling and to generate flat returns during market rallies. The total return swaps provide the Fund equity exposure of approximately 200% long the stocks of companies exhibiting positive performance factors, and 200% short the stocks of companies exhibiting negative performance factors. The 200% long and short positions are not direct hedges, and the adviser constructs the portfolio in a manner that it believes will achieve a market neutral result.

The Fund is an actively managed ETF. The adviser rebalances the Fund's portfolio monthly based on the ranking system, may rebalance more frequently to reduce industry or company specific concentration or other risks, and may tactically shift the Fund's net long/short exposure to equity markets based on its proprietary research. The Fund is "market neutral" because of the equal notional exposure on the long and short side when the Fund's portfolio is rebalanced.

## Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF

The Fund invests primarily in total return swaps that provide the returns, long or short, of a basket of common stocks. The sub-adviser recommends companies that it believes exhibit sustainable earnings, effective working capital management and operational efficiency, and the ability to turn shareholder investments into earnings and cash flow. Effective working capital (the difference between current assets and liabilities) and operational efficiency are evaluated by looking at a company's accruals, cash flow return on net operating expenses, and cash flow return on shareholder equity. Companies are ranked based on these factors. The sub-adviser uses a multi-factor quantitative ranking system that seeks to identify the factors that drive both positive and negative returns and classify securities based on forward-looking return expectations. The sub-adviser's quantitative ranking system analyses raw data, detects patterns, and translates those patterns into mathematical formulas that can be used to forecast security prices. The sub-adviser then constructs a model portfolio of company names and weightings, using a customized risk model to constrain portfolio risk according to the Fund's investment strategy. The adviser selects and aims to include the names of about 300 stocks with the best expected returns in the long basket and the names of about 300 stocks with lowest expected returns in the short basket.

Equity securities include investments that provide long or short exposure to equity securities, including total return swaps. The direct and indirect equity investments are primarily large capitalization U.S. companies. The Fund also holds cash and invests in cash-equivalents (money market funds) or high-quality short term fixed income securities as collateral for the swaps.

A market neutral strategy is one that seeks to provide profits during both rising and falling markets. The total return swaps provide the Fund equity exposure of approximately 200% long the stocks of companies exhibiting positive performance factors, and 200% short the stocks of companies exhibiting negative performance factors. The 200% long and short positions are not direct hedges and the adviser constructs the portfolio in a manner that it believes will achieve a market neutral result.

"Quality" in the Fund's name refers to the strategy goal of investing, for the long exposure, in securities of issuers that exhibit strong earnings and stable balance sheets.

The Fund is an actively managed ETF. The adviser rebalances the Fund's portfolio monthly based on the ranking system, may rebalance more frequently to reduce industry or company specific concentration or other risks, and may tactically shift the Fund's net long/short exposure to equity markets based on its proprietary research. The Fund is "market neutral" because of the equal notional exposure on the long and short side when the Fund's portfolio is rebalanced.

## **Temporary Defensive Positions**

From time to time, a Fund may take temporary defensive positions, which are inconsistent with the Fund's principal investment strategies, in attempting to respond to adverse market, economic, political, or other conditions. For example, the Fund may hold all or a portion of its assets in money market instruments, including cash, cash equivalents, U.S. government securities, other investment grade fixed income securities, certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances, commercial paper, money market funds and repurchase agreements. While the Fund is in a defensive position, the opportunity to achieve its investment objective will be limited. If the Fund invests in a money market fund, the shareholders of the Fund generally will be subject to duplicative management fees. Although a Fund would do this only in seeking to avoid losses, the Fund will be unable to pursue its investment objective during that time, and it could reduce the benefit from any upswing in the market.

### Manager-of-Managers Order

The Trust and the adviser have received an exemptive order from the SEC that permits the adviser, with the Board approval, to enter into sub-advisory agreements with one or more sub-advisers without obtaining shareholder approval. The exemptive order permits the adviser, subject to the approval of the Board to replace sub-advisers or amend sub-advisory agreements, including fees, without shareholder approval whenever the adviser and the Board believe such action will benefit the Fund and its shareholders.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT RISKS:

The following chart identifies the principal risks of each Fund. The risk/return portfolio of a Fund cannot be determined by reference to the chart alone.

	Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF	Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF	Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF	Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF
Active Management Risk	Х	Х	X	X
Cash or Cash Equivalents Risk		Х	Х	X
Counterparty Risk		Х	Х	X
Derivatives Risk		Х	Х	Х
Early Close/Trading Halt Risk	Х	Х	Х	X
ETF Structure Risk	Х	Х	Х	X
Equity Securities Risk	Х	Х	Х	X
Foreign Investing Risk			Х	
Large Capitalization Risk	Х	Х	Х	Х
Leverage Risk		Х	Х	X
Limited History Risk	Х	Х	Х	X
Market and Geopolitical Risk	Х	Х	Х	X
Non-Diversified Fund Risk	Х			
Over the Counter Market Risk		Х	Х	Х
Small and Medium Capitalization Risk	Х	Х		
Swap Risk		Х	Х	Х
US Treasuries Risk		Х	Х	Х
US Treasury Market Risk		Х	Х	Х
Volatility Risk	X			

Active Management Risk. Each Fund is subject to the risk that its investment management strategy may not produce the intended results. There can be no assurance that the securities selected by the adviser will produce positive returns.

*Cash or Cash Equivalents Risk.* At any time, a Fund may have significant investments in cash or cash equivalents. When a substantial portion of a portfolio is held in cash or cash equivalents, there is the risk that the value of the cash account, including interest, will not keep pace with inflation, thus reducing purchasing power over time. Additionally, in rising markets, holding cash or cash equivalents may adversely affect the Fund's performance and the Fund may not achieve its investment objective.

*Counterparty Risk.* The Fund may engage in transactions in securities and financial instruments that involve counterparties. Counterparty risk is the risk that a counterparty (the other party to a transaction or an agreement or the party with whom the Fund executes transactions) to a transaction with the Fund may be unable or unwilling to make timely principal, interest or settlement payments, or otherwise honor its obligations. To limit the counterparty risk associated with such transactions, the Fund conducts business only with financial institutions judged by the Adviser to present acceptable credit risk.

Derivatives Risk. A Fund's use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. These risks include (i) the risk that the counterparty to a derivative transaction may not fulfil its contractual obligations; (ii) risk of mispricing or improper valuation; and (iii) the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate or index. Derivative prices are highly volatile and may fluctuate substantially during a short period of time. Such prices are influenced by numerous factors that affect the markets, including, but not limited to: changing supply and demand relationships; government programs and policies; national and international political and economic events, changes in interest rates, inflation and deflation and changes in supply and demand relationships.

*Early Close/Trading Halt Risk.* An exchange or market may close or issue trading halts on specific securities, or the ability to buy or sell certain securities or financial instruments may be restricted, which may prevent a Fund from buying or selling certain securities or financial instruments. In these circumstances, a Fund may be unable to rebalance its portfolio, may be unable to accurately price its investments and may incur substantial trading losses.

ETF Structure Risk: Each Fund is structured as an ETF. As a result, each Fund is subject to special risks, including:

- Not Individually Redeemable. A Fund's Shares ("Shares") are not redeemable by retail investors and may be redeemed only by the Authorized Participant at net asset value ("NAV") and only in Creation Units. A retail investor generally incurs brokerage costs when selling shares.
- *Trading Issues.* Trading in Shares on the Exchange may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable, such as extraordinary market volatility. There can be no assurance that Shares will continue to meet the listing requirements of the Exchange, which may result in a Fund's shares being delisted. An active trading market for the Shares may not be developed or maintained. If the Shares are traded outside a collateralized settlement system, the number of financial institutions that can act as Authorized Participants that can post collateral on an agency basis is limited, which may limit the market for the Shares.
- *Market Price Variance Risk.* Individual Shares of a Fund that are listed for trading on the Exchange can be bought and sold in the secondary market at market prices. The market prices of Shares will fluctuate in response to changes in NAV and supply and demand for Shares. There may be times when the market price and the NAV vary significantly and you may pay more than NAV when buying Shares on the secondary market, and you may receive less than NAV when you sell those Shares. The market price of Shares, like the price of any exchange-traded security, includes a "bid-ask spread" charged by the exchange specialists, market makers or other participants that trade the particular security. In times of severe market disruption, the bid-ask spread often increases significantly. This means that Shares may trade at a discount to NAV and the discount is likely to be greatest when the price of Shares is falling fastest, which may be the time that you most want to sell your Shares. A Fund's investment results are measured based upon the daily NAV of a Fund over a period of time. Investors purchasing and selling Shares in the secondary market may not experience investment results consistent with those experienced by those Authorized Participants creating and redeeming directly with a Fund.
  - In times of market stress, market makers may step away from their role market making in shares of ETFs and in executing trades, which can lead to differences between the market value of Shares and the Fund's NAV.
  - The market price for the Shares may deviate from a Fund's NAV, particularly during times of market stress, with the result that investors may pay significantly more or significantly less for Shares than a Fund's NAV, which is reflected in the bid and ask price for Fund shares or in the closing price.
  - In stressed market conditions, the market for the Shares may become less liquid in response to the deteriorating liquidity of a Fund's portfolio. This adverse effect on the liquidity of the Shares may, in turn, lead to differences between the market value of the Shares and a Fund's NAV.

• Authorized Participant Risk. Only an Authorized Participant may engage in creation or redemption transactions directly with a Fund. A Fund has a limited number of institutions that may act as an Authorized Participant on an agency basis (*i.e.*, on behalf of other market participants). To the extent that Authorized Participants exit the business or are unable to proceed with creation or redemption orders with respect to a Fund and no other Authorized Participant is able to step forward to create or redeem Creation Units, a Fund's shares may be more likely to trade at a premium or discount to NAV and possibly face trading halts or delisting. Authorized Participant concentration risk may be heightened for securities or instruments that have lower trading volumes.

*Equity Securities Risk.* Equity securities are susceptible to general stock market fluctuations and to volatile increases and decreases in value. The equity securities held by a Fund may experience sudden, unpredictable drops in value or long periods of decline in value. This may occur because of factors affecting securities markets generally, the equity securities of a particular sector, or a particular company.

*Foreign Investment Risk.* The Fund may invest in securities domiciled in countries outside the U.S. and Canada that may experience more rapid and extreme changes in value than a fund that invests exclusively in securities of U.S. and Canadian companies. These companies may be subject to additional risks, including political and economic risks, civil conflicts and war, greater volatility, expropriation and nationalization risks, currency fluctuations, higher transaction costs, delayed settlement, and less stringent investor protection and disclosure standards than those of U.S. and Canadian markets. The potential departure of one or more other countries from the European Union could have significant political and financial consequences for global markets.

*Large Capitalization Risk.* Large-capitalization companies may be less able than smaller capitalization companies to adapt to changing market conditions. Large-capitalization companies may be more mature and subject to more limited growth potential compared with smaller capitalization companies. During different market cycles, the performance of large capitalization companies has trailed the overall performance of the broader securities markets.

*Leverage Risk.* Using derivatives can create leverage, which can amplify the effects of market volatility on each Fund's share price and make a Fund's returns more volatile. The use of leverage may cause a Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it would not be advantageous to do so in order to satisfy its obligations. The use of leverage may also cause a Fund to have higher expenses than those of other funds that do not use such techniques.

Limited History of Operations. The Funds are new ETFs and therefore do not yet have a history of operations for investors to evaluate. Investors in a Fund bear the risk that a Fund may not be successful in implementing its investment strategies, may be unable to implement certain of its investment strategies or may fail to attract sufficient assets, any of which could result in a Fund being liquidated and terminated at any time without shareholder approval and at a time that may not be favorable for all shareholders. Such a liquidation could have negative tax consequences for shareholders and will cause shareholders to incur expenses of liquidation. The adviser may not achieve its intended result in managing a Fund.

*Market and Geopolitical Risk.* The increasing interconnectivity between global economies and financial markets increases the likelihood that events or conditions in one region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. Securities in a Fund's portfolio may underperform due to inflation (or expectations for inflation), interest rates, global demand for particular products or resources, natural disasters, pandemics, epidemics, terrorism, international conflicts, regulatory events and governmental or quasi-governmental actions. The occurrence of global events similar to those in recent years may result in market volatility and may have long term effects on both the U.S. and global financial markets. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic and the aggressive responses taken by many governments, including closing borders, restricting international and domestic travel, and the imposition of prolonged quarantines or similar restrictions, as well as the forced or voluntary closure of, or operational changes to, many retail and other businesses had negative impacts, and in many cases severe negative impacts, on markets worldwide. It is not known how long such impacts, or any future impacts of other significant events described above, will or would last, but there could be a prolonged period of global economic slowdown, which may impact your investment.

*Non-Diversified Fund Risk.* Because the Fund is non-diversified and may invest a greater portion of its assets in fewer issuers than a diversified fund, changes in the market value of a single portfolio holding could cause greater fluctuations in the Fund's share price than would occur in a diversified fund. This may increase the Fund's volatility and cause the performance of a single portfolio holding or a relatively small number of portfolio holdings to have a greater impact on the Fund's performance.

*Over-the-Counter Market Risk.* Derivatives traded in over-the-counter markets may trade less frequently and in limited volumes and thus exhibit more volatility and liquidity risk, and the prices paid by a Fund in over-the-counter transactions may include an undisclosed dealer markup. Each Fund is also exposed to default by the over-the-counter derivative writer who may be unwilling or unable to perform its contractual obligations to a Fund.

*Small and Medium Capitalization Risk.* The stocks of small and medium capitalization companies involve substantial risk. These companies may have limited product lines, markets or financial resources, and they may be dependent on a limited management group. Stocks of these companies may be subject to more abrupt or erratic market movements than those of larger, more established companies or the market averages in general.

Swap Risk. Swaps are subject to tracking risk because they may not be perfect substitutes for the instruments they are intended to hedge or replace. Over the counter swaps are subject to counterparty default. Leverage inherent in derivatives will tend to magnify the Fund's losses.

*U.S. Treasuries Risk.* U.S. Treasury obligations are backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. government and generally have negligible credit risk. Securities issued or guaranteed by federal agencies or authorities and U.S. government-sponsored instrumentalities or enterprises may or may not be backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.

*U.S. Treasury Market Risk.* The U.S. Treasury market can be volatile, and the value of instruments correlated with these markets may fluctuate dramatically from day to day. U.S. Treasury obligations may provide relatively lower returns than those of other securities. Similar to other debt instruments, U.S. Treasury obligations are subject to debt instrument risk and interest rate risk. In addition, changes to the financial condition or credit rating of the U.S. Government may cause the value of U.S. Treasury obligations to decline.

*Volatility Risk.* Significant short-term price movements could adversely impact the performance of the Fund. Market conditions in which significant price movements develop, but then repeatedly reverse, could cause substantial losses due to prices moving against the Fund's long or short positions (which are based on prior trends).

**PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS DISCLOSURE:** A description of the Funds' policies and procedures regarding the release of portfolio holdings information is available in the Funds' Statement of Additional Information ("SAI").

**CYBERSECURITY:** The computer systems, networks and devices used by the Funds and their service providers to carry out routine business operations employ a variety of protections designed to prevent damage or interruption from computer viruses, network failures, computer and telecommunication failures, infiltration by unauthorized persons and security breaches. Despite the various protections utilized by the Funds and their service providers, systems, networks, or devices potentially can be breached. Each Fund and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result of a cybersecurity breach.

Cybersecurity breaches can include unauthorized access to systems, networks, or devices; infection from computer viruses or other malicious software code; and attacks that shut down, disable, slow, or otherwise disrupt operations, business processes, or website access or functionality. Cybersecurity breaches may cause disruptions and impact each Fund's business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses; interference with each Fund's ability to calculate its NAV; impediments to trading; the inability of each Fund, the adviser, and other service providers to transact business; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs, or additional compliance costs; as well as the inadvertent release of confidential information.

Similar adverse consequences could result from cybersecurity breaches affecting issuers of securities in which the Funds invest; counterparties with which the Funds engage in transactions; governmental and other regulatory authorities; exchange and other financial market operators, banks, brokers, dealers, insurance companies, and other financial institutions (including financial intermediaries and service providers for a Fund's shareholders); and other parties. In addition, substantial costs may be incurred by these entities in order to prevent any cybersecurity breaches in the future.

## MANAGEMENT

## INVESTMENT ADVISERS

Simplify Asset Management Inc. ("SAMI"), located at 222 Broadway, 22nd Floor, New York NY 10038, serves as investment adviser to each of Simplify Wolfe Alpha Recapture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF. SAMI is registered with the SEC as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and manages other series in the Trust.

Simplify EQLS LLC ("EQLS LLC"), located at 222 Broadway, 22nd Floor, New York, NY 10038, serves as the investment adviser to Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF. EQLS LLC is registered with the SEC as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and manages another series of the Trust (SAMI and EQLS LLC, each an "Adviser" and together the "Advisers")

Subject to the oversight of the Board of Trustees, SAMI provides or oversees the provision of investment advisory, portfolio management and administrative services to each of Simplify Wolfe Alpha Recapture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF pursuant to an advisory agreement between each Fund and SAMI. SAMI has supervisory responsibility for the management and investment of each Fund's assets and develops the investment objectives and investment policies for the Funds. SAMI also has full discretion to make all determinations with respect to the investment of a Fund's assets that are not then managed by a sub-adviser.

Subject to the oversight of the Board of Trustees, EQLS LLC is responsible for managing Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF's investments, placing trade orders and providing related administrative services and facilities under a management agreement between the Fund and EQLS LLC. EQLS LLC has supervisory responsibility for the management and investment of the Fund's assets and develops the investment objectives and investment policies for the Fund. EQLS LLC also has full discretion to make all determinations with respect to the investment of the Fund's assets that are not then managed by a sub-adviser.

Each Adviser is paid a monthly management fee by the respective Fund(s) at an annual rate (stated as a percentage of the average daily net assets of the Fund) as stated below. The management agreement between a Fund and Adviser provides that the Adviser will pay substantially all operating expenses of the Fund, except for any interest expenses, taxes, brokerage expenses, future Rule 12b-1 fees (if any), acquired fund fees and expenses, expenses incidental to a meeting of a Fund's shareholders, and the management fee. In addition to the excluded operating expenses, the Funds also pay non-operating expenses such as litigation and indemnification expenses and other expenses determined to be extraordinary by the Trust.

Fund	Management Fee
Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF	1.00%
Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF	0.75%
Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF	1.00%
Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF	1.00%

### INVESTMENT SUB-ADVISER

Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC ("Wolfe"), located at 757 Third Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10017, serves as sub-adviser to each of the Funds. Wolfe is registered with the SEC as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisors Act of 1940, as amended. Wolfe was founded in 2017 and provides investment advisory services to institutional clients such as pension plans, corporations, and other business entities. Any sub-advisory fee received by Wolfe is paid by the Advisers, not the Funds.

### **PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**

David Berns, PhD, is the chief investment officer of the Advisers and co-founder of SAMI. Prior to co-founding SAMI in 2020, he founded Portfolio Designer, LLC, a company that specializes in portfolio design and from 2018 to 2019 was a managing director at Nasdaq Dorsey Wright. Prior to joining Nasdaq Dorsey Wright, Inc., he founded and developed a company that specializes in proprietary trading. He has specialized in developing asset allocation, portfolio management, and risk management systems for managing private and institutional wealth. Dr. Berns has a PhD in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the field of Quantum Computation.

David Jackson, vice president of portfolio management of the Advisers, has served as a trader and portfolio manager since March 2022. From 2010 to 2021, Mr. Jackson served as vice president on the equities trading and portfolio management teams at Pacific Investment Management Company, covering a wide variety of both passive and active investment strategies for retail and institutional clients.

Sheng Wang joined Wolfe Research in 2016, where he serves as Managing Director and Head of Investment Solutions. Before joining Wolfe, Sheng led Deutsche Bank's global stock selection R&D efforts from 2011 to 2016, employing advanced machine learning for portfolio construction and risk management. Sheng holds a Master of Finance from MIT Sloan and both a Master's and Bachelor's in Computer Science from Tsinghua University, China.

Dr. Berns and Messrs. Jackson and Wang are jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Funds.

The SAI provides additional information about the Portfolio Managers' compensation, other accounts managed and ownership of Fund shares.

## HOW SHARES ARE PRICED

The NAV of each Fund is determined at the close of regular trading (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time) on each day the Exchange is open for business. NAV is computed by determining, the aggregate market value of all assets of the applicable Fund, less its liabilities, divided by the total number of shares outstanding ((assets-liabilities)/number of shares = NAV). The Exchange is closed on weekends and New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day ("Exchange Close"). The NAV takes into account, the expenses and fees of each Fund, including management, administration, and distribution fees, which are accrued daily. The determination of NAV for each Fund for a particular day is applicable to all applications for the purchase of shares, as well as all requests for the redemption of Creation Units, received by each Fund (or an authorized broker or agent, or its authorized designee) before the close of trading on the Exchange on that day.

Generally, each Fund's portfolio securities, including securities issued by ETFs, are valued each day at the last quoted sales price on each security's primary exchange. Securities traded or dealt in upon one or more securities exchanges (whether domestic or foreign) for which market quotations are readily available and not subject to restrictions against resale shall be valued at the last quoted sales price on the primary exchange or, in the absence of a sale on the primary exchange, at the mean between the current bid and ask prices on such exchange. Securities primarily traded in the National Association of Securities Dealers' Automated Quotation System ("NASDAQ") National Market System for which market quotations are readily available shall be valued using the NASDAQ Official Closing Price. Securities that are not traded on any securities exchange (whether domestic or foreign) and for which over-the-counter market quotations are readily available generally shall be valued at the last sale price or, in the absence of a sale, at the mean between the current bid and ask price on such over-the-counter market. Debt securities not traded on an exchange may be valued at prices supplied by a pricing agent(s) based on broker or dealer supplied valuations or matrix pricing, a method of valuing securities by reference to the value of other securities with similar characteristics, such as rating, interest rate and maturity.

If market quotations are not readily available, securities will be valued at their fair market value as determined using the "fair value" procedures approved by the Board. Fair value pricing involves subjective judgments and it is possible that the fair value determined for a security may be materially different than the value that could be realized upon the sale of that security. The fair value prices can differ from market prices when they become available or when a price becomes available. The Board has delegated execution of these procedures to a fair value committee composed of one or more representatives from the Adviser. The Adviser may enlist third party consultants such as an audit firm or financial officer of a security issuer on an as-needed basis to assist in determining a security-specific fair value. The Board reviews and ratifies the execution of this process and the resultant fair value prices at least quarterly to assure the process produces reliable results.

The Funds may use independent pricing services to assist in calculating the value of each Fund's portfolio securities. In addition, market prices for foreign securities are not determined at the same time of day as the NAV for the Funds.

In computing the NAV, the Funds value foreign securities held by a Fund at the latest closing price on the exchange in which they are traded immediately prior to closing of the Exchange. Prices of foreign securities quoted in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at current rates. If events materially affecting the value of a security in a Fund's portfolio, particularly foreign securities, occur after the close of trading on a foreign market but before a Fund prices its shares, the security will be valued at fair value. For example, if trading in a portfolio security is halted and does not resume before a Fund calculates its NAV, the Adviser may need to price the security using the Funds' fair value pricing guidelines. Without a fair value price, short-term traders could take advantage of the arbitrage opportunity and dilute the NAV of long-term investors. Fair valuation of a Fund's portfolio securities can serve to reduce arbitrage opportunities available to short-term traders, but there is no assurance that fair value pricing policies will prevent dilution of a Fund's NAV by short term traders. The determination of fair value involves subjective judgments. As a result, using fair value to price a security may result in a price materially different from the prices used by other mutual funds to determine NAV, or from the price that may be realized upon the actual sale of the security.

## HOW TO BUY AND SELL SHARES

Shares of the Funds are listed for trading on the respective Exchanges, as stated below. Share prices are reported in dollars and cents per Share. Shares can be bought and sold on the secondary market throughout the trading day like other publicly traded shares, and Shares typically trade in blocks of less than a Creation Unit. There is no minimum investment required. Shares may only be purchased and sold on the secondary market when the Exchange is open for trading. The Exchange is open for trading Monday through Friday and is closed on weekends and the following holidays, as observed: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

When buying or selling Shares through a broker, you will incur customary brokerage commissions and charges, and you may pay some or all of the spread between the bid and the offered price in the secondary market on each leg of a round trip (purchase and sale) transaction.

Authorized Participants that have entered into a contract with the Funds' distributor may acquire Shares from the Funds, and Authorized Participants may tender their Shares for redemption directly to the Funds, at NAV per Share only in large blocks, or Creation Units, of 25,000 Shares. Purchases and redemptions directly with the Funds must follow each Fund's procedures, which are described in the SAI.

The Funds may be liquidated and terminated at any time without shareholder approval.

<u>Fund Name</u> <u>Ticke</u>	<u>er Symbol (Exchange)</u>
Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETFWUS.Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF[*] (N	IYSE Arca, Inc.) A (NYSE Arca, Inc.) IYSE Arca, Inc.) IYSE Arca, Inc.)

#### **Share Trading Prices**

The approximate value of Shares, an amount representing on a per share basis the sum of the current market price of the securities accepted by the Funds in exchange for Shares and an estimated cash component, will be disseminated every 15 seconds throughout the trading day through the facilities of the Consolidated Tape Association. This approximate value should not be viewed as a "real-time" update of the NAV per Share because the approximate value may not be calculated in the same manner as the NAV, which is computed once a day, generally at the end of the business day. The Funds are not involved in, or responsible for, the calculation or dissemination of the approximate value of the Shares, and the Funds do not make any warranty as to the accuracy of these values.

### **Book Entry**

Shares are held in book entry form, which means that no stock certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding Shares and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

Investors owning Shares are beneficial owners as shown on the records of DTC or its participants. DTC serves as the securities depository for all Shares. Participants in DTC include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other institutions that directly or indirectly maintain a custodial relationship with DTC. As a beneficial owner of Shares, you are not entitled to receive physical delivery of stock certificates or to have Shares registered in your name, and you are not considered a registered owner of Shares. Therefore, to exercise any right as an owner of Shares, you must rely upon the procedures of DTC and its participants. These procedures are the same as those that apply to any other securities that you hold in book entry or "street name" form.

## FREQUENT PURCHASES AND REDEMPTIONS OF FUND SHARES

Shares can only be purchased and redeemed directly from the Funds in Creation Units by Authorized Participants that have entered into a contract with the Funds' distributor. The vast majority of trading in Shares occurs on the secondary market. Because the secondary market trades do not directly involve the Fund, it is unlikely those trades would cause the harmful effects of market timing, including dilution, disruption of portfolio management, increases in the Funds' trading costs and the realization of capital gains. With regard to the purchase or redemption of Creation Units directly with the Funds, to the extent effected in-kind (*i.e.*, for securities), those trades do not cause the harmful effects that may result from frequent cash trades. To the extent trades are effected in whole or in part in cash, those trades could result in dilution to the Funds and increased transaction costs, which could negatively impact a Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. However, direct trading by Authorized Participants is critical to ensuring that Shares trade at or close to NAV. The Funds also employ fair valuation pricing to minimize potential dilution from market timing. In addition, the Funds impose transaction fees on purchases and redemptions of Shares to cover the custodial and other costs incurred by the Funds in effecting trades. These fees increase if an investor substitutes cash in part or in whole for securities, reflecting the fact that a Fund's trading costs increase in those circumstances. Given this structure, the Trust has determined that it is not necessary to adopt policies and procedures to detect and deter market timing of the Shares.

## DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICE PLAN

The Funds have adopted a distribution and service plan ("Plan") pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act. Under the Plan, the Funds are authorized to pay distribution fees to the distributor and other firms that provide distribution and shareholder services ("Service Providers"). If a Service Provider provides these services, the Fund may pay fees at an annual rate not to exceed 0.25% of average daily net assets, pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the1940 Act.

No distribution or service fees are currently paid by the Funds and will not be paid by the Funds unless authorized by the Trust's Board. There are no current plans to impose these fees. In the event Rule 12b-1 fees were charged, over time they would increase the cost of an investment in the Funds.

### DIVIDENDS, OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS AND TAXES

Shares are traded throughout the day in the secondary market on a national securities exchange on an intra-day basis and are created and redeemed in-kind and/or for cash in Creation Units at each day's next calculated NAV. In-kind arrangements are designed to protect ongoing shareholders from the adverse effects on a Fund's portfolio that could arise from frequent cash redemption transactions. In a conventional mutual fund, redemptions can have an adverse tax impact on taxable shareholders if the mutual fund needs to sell portfolio securities to obtain cash to meet net fund redemptions. These sales may generate taxable gains for the ongoing shareholders of the mutual fund, whereas the Shares' in-kind redemption mechanism generally will not lead to a tax event for the Funds or its ongoing shareholders.

Ordinarily, dividends from net investment income, if any, are declared and paid quarterly by each of the Funds. The Funds distribute their net realized capital gains, if any, to shareholders annually. The Funds may also pay a special distribution at the end of a calendar year to comply with federal tax requirements.

No dividend reinvestment service is provided by the Funds. Broker-dealers may make available the DTC book-entry Dividend Reinvestment Service for use by beneficial owners of the Funds for reinvestment of their dividend distributions. Beneficial owners should contact their broker to determine the availability and costs of the service and the details of participation therein. Brokers may require beneficial owners to adhere to specific procedures and timetables. If this service is available and used, dividend distributions of both income and realized gains will be automatically reinvested in additional whole shares of the Funds purchased in the secondary market.

Distributions in cash may be reinvested automatically in additional whole Shares only if the broker through whom you purchased Shares makes such option available.

#### Taxes

As with any investment, you should consider how your investment in Shares will be taxed. The tax information in this Prospectus is provided as general information. You should consult your own tax professional about the tax consequences of an investment in Shares.

Unless your investment in Shares is made through a tax-exempt entity or tax-deferred retirement account, such as an individual retirement account, you need to be aware of the possible tax consequences when:

- A Fund makes distributions,
- You sell your Shares listed on the Exchange, and
- You purchase or redeem Creation Units.

#### **Taxes on Distributions**

Distributions from each Fund's net investment income, including net short-term capital gains, if any, are taxable to you as ordinary income, except that each Fund's dividends attributable to its "qualified dividend income" (*i.e.*, dividends received on stock of most domestic and certain foreign corporations with respect to which the Fund satisfies certain holding period and other restrictions), if any, generally are subject to federal income tax for non-corporate shareholders who satisfy those restrictions with respect to their Shares at the rate for net capital gain. A part of each Fund's dividends also may be eligible for the dividends-received deduction allowed to corporations -- the eligible portion may not exceed the aggregate dividends each Fund receives from domestic corporations subject to federal income tax (excluding Real Estate Investment Trusts) and excludes dividends from foreign corporations -- subject to similar restrictions. However, dividends a corporate shareholder deducts pursuant to that deduction are subject indirectly to the federal alternative minimum tax.

In general, your distributions are subject to federal income tax when they are paid, whether you take them in cash or reinvest them in the Funds (if that option is available). Distributions reinvested in additional Shares through the means of a dividend reinvestment service, if available, will be taxable to shareholders acquiring the additional Shares to the same extent as if such distributions had been received in cash. Distributions of net long-term capital gains, if any, in excess of net short-term capital losses are taxable as long-term capital gains, regardless of how long you have held the Shares.

Distributions in excess of a Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits are treated as a tax-free return of capital to the extent of your basis in the Shares and as capital gain thereafter. A distribution will reduce a Fund's NAV per Share and may be taxable to you as ordinary income or capital gain (as described above) even though, from an investment standpoint, the distribution may constitute a return of capital.

By law, the Funds are required to withhold 28% of your distributions and redemption proceeds if you have not provided the Fund with a correct Social Security number or other taxpayer identification number and in certain other situations.

### Taxes on Exchange-Listed Share Sales

Any capital gain or loss realized upon a sale of Shares is generally treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for more than one year and as short-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for one year or less. The ability to deduct capital losses from sales of Shares may be limited.



# Taxes on Purchase and Redemption of Creation Units

An Authorized Participant who exchanges securities for Creation Units generally will recognize a gain or a loss equal to the difference between the market value of the Creation Units at the time of the exchange and the sum of the exchanger's aggregate basis in the securities surrendered plus any Cash Component it pays. An AP who exchanges Creation Units for securities will generally recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between the exchanger's basis in the Creation Units and the sum of the aggregate market value of the securities received plus any cash equal to the difference between the NAV of the Shares being redeemed and the value of the securities. The Internal Revenue Service ("Service"), however, may assert that a loss realized upon an exchange of securities for Creation Units cannot be deducted currently under the rules governing "wash sales" or for other reasons. Persons exchanging securities should consult their own tax advisor with respect to whether wash sale rules apply and when a loss might be deductible.

Any capital gain or loss realized upon redemption of Creation Units is generally treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for more than one year and as short-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for one year or less.

If you purchase or redeem Creation Units, you will be sent a confirmation statement showing how many Shares you purchased or sold and at what price. See "Tax Status" in the SAI for a description of the newly effective requirement regarding basis determination methods applicable to Share redemptions and each Fund's obligation to report basis information to the Service.

The foregoing discussion summarizes some of the possible consequences under current federal tax law of an investment in the Funds. It is not a substitute for personal tax advice. Consult your personal tax advisor about the potential tax consequences of an investment in the Shares under all applicable tax laws. See "Tax Status" in the SAI for more information.

# FUND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Bank of New York Mellon is the Funds' administrator, transfer agent, custodian and fund accountant. It has its principal office at 240 Greenwich St., New York, NY 10286, and is primarily in the business of providing administrative, fund accounting and transfer agent services to retail and institutional mutual funds.

Foreside Financial Services, LLC (the "Distributor"), located at Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101, is the distributor for the shares of the Funds. The Distributor is a registered broker-dealer and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA").

Thompson Hine LLP, 41 South High Street, 17th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215, serves as legal counsel to the Trust.

Cohen & Company, located at 1350 Euclid Ave., Suite 800, Cleveland, OH 44115, serves as the Funds' independent registered public accounting firm. The independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for auditing the annual financial statements of the Funds.

### **Continuous Offering**

The method by which Creation Units of Shares are created and traded may raise certain issues under applicable securities laws. Because new Creation Units of Shares are issued and sold by the Funds on an ongoing basis, a "distribution," as such term is used in the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), may occur at any point. Broker-dealers and other persons are cautioned that some activities on their part may, depending on the circumstances, result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner which could render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus delivery requirement and liability provisions of the Securities Act.

For example, a broker-dealer firm or its client may be deemed a statutory underwriter if it takes Creation Units after placing an order with the Distributor, breaks them down into constituent Shares and sells the Shares directly to customers or if it chooses to couple the creation of a supply of new Shares with an active selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for Shares. A determination of whether one is an underwriter for purposes of the Securities Act must take into account all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the activities of the broker-dealer or its client in the particular case, and the examples mentioned above should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that could lead to a characterization as an underwriter.

Broker dealers who are not "underwriters" but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted to ordinary secondary trading transactions), and thus dealing with Shares that are part of an "unsold allotment" within the meaning of Section 4(3)(C) of the Securities Act, would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the Securities Act. This is because the prospectus delivery exemption in Section 4(3) of the Securities Act is not available in respect of such transactions as a result of Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act. As a result, broker dealer firms should note that dealers who are not underwriters but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted with ordinary secondary market transactions) and thus dealing with Shares that are part of an overallotment within the meaning of Section 4(3)(A) of the Securities Act would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the Securities Act. Firms that incur a prospectus delivery obligation with respect to Shares are reminded that, under Rule 153 of the Securities Act, a prospectus delivery obligation under Section 5(b)(2) of the Securities Act owed to an exchange member in connection with a sale on the Exchange is satisfied by the fact that the prospectus is available at the Exchange upon request. The prospectus delivery mechanism provided in Rule 153 is only available with respect to transactions on an exchange.

# Dealers effecting transactions in the Shares, whether or not participating in this distribution, are generally required to deliver a Prospectus. This is in addition to any obligation of dealers to deliver a Prospectus when acting as underwriters.

### **Certain Conditions on Certain Shareholder Legal Actions**

Pursuant to the Trust's primary governing document, the Agreement and Declaration of Trust, shareholders wishing to pursue a derivative action (a suit brought by a shareholder on behalf of a Fund) are subject to various conditions including: (i) Trustees must have a reasonable amount of time to assess a request for action, (ii) at least 10% of shareholders must participate in the action, and (iii) expenses of a failed action are borne by the complaining shareholders. However, condition (iii) does not apply to actions brought under federal securities laws.

Because each of the Funds has only recently commenced investment operations, no financial highlights are available for the Fund at this time. In the future, financial highlights will be presented in this section of the Prospectus.

Adviser	Simplify Asset Management Inc. 222 Broadway 22 <sup>nd</sup> Floor New York, NY 10038	Distributor	Foreside Financial Services, LLC Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101
Adviser	Simplify EQLS LLC 222 Broadway 22 <sup>nd</sup> Floor New York, NY 10038	Legal Counsel	<b>Thompson Hine LLP</b> 41 South High Street, Suite 1700 Columbus, OH 43215
Custodian, Administrator & Transfer Agent	Bank of New York Mellon 240 Greenwich St. New York, NY 10286	Sub-Adviser	Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC 757 Third Avenue, 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10017
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	Cohen & Company, Ltd. 1350 Euclid Ave., Suite 800 Cleveland, OH 44115		

Additional information about the Funds is included in the Funds' SAI dated September 20, 2024. The SAI is incorporated into this Prospectus by reference (i.e., legally made a part of this Prospectus). The SAI provides more details about the Funds' policies and management. Additional information about the Funds' investments is also available in the Funds' Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to Shareholders. In the Funds' Annual Report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Funds' performance during the last fiscal year.

To obtain a free copy of the SAI and the Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to Shareholders, or other information about the Funds, or to make shareholder inquiries about the Funds, please call 1 (855) 772-8488. You may also write to:

Simplify Exchange Traded Funds 222 Broadway 22 Floor New York, NY 10038

Reports and other information about the Funds are available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's Internet site at http://www.sec.gov.

Investment Company Act File # 811-23570

Fund Name

Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF

### Ticker Symbol (Exchange)

[\*] (NYSE Arca, Inc.)
WUSA (NYSE Arca, Inc.)
[\*] (NYSE Arca, Inc.)
[\*] (NYSE Arca, Inc.)

# each a series of Simplify Exchange Traded Funds

# STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### September 20, 2024

This Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") is not a prospectus and should be read in conjunction with the combined Prospectus of Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF, and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF (each a "Fund" and, together, the "Funds") dated September 20, 2024. The Funds' Prospectus is hereby incorporated by reference, which means it is legally part of this document. You can obtain copies of the Funds' Prospectus, annual or semi-annual reports without charge by contacting the Funds' Distributor, Foreside Financial Services, LLC or by calling 1 (855) 772-8488. You may also obtain a Prospectus by visiting the website at <u>www.simplify.us/etfs</u>.

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### THE FUNDS

The Funds are each a series of Simplify Exchange Traded Funds, a Delaware statutory trust organized on February 28, 2020 (the "Trust"). The Trust is registered as an open-end management investment company. The Trust is governed by its Board of Trustees (the "Board" or "Trustees"). The Funds, except for Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, are each diversified series of the Trust. Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF is a non-diversified series of the Trust.

The Funds may issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest ("Shares"). All Shares have equal rights and privileges. Each Share is entitled to one vote on all matters as to which Shares are entitled to vote. In addition, each Share is entitled to participate equally with other Shares (i) in dividends and distributions declared by such Fund and (ii) on liquidation to its proportionate share of the assets remaining after satisfaction of outstanding liabilities. Shares are fully paid, non-assessable and fully transferable when issued and have no pre-emptive, conversion or exchange rights.

Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF each are managed by Simplify Asset Management Inc. ("SAMI"). Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF is managed by Simplify EQLS LLC ("EQLS LLC") (SAMI and EQLS LLC each an "Adviser" and together the "Advisers"). Each Fund is sub-advised by Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC (the "Sub-Adviser"). Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF and Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF seek to provide capital appreciation. Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF seek to provide positive absolute returns and income. The Board may start other series and offer shares of a new fund under the Trust at any time.

The Funds are exchange traded funds ("ETFs"), which are registered open-end management companies that issue (and redeem) creation units ("Creation Units") to (and from) authorized participants ("Authorized Participants") in exchange for a basket and a cash balancing amount (if any) and the shares of which are listed on a national securities exchange and traded at market-determined prices. An Authorized Participant is a financial institution that is a member or participant of a clearing agency registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") which has a written agreement with a Fund or one of its service providers that allows the financial institution to place orders for the purchase and redemption of Creation Units. The Funds issue and redeem shares on a continuous basis at net asset value per share ("NAV") in aggregations of a specified number of shares called "Creation Units." Creation Units are a specified number of a Fund's shares (e.g., 25,000) that a Fund will issue to (or redeem from) an Authorized Participant in exchange for the deposit (or delivery) of a basket and a cash balancing amount if any. Shares trade in the secondary market at market prices that may differ from the shares' NAV. Shares are not individually redeemable, but are redeemable only in Creation Unit aggregations, and generally in exchange for portfolio securities and a specified cash payment. A Creation Unit of a Fund consists of a block of 25,000 shares. Shareholders who are not Authorized Participants will not be able to purchase or redeem shares directly with or from a Fund.

The Funds reserve the right to offer creations and redemptions of Shares for cash. In addition, Shares may be issued in advance of receipt of deposit securities subject to various conditions, including a requirement to maintain on deposit with the Trust cash equal to up to 115% of the market value of the missing deposit securities. In each instance of such cash creations or redemptions, transaction fees, may be imposed and may be higher than the transaction fees associated with in-kind creations or redemptions. See PURCHASE, REDEMPTION AND PRICING OF SHARES below.

### **Exchange Listing and Trading**

There can be no assurance that the requirements of the NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange") necessary to maintain the listing of shares of the Funds will continue to be met. The Exchange may, but is not required to, remove the shares of the Funds from listing if, among other things: (i) following the initial 12-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading of Funds shares, there are fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial owners of shares of the Funds for 30 or more consecutive trading days, or (ii) any other event shall occur or condition shall exist that, in the opinion of the Exchange, makes further dealings on the Exchange inadvisable. The Exchange will also remove shares of the Funds from listing and trading upon termination of the Funds.

### TYPES OF INVESTMENTS

A discussion of the risks associated with an investment in each Fund is contained in the Prospectus under the headings "Fund Summary— Principal Investment Strategies" with respect to the applicable Fund, and "Additional Information About the Principal Investment Strategies and Risks." The discussion below supplements, and should be read in conjunction with, such sections of the Prospectus.

### **General Risks and Considerations**

An investment in a Fund should be made with an understanding of the risks inherent in an investment in securities, including the risk that the general condition of the securities market may deteriorate. Securities are susceptible to general securities market fluctuations and to volatile increases and decreases in value as market confidence change. These investor perceptions are based on various and unpredictable factors, including expectations regarding government, economic, monetary and fiscal policies, inflation and interest rates, economic expansion or contraction, and global or regional political, economic or banking crises.

The existence of a liquid trading market for certain securities may depend on whether dealers will make a market in such securities. There can be no assurance that a market will be made or maintained or that any such market will be or remain liquid. The price at which securities may be sold and the value of the Shares will be adversely affected if trading markets for a Fund's portfolio securities are limited or absent, or if bid/ask spreads are wide.

### Securities of Other Investment Companies

Investments in closed-end investment companies, exchange traded funds and mutual funds involve certain additional expenses and certain tax results, which would not be present in a direct investment in such funds. Each Fund intends to limit its investments in accordance with Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act or as permitted by Rule 12d1-1, Rule 12d1-3 and Rule 12d1-4. Among other things, Section 12(d)(1) would limit these investments so that, as determined immediately after a securities purchase is made by the Funds: (a) not more than 5% of the value of its total assets will be invested in the securities of any one investment company (the "5% Limitation"); (b) not more than 10% of the value of its total assets will be invested in the aggregate in securities of investment companies as a group (the "10% Limitation"); (c) not more than 3% of the outstanding voting stock of any one investment company will be owned by a Fund (the "3% Limitation") and (d) not more than 10% of the outstanding voting stock of any one closed-end investment company will be owned by a Fund together with all other investment companies that have the same adviser.

Under certain sets of conditions, different sets of restrictions may be applicable. As a shareholder of another investment company, the Funds would bear, along with other shareholders, their pro rata portion of that investment company's expenses, including advisory fees. These expenses would be in addition to the advisory and other expenses that each Fund bears directly in connection with its own operations. Investment companies in which the Funds may invest may also impose a sales or distribution charge in connection with the purchase or redemption of their Shares and other types of commissions or charges. Such charges will be payable by the Funds and, therefore, will be borne directly by Shareholders.

The Funds also intend to rely on Section 12(d)(1)(F) under the 1940 Act which in conjunction with one another allow registered investment companies (such as the Funds) to exceed the 5%, and 10% Limitations, provided the aggregate sales loads any investor pays (i.e., the combined distribution expenses of both the acquiring fund and the acquired fund) does not exceed the limits on sales loads established by Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") for funds of funds, and the registered investment company "mirror votes" any securities purchased pursuant to Section 12(d)(1)(F). The Funds may rely on Rule 12d1-4 to exceed the 3%, 5% and 10% Limitations, subject to the conditions of Rule 12d1-4.

### Exchange Traded Funds

ETFs are often passive funds that track their related index and have the flexibility of trading like a security. They are managed by professionals and typically provide the investor with diversification, cost and tax efficiency, liquidity, marginability, are useful for hedging, have the ability to go long and short, and some provide quarterly dividends. Actively managed ETFs do not seek to track the performance of a particular market index. Additionally, some ETFs are unit investment trusts. Under certain circumstances, the adviser may invest in ETFs, known as "inverse funds," which are designed to produce results opposite to market trends. Inverse ETFs are funds designed to rise in price when stock prices are falling.

ETFs have two markets. The primary market is where institutions swap "creation units" in block-multiples of, for example, 25,000 shares for inkind securities and cash in the form of dividends. The secondary market is where individual investors can trade as little as a single share during trading hours on the exchange. This is different from open-ended mutual funds that are traded after hours once the NAV is calculated. ETFs share many similar risks with open-end and closed-end funds.

### Foreign Securities

Investing in securities of foreign companies and countries involves certain considerations and risks that are not typically associated with investing in U.S. government securities and securities of domestic companies. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign issuer than a domestic one, and foreign companies are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial standards and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. There may also be less government supervision and regulation of foreign securities exchanges, brokers and listed companies than exists in the United States. Interest and dividends paid by foreign issuers may be subject to withholding and other foreign taxes, which may decrease the net return on such investments as compared to dividends and interest paid to a Fund by domestic companies or the U.S. government. There may be the possibility of expropriations, seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits, confiscatory taxation, political, economic or social instability or diplomatic developments that could affect assets of a Fund held in foreign countries. Finally, the establishment of exchange controls or other foreign governmental laws or restrictions could adversely affect the payment of obligations.

To the extent currency exchange transactions do not fully protect a Fund against adverse changes in currency exchange rates, decreases in the value of currencies of the foreign countries in which a Fund will invest relative to the U.S. dollar will result in a corresponding decrease in the U.S. dollar value of a Fund's assets denominated in those currencies (and possibly a corresponding increase in the amount of securities required to be liquidated to meet distribution requirements). Conversely, increases in the value of currencies of the foreign countries in which a Fund invests relative to the U.S. dollar will result in a corresponding increase in the U.S. dollar will result in a corresponding increase in the U.S. dollar value of a Fund's assets (and possibly a corresponding decrease in the amount of securities to be liquidated).

### Short Sales

A Fund may sell securities short as an outright investment strategy and to offset potential declines in long positions in similar securities. A short sale is a transaction in which a Fund sells a security it does not own or have the right to acquire (or that it owns but does not wish to deliver) in anticipation that the market price of that security will decline.

When a Fund makes a short sale, the broker-dealer through which the short sale is made must borrow the security sold short and deliver it to the party purchasing the security. A Fund is required to make a margin deposit in connection with such short sales; a Fund may have to pay a fee to borrow particular securities and will often be obligated to pay over any dividends and accrued interest on borrowed securities.

If the price of the security sold short increases between the time of the short sale and the time a Fund covers its short position, a Fund will incur a loss; conversely, if the price declines, a Fund will realize a capital gain. Any gain will be decreased, and any loss increased, by the transaction costs described above. The successful use of short selling may be adversely affected by imperfect correlation between movements in the price of the security sold short and the securities being hedged.

To the extent a Fund sells securities short, it will provide collateral to the broker-dealer and (except in the case of short sales "against the box") will maintain additional asset coverage in the form of cash, U.S. government securities or other liquid securities with its custodian in a segregated account in an amount at least equal to the difference between the current market value of the securities sold short and any amounts required to be deposited as collateral with the selling broker. A short sale is "against the box" to the extent a Fund contemporaneously owns, or has the right to obtain at no added cost, securities identical to those sold short.

### Equity Stock

Equity securities include common stocks, preferred stocks, and securities convertible into common stocks, such as convertible securities, warrants, rights, and options. The value of equity securities varies in response to many factors, including the activities and financial condition of individual companies, the business market in which investment companies compete and general market and economic conditions. Equity securities fluctuate in value, often based on factors unrelated to the value of the issuer of the securities, and such fluctuations can be significant.

### Common Stock

Common stock represents an equity (ownership) interest in a company, and usually possesses voting rights and earns dividends. Dividends on common stock are not fixed but are declared at the discretion of the issuer. Common stock generally represents the riskiest investment in a company. In addition, common stock generally has the greatest appreciation and depreciation potential because increases and decreases in earnings are usually reflected in a company's stock price.

### Preferred Stock

Preferred stock is a class of stock having a preference over common stock as to the payment of dividends and the recovery of investment should a company be liquidated, although preferred stock is usually junior to the debt securities of the issuer. Preferred stock typically does not possess voting rights and its market value may change based on changes in interest rates.

A fundamental risk of investing in common and preferred stock is the risk that the value of the stock might decrease. Stock values fluctuate in response to the activities of an individual company or in response to general market and/or economic conditions. Historically, common stocks have provided greater long-term returns and have entailed greater short-term risks than preferred stocks, fixed-income securities and money market investments. The market value of all securities, including common and preferred stocks, is based upon the market's perception of value and not necessarily the book value of an issuer or other objective measures of a company's worth.

### Convertible Securities

Convertible securities include fixed income securities that may be exchanged or converted into a predetermined number of shares of the issuer's underlying common stock at the option of the holder during a specified period. Convertible securities may take the form of convertible preferred stock, convertible bonds or debentures, units consisting of "usable" bonds and warrants or a combination of the features of several of these securities. Convertible securities are senior to common stocks in an issuer's capital structure, but are usually subordinated to similar non-convertible securities. While providing a fixed-income stream (generally higher in yield than the income derivable from common stock but lower than that afforded by a similar nonconvertible security), a convertible security also gives an investor the opportunity, through its conversion feature, to participate in the capital appreciation of the issuing company depending upon a market price advance in the convertible security's underlying common stock.

### Bonds

A bond is an interest-bearing security issued by a U.S. or non-U.S. company, or U.S. or non-U.S. governmental unit. The issuer of a bond has a contractual obligation to pay interest at a stated rate on specific dates and to repay principal (the bond's face value) periodically or on a specified maturity date. Bonds generally are used by corporations and governments to borrow money from investors.

An issuer may have the right to redeem or "call" a bond before maturity, in which case a Fund may have to reinvest the proceeds at lower market rates. Similarly, a Fund may have to reinvest interest income or payments received when bonds mature, sometimes at lower market rates. Most bonds bear interest income at a "coupon" rate that is fixed for the life of the bond. The value of a fixed-rate bond usually rises when market interest rates fall, and falls when market interest rates rise. Accordingly, a fixed-rate bond's yield (income as a percent of the bond's current value) may differ from its coupon rate as its value rises or falls. When an investor purchases a fixed-rate bond at a price that is greater than its face value, the investor is purchasing the bond at a premium. Conversely, when an investor purchases a fixed-rate bond at a price that is less than its face value, the investor is purchasing the bond at a discount. Fixed-rate bonds that are purchased at a discount pay less current income than securities with comparable yields that are purchased at face value, with the result that prices for such fixed-rate securities can be more volatile than prices for such securities that are purchased at face value. Other types of bonds bear interest rate that is adjusted periodically. Interest rates on "floating rate" or "variable rate" bonds may be higher or lower than current market rates for fixed-rate bonds of comparable quality with similar final maturities.

Because of their adjustable interest rates, the value of "floating rate" or "variable rate" bonds fluctuates much less in response to market interest rate movements than the value of fixed-rate bonds, but their value may decline if their interest rates do not rise as much, or as quickly, as interest rates in general. The Funds may treat some of these bonds as having a shorter maturity for purposes of calculating the weighted average maturity of its investment portfolio. Generally, prices of higher quality issues tend to fluctuate less with changes in market interest rates than prices of lower quality issues and prices of longer maturity issues tend to fluctuate more than prices of shorter maturity issues. Bonds may be senior or subordinated obligations. Senior obligations generally have the first claim on a corporation's earnings and assets and, in the event of liquidation, are paid before subordinated obligations. Bonds may be unsecured (backed only by the issuer's general creditworthiness) or secured (backed by specified collateral).

### Corporate Bonds

The investment return of corporate bonds reflects interest earned on the security and changes in the market value of the security. The market value of a corporate bond may be affected by changes in the market rate of interest, the credit rating of the corporation, the corporation's performance and perceptions of the corporation in the marketplace. There is a risk that the issuers of the securities may not be able to meet their obligations on interest or principal payments at the time called for by an instrument.

### Mortgage-Backed Securities

The Funds may invest in mortgage-backed securities, such as those issued by the Government National Mortgage Association ("GNMA"), Federal National Mortgage Association ("FNMA"), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("FHLMC") or certain foreign issuers. Mortgage-backed securities represent direct or indirect participations in, or are secured by and payable from, mortgage loans secured by real property. The mortgages backing these securities include, among other mortgage instruments, conventional 30-year fixed-rate mortgages, 15-year fixed-rate mortgages, graduated payment mortgages and adjustable rate mortgages. The government or the issuing agency typically guarantees the payment of interest and principal of these securities. However, the guarantees do not extend to the securities' yield or value, which are likely to vary inversely with fluctuations in interest rates, nor do the guarantees extend to the yield or value of a Fund's shares. These securities generally are "pass-through" instruments, through which the holders receive a share of all interest and principal payments from the mortgages underlying the securities, net of certain fees. Yields on pass-through securities are typically quoted by investment dealers and vendors based on the maturity of the underlying instruments and the associated average life assumption. The average life of pass-through pools varies

with the maturities of the underlying mortgage loans. A pool's term may be shortened by unscheduled or early payments of principal on the underlying mortgages. The occurrence of mortgage prepayments is affected by various factors, including the level of interest rates, general economic conditions, the location, scheduled maturity and age of the mortgage and other social and demographic conditions. Because prepayment rates of individual pools vary widely, it is not possible to predict accurately the average life of a particular pool. For pools of fixed-rate 30-year mortgages in a stable interest rate environment, a common industry practice in the U.S. has been to assume that prepayments will result in a 12-year average life, although it may vary depending on numerous factors. At present, pools, particularly those with loans with other maturities or different characteristics, are priced on an assumption of average life determined for each pool. In periods of falling interest rates, the rate of prepayment tends to increase, thereby shortening the actual average life of the pool. However, these effects may not be present, or may differ in degree, if the mortgage loans in the pools have adjustable interest rates or other special payment terms, such as a prepayment charge. Actual prepayment experience may cause the yield of mortgage-backed securities to differ from the assumed average life yield. Reinvestment of prepayments may occur at higher or lower interest rates than the original investment, thus affecting a Fund's yield.

The rate of interest on mortgage-backed securities is lower than the interest rates paid on the mortgages included in the underlying pool due to the annual fees paid to the servicer of the mortgage pool for passing through monthly payments to certificate holders and to any guarantor, such as GNMA, and due to any yield retained by the issuer. Actual yield to the holder may vary from the coupon rate, even if adjustable, if the mortgage-backed securities are purchased or traded in the secondary market at a premium or discount. In addition, there is normally some delay between the time the issuer receives mortgage payments from the servicer and the time the issuer makes the payments on the mortgage-backed securities, and this delay reduces the effective yield to the holder of such securities.

# Asset-Backed Securities

The Funds may invest in asset-backed securities, which represent participations in, or are secured by and payable from, assets such as motor vehicle installment sales, installment loan contracts, leases of various types of real and personal property and receivables from revolving credit (credit card) agreements. Such assets are securitized through the use of trusts and special purpose corporations. Payments or distributions of principal and interest may be guaranteed up to certain amounts and for a certain time period by a letter of credit or a pool insurance policy issued by a financial institution unaffiliated with the trust or corporation.

Asset-backed securities present certain risks that are not presented by other securities in which a Fund may invest. Automobile receivables generally are secured by automobiles. Most issuers of automobile receivables permit the loan servicers to retain possession of the underlying obligations. If the servicer were to sell these obligations to another party, there is a risk that the purchaser would acquire an interest superior to that of the holders of the asset-backed securities. In addition, because of the large number of vehicles involved in a typical issuance and technical requirements under state laws, the trustee for the holders of the automobile receivables may not have a proper security interest in the underlying automobiles. Therefore, there is the possibility that recoveries on repossessed collateral may not, in some cases, be available to support payments on these securities. Credit card receivables are generally unsecured, and the debtors are entitled to the protection of a number of state and federal consumer credit laws, many of which give such debtors the right to set off certain amounts owed on the credit cards, thereby reducing the balance due. In addition, there is no assurance that the security interest in the collateral can be realized.

Asset-backed securities in which a Fund may invest also include collateralized debt obligations ("CDOs"), collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs") and privately-offered collateralized loans. CDOs and CLOs are securities backed by an underlying portfolio of debt and loan obligations, respectively. CDOs and CLOs issue classes or "tranches" that vary in risk and yield and may experience substantial losses due to actual defaults, decrease of market value due to collateral defaults and removal of subordinate tranches, market anticipation of defaults and investor aversion to CDO and CLO securities as a class. The risks of investing in CDOs and CLOs depend largely on the tranche invested in and the type of the underlying debts and loans in the tranche of the CDO or CLO, respectively, in which the Fund invests. CDOs and CLOs also carry risks including, but not limited to, interest rate risk and credit risk.

# Real Estate Investment Trusts

A Fund may invest in securities of real estate investment trusts ("REITs"). REITs are publicly traded corporations or trusts that specialize in acquiring, holding and managing residential, commercial or industrial real estate. A REIT is not taxed at the entity level on income distributed to its shareholders or unitholders if it distributes to shareholders or unitholders at least 95% of its taxable income for each taxable year and complies with regulatory requirements relating to its organization, ownership, assets and income.

REITs generally can be classified as "Equity REITs", "Mortgage REITs" and "Hybrid REITs." An Equity REIT invests the majority of its assets directly in real property and derives its income primarily from rents and from capital gains on real estate appreciation, which are realized through property sales. A Mortgage REIT invests the majority of its assets in real estate mortgage loans and services its income primarily from interest payments. A Hybrid REIT combines the characteristics of an Equity REIT and a Mortgage REIT. Although a Fund can invest in all three kinds of REITs, its emphasis is expected to be on investments in Equity REITs.

Investments in the real estate industry involve particular risks. The real estate industry has been subject to substantial fluctuations and declines on a local, regional and national basis in the past and may continue to be in the future. Real property values and income from real property continue to be in the future. Real property values and income from real property may decline due to general and local economic conditions, overbuilding and increased competition, increases in property taxes and operating expenses, changes in zoning laws, casualty or condemnation losses, regulatory limitations on rents, changes in neighborhoods and in demographics, increases in market interest rates, or other factors. Factors such as these may adversely affect companies that own and operate real estate directly, companies that lend to such companies, and companies that service the real estate industry.

Investments in REITs also involve risks. Equity REITs will be affected by changes in the values of and income from the properties they own, while Mortgage REITs may be affected by the credit quality of the mortgage loans they hold. In addition, REITs are dependent on specialized management skills and on their ability to generate cash flow for operating purposes and to make distributions to shareholders or unitholders REITs may have limited diversification and are subject to risks associated with obtaining financing for real property, as well as to the risk of self-liquidation. REITs also can be adversely affected by their failure to qualify for tax-free pass-through treatment of their income under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or their failure to maintain an exemption from registration under the 1940 Act. By investing in REITs indirectly through a Fund, a shareholder bears not only a proportionate share of the expenses of a Fund, but also may indirectly bear similar expenses of some of the REITs in which it invests.

### Warrants

Warrants are options to purchase common stock at a specific price (usually at a premium above the market value of the optioned common stock at issuance) valid for a specific period of time. Warrants may have a life ranging from less than one year to twenty years, or they may be perpetual. However, most warrants have expiration dates after which they are worthless. In addition, a warrant is worthless if the market price of the common stock does not exceed the warrant's exercise price during the life of the warrant. Warrants have no voting rights, pay no dividends, and have no rights with respect to the assets of the corporation issuing them. The percentage increase or decrease in the market price of the warrant may tend to be greater than the percentage increase or decrease in the market price of the optioned common stock.

### Depositary Receipts

Sponsored and unsponsored American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"), are receipts issued by an American bank or trust company evidencing ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign issuer. ADRs, in registered form, are designed for use in U.S. securities markets. Unsponsored ADRs may be created without the participation of the foreign issuer. Holders of these ADRs generally bear all the costs of the ADR facility, whereas foreign issuers typically bear certain costs in a sponsored ADR. The bank or trust company depositary of an unsponsored ADR may be under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications received from the foreign issuer or to pass through voting rights. Many of the risks described below regarding foreign securities apply to investments in ADRs.

# Emerging Markets Securities

Investing in emerging market securities imposes risks different from, or greater than, risks of investing in foreign developed countries. These risks include: smaller market capitalization of securities markets, which may suffer periods of relative illiquidity; significant price volatility; restrictions on foreign investment; possible repatriation of investment income and capital. In addition, foreign investors may be required to register the proceeds of sales; future economic or political crises could lead to price controls, forced mergers, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, seizure, nationalization, or creation of government monopolies. The currencies of emerging market countries may experience significant declines against the U.S. dollar, and devaluation may occur subsequent to investments in these currencies by a Fund. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had, and may continue to have, negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain emerging market countries.

Additional risks of emerging markets securities may include: greater social, economic and political uncertainty and instability; more substantial governmental involvement in the economy; less governmental supervision and regulation; unavailability of currency hedging techniques; companies that are newly organized and small; differences in auditing and financial reporting standards, which may result in unavailability of material information about issuers; and less developed legal systems. In addition, emerging securities markets may have different clearance and settlement procedures, which may be unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions or otherwise make it difficult to engage in such transactions. Settlement problems may cause a Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities, hold a portion of its assets in cash pending investment, or be delayed in disposing of a portfolio security. Such a delay could result in possible liability to a purchaser of the security.

### Certificates of Deposit and Bankers' Acceptances

Certificates of deposit are receipts issued by a depository institution in exchange for the deposit of funds. The issuer agrees to pay the amount deposited plus interest to the bearer of the receipt on the date specified on the certificate. The certificate usually can be traded in the secondary market prior to maturity. Bankers' acceptances typically arise from short-term credit arrangements designed to enable businesses to obtain funds to finance commercial transactions. Generally, an acceptance is a time draft drawn on a bank by an exporter or an importer to obtain a stated amount of funds to pay for specific merchandise. The draft is then "accepted" by a bank that, in effect, unconditionally guarantees to pay the face value of the instrument on its maturity date. The acceptance may then be held by the accepting bank as an earning asset or it may be sold in the secondary market at the going rate of discount for a specific maturity. Although maturities for acceptances can be as long as 270 days, most acceptances have maturities of six months or less.

### Commercial Paper

Commercial paper consists of short-term (usually from 1 to 270 days) unsecured promissory notes issued by corporations in order to finance their current operations. It may be secured by letters of credit, a surety bond or other forms of collateral. Commercial paper is usually repaid at maturity by the issuer from the proceeds of the issuance of new commercial paper. As a result, investment in commercial paper is subject to the risk the issuer cannot issue enough new commercial paper to satisfy its outstanding commercial paper, also known as rollover risk. Commercial paper may become illiquid or may suffer from reduced liquidity in certain circumstances. Like all fixed income securities, commercial paper prices are susceptible to fluctuations in interest rates. If interest rates rise, commercial paper prices will decline. The short-term nature of a commercial paper investment makes it less susceptible to interest rate risk than many other fixed income securities because interest rate risk typically increases as maturity lengths increase. Commercial paper tends to yield smaller returns than longer-term corporate debt because securities with shorter maturities typically have lower effective yields than those with longer maturities. As with all fixed income securities, there is a chance that the issuer will default on its commercial paper obligation.



### Information on Time Deposits and Variable Rate Notes

Time deposits are issued by a depository institution in exchange for the deposit of funds. The issuer agrees to pay the amount deposited plus interest to the depositor on the date specified with respect to the deposit. Time deposits do not trade in the secondary market prior to maturity. However, some time deposits may be redeemable prior to maturity and may be subject to withdrawal penalties.

The commercial paper obligations are typically unsecured and may include variable rate notes. The nature and terms of a variable rate note (i.e., a "Master Note") permit a Fund to invest fluctuating amounts at varying rates of interest pursuant to a direct arrangement between a Fund and the issuer. It permits daily changes in the amounts invested. A Fund, typically, has the right at any time to increase, up to the full amount stated in the note agreement, or to decrease the amount outstanding under the note. The issuer may prepay at any time and without penalty any part of or the full amount of the note. The note may or may not be backed by one or more bank letters of credit. Because these notes are direct investment arrangements between a Fund and the issuer, it is not generally contemplated that they will be traded; moreover, there is currently no secondary market for them. Except as specifically provided in the Prospectus, there is no limitation on the type of issuer from whom these notes may be purchased; however, in connection with such purchase and on an ongoing basis, the Adviser will consider the earning power, cash flow and other liquidity ratios of the issuer, and its ability to pay principal and interest on demand, including a situation in which all holders of such notes made demand simultaneously. Variable rate notes are subject to a Fund's investment restriction on illiquid securities unless such notes can be put back to the issuer (redeemed) on demand within seven days.

### Insured Bank Obligations

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insures the deposits of federally insured banks and savings and loan associations (collectively referred to as "banks") up to \$250,000. A Fund may elect to purchase bank obligations in small amounts so as to be fully insured as to principal by the FDIC. Currently, to remain fully insured as to principal, these investments must be limited to \$250,000 per bank; if the principal amount and accrued interest together exceed \$250,000, the excess principal and accrued interest will not be insured. Insured bank obligations may have limited marketability.

### Closed-End Investment Companies

A Fund may invest its assets in closed-end investment companies (or "closed-end funds"), subject to the investment restrictions set forth above. Shares of closed-end funds are typically offered to the public in a one-time initial public offering by a group of underwriters who retain a spread or underwriting commission of between 4% or 6% of the initial public offering price. Such securities are then listed for trading on the NYSE Arca, Inc. the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System (commonly known as "NASDAQ") or, in some cases, may be traded in other over-the-counter markets. Because the shares of closed-end funds cannot be redeemed upon demand to the issuer like the shares of an open-end investment company (such as a Fund), investors seek to buy and sell shares of closed-end funds in the secondary market.

A Fund generally will purchase shares of closed-end funds only in the secondary market. A Fund will incur normal brokerage costs on such purchases similar to the expenses a Fund would incur for the purchase of securities of any other type of issuer in the secondary market. A Fund may, however, also purchase securities of a closed-end fund in an initial public offering when, in the opinion of the Adviser, based on a consideration of the nature of the closed-end fund's proposed investments, the prevailing market conditions and the level of demand for such securities, they represent an attractive opportunity for growth of capital. The initial offering price typically will include a dealer spread, which may be higher than the applicable brokerage cost if a Fund purchased such securities in the secondary market.

The shares of many closed-end funds, after their initial public offering, frequently trade at a price per share, which is less than the net asset value per share, the difference representing the "market discount" of such shares. This market discount may be due in part to the investment objective of long-term appreciation, which is sought by many closed-end funds, as well as to the fact that the shares of closed-end funds are not redeemable by the holder upon demand to the issuer at the next determined net asset value but rather are subject to the principles of supply and demand in the secondary market. A relative lack of secondary market purchasers of closed-end fund shares also may contribute to such shares trading at a discount to their net asset value.

A Fund may invest in shares of closed-end funds that are trading at a discount to net asset value or at a premium to NAV. There can be no assurance that the market discount on shares of any closed-end fund purchased by a Fund will ever decrease. In fact, it is possible that this market discount may increase and a Fund may suffer realized or unrealized capital losses due to further decline in the market price of the securities of such closed-end funds, thereby adversely affecting the net asset value of a Fund's shares. Similarly, there can be no assurance that any shares of a closed-end fund purchased by a Fund at a premium will continue to trade at a premium or that the premium will not decrease subsequent to a purchase of such shares by a Fund.

Closed-end funds may issue senior securities (including preferred stock and debt obligations) for the purpose of leveraging the closed-end fund's common shares in an attempt to enhance the current return to such closed-end fund's common shareholders. A Fund's investment in the common shares of closed-end funds that are financially leveraged may create an opportunity for greater total return on its investment, but at the same time may be expected to exhibit more volatility in market price and net asset value than an investment in shares of investment companies without a leveraged capital structure.

### United States Government Obligations

These consist of various types of marketable securities issued by the United States Treasury, i.e., bills, notes and bonds. Such securities are direct obligations of the United States government and differ mainly in the length of their maturity. Treasury bills, the most frequently issued marketable government security, have a maturity of up to one year and are issued on a discount basis.

### Debt Issued by United States Government Agencies

These consist of debt securities issued by agencies and instrumentalities of the United States government, including the various types of instruments currently outstanding or which may be offered in the future. Agencies include, among others, the Federal Housing Administration, Government National Mortgage Association ("Ginnie Mae"), Farmer's Home Administration, Export-Import Bank of the United States, Maritime Administration, and General Services Administration. Instrumentalities include, for example, each of the Federal Home Loan Banks, the National Bank for Cooperatives, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac"), the Farm Credit Banks, the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae"), and the United States Postal Service. These securities are either: (i) backed by the full faith and credit of the United States government (e.g., United States Treasury Bills); (ii) guaranteed by the United States Treasury (e.g., Ginnie Mae mortgage-backed securities); (iii) supported by the issuing agency's or instrumentality's right to borrow from the United States Treasury (e.g., Fannie Mae Discount Notes); or (iv) supported only by the issuing agency's or instrumentality's own credit (e.g., Tennessee Valley Association).

Government-related guarantors (i.e. not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government) include Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Fannie Mae is a government-sponsored corporation owned entirely by private stockholders. It is subject to general regulation by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Fannie Mae purchases conventional (i.e., not insured or guaranteed by any government agency) residential mortgages from a list of approved seller/servicers which include state and federally chartered savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, commercial banks and credit unions and mortgage bankers. Pass-through securities issued by Fannie Mae are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by Fannie Mae but are not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government.

Freddie Mac was created by Congress in 1970 for the purpose of increasing the availability of mortgage credit for residential housing. It is a government-sponsored corporation formerly owned by the twelve Federal Home Loan Banks and now owned entirely by private stockholders. Freddie Mac issues participation certificates ("PCs"), which represent interests in conventional mortgages from Freddie Mac's national portfolio. Freddie Mac guarantees the timely payment of interest and ultimate collection of principal, but PCs are not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government. Commercial banks, savings and loan institutions, private mortgage insurance companies, mortgage bankers and other secondary market issuers also create pass-through pools of conventional residential mortgage loans. Such issuers may, in addition, be the originators and/or servicers of the underlying mortgage loans as well as the guarantors of the mortgage-related securities. Pools created by such nongovernmental issuers generally offer a higher rate of interest than government and government-related pools because there are no direct or indirect government or agency guarantees of payments in the former pools. However, timely payment of interest and principal of these pools may be supported by various forms of insurance or guarantees, including individual loan, title, pool and hazard insurance and letters of credit. The insurance and guarantees are issued by governmental entities, private insurers and the mortgage poolers.



# Securities Options

A Fund may purchase and write (*i.e.*, sell) put and call options. Such options may relate to particular securities or stock indices, and may or may not be listed on a domestic or foreign securities exchange and may or may not be issued by the Options Clearing Corporation. Options trading is a highly specialized activity that entails greater than ordinary investment risk. Options may be more volatile than the underlying instruments, and therefore, on a percentage basis, an investment in options may be subject to greater fluctuation than an investment in the underlying instruments themselves.

A call option for a particular security gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the writer (seller) the obligation to sell, the underlying security at the stated exercise price at any time prior to the expiration of the option, regardless of the market price of the security. The premium paid to the writer is in consideration for undertaking the obligation under the option contract. A put option for a particular security gives the purchaser the right to sell the security at the stated exercise price at any time prior to the expiration date of the option, regardless of the market price of the security.

Stock index options are put options and call options on various stock indices. In most respects, they are identical to listed options on common stocks. The primary difference between stock options and index options occurs when index options are exercised. In the case of stock options, the underlying security, common stock, is delivered. However, upon the exercise of an index option, settlement does not occur by delivery of the securities comprising the index. The option holder who exercises the index option receives an amount of cash if the closing level of the stock index upon which the option is based is greater than, in the case of a call, or less than, in the case of a put, the exercise price of the option. This amount of cash is equal to the difference between the closing price of the stock index and the exercise price of the option expressed in dollars times a specified multiple. A stock index fluctuates with changes in the market value of the stocks included in the index. For example, some stock index options are based on a broad market index, such as the Standard & Poor's 500®. Index or the Value Line Composite Index or a narrower market index, such as the Standard & Poor's 100®. Indices may also be based on an industry or market segment, such as the NYSE Arca Oil and Gas Index or the Computer and Business Equipment Index. Options on stock indices are currently traded on the Chicago Board Options Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ PHLX.

A Fund's obligation to sell an instrument subject to a call option written by it, or to purchase an instrument subject to a put option written by it, may be terminated prior to the expiration date of the option by a Fund's execution of a closing purchase transaction, which is effected by purchasing on an exchange an option of the same series (*i.e.*, same underlying instrument, exercise price and expiration date) as the option previously written. A closing purchase transaction will ordinarily be effected to realize a profit on an outstanding option, to prevent an underlying instrument from being called, to permit the sale of the underlying instrument or to permit the writing of a new option containing different terms on such underlying instrument. The cost of such a liquidation purchase plus transactions costs may be greater than the premium received upon the original option, in which event a Fund will have paid a loss in the transaction will not be able to sell the underlying instrument or liquidate the assets held in a segregated account, as described below, until the option expires or the optioned instrument is delivered upon exercise. In such circumstances, the writer will be subject to the risk of market decline or appreciation in the instrument during such period.

If an option purchased by a Fund expires unexercised, a Fund realizes a loss equal to the premium paid. If a Fund enters into a closing sale transaction on an option purchased by it, a Fund will realize a gain if the premium received by a Fund on the closing transaction is more than the premium paid to purchase the option, or a loss if it is less. If an option written by a Fund expires on the stipulated expiration date or if a Fund enters into a closing purchase transaction, it will realize a gain (or loss if the cost of a closing purchase transaction exceeds the net premium received when the option is sold). If an option written by a Fund is exercised, the proceeds of the sale will be increased by the net premium originally received and a Fund will realize a gain or loss.

# Certain Risks Regarding Options

There are several risks associated with transactions in options. For example, there are significant differences between the securities and options markets that could result in an imperfect correlation between these markets, causing a given transaction not to achieve its objectives. In addition, a liquid secondary market for particular options, whether traded over-the-counter or on an exchange, may be absent for reasons which include the following: there may be insufficient trading interest in certain options; restrictions may be imposed by an exchange on opening transactions or closing transactions or both; trading halts, suspensions or other restrictions may be imposed with respect to particular classes or series of options or underlying securities or currencies; unusual or unforeseen circumstances may interrupt normal operations on an exchange; the facilities of an exchange or the Options Clearing Corporation may not at all times be adequate to handle current trading value; or one or more exchanges could, for economic or other reasons, decide or be compelled at some future date to discontinue the trading of options (or a particular class or series of options), in which event the secondary market on that exchange (or in that class or series of options) would cease to exist, although outstanding options that had been issued by the Options Clearing Corporation as a result of trades on that exchange would continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms.

Successful use by a Fund of options on stock indices will be subject to the ability of the Adviser to correctly predict movements in the directions of the stock market. This requires different skills and techniques than predicting changes in the prices of individual securities. In addition, a Fund's ability to effectively hedge all or a portion of the securities in its portfolio, in anticipation of or during a market decline, through transactions in put options on stock indices, depends on the degree to which price movements in the underlying index correlate with the price movements of the securities held by a Fund. In as much as a Fund's securities will not duplicate the components of an index, the correlation will not be perfect. Consequently, a Fund bears the risk that the prices of its securities being hedged will not move in the same amount as the prices of its put options on the stock indices. It is also possible that there may be a negative correlation between the index and a Fund's securities that would result in a loss on both such securities and the options on stock indices acquired by a Fund.

The hours of trading for options may not conform to the hours during which the underlying securities are traded. To the extent that the options markets close before the markets for the underlying securities, significant price and rate movements can take place in the underlying markets that cannot be reflected in the options markets. The purchase of options is a highly specialized activity that involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. The purchase of stock index options involves the risk that the premium and transaction costs paid by a Fund in purchasing an option will be lost as a result of unanticipated movements in prices of the securities comprising the stock index on which the option is based.

There is no assurance that a liquid secondary market on an options exchange will exist for any particular option, or at any particular time, and for some options no secondary market on an exchange or elsewhere may exist. If a Fund is unable to close out a call option on securities that it has written before the option is exercised, a Fund may be required to purchase the optioned securities in order to satisfy its obligation under the option to deliver such securities. If a Fund is unable to effect a closing sale transaction with respect to options on securities that it has purchased, it would have to exercise the option in order to realize any profit and would incur transaction costs upon the purchase and sale of the underlying securities.

### Options on Futures Contracts

A Fund may purchase and sell options on the same types of futures in which it may invest. Options on futures are similar to options on underlying instruments except that options on futures give the purchaser the right, in return for the premium paid, to assume a position in a futures contract (a long position if the option is a call and a short position if the option is a put), rather than to purchase or sell the futures contract, at a specified exercise price at any time during the period of the option. Upon exercise of the option, the delivery of the futures position by the writer of the option to the holder of the option will be accompanied by the delivery of the accumulated balance in the writer's futures margin account which represents the amount by which the market price of the futures contract, at exercise, exceeds (in the case of a call) or is less than (in the case of a put) the exercise price of the option on the futures contract. Purchasers of options who fail to exercise their options prior to the exercise date suffer a loss of the premium paid.

### Dealer and Exchange-Traded Options

A Fund may engage in transactions involving dealer options as well as exchange-traded options. Certain additional risks are specific to dealer options. While a Fund might look to a clearing corporation to exercise exchange-traded options, if a Fund were to purchase a dealer option it would need to rely on the dealer from which it purchased the option to perform if the option were exercised. Failure by the dealer to do so would result in the loss of the premium paid by a Fund as well as loss of the expected benefit of the transaction.

Exchange traded options generally have a continuous liquid market while dealer options may not. Consequently, a Fund may generally be able to realize the value of a dealer option it has purchased only by exercising or reselling the option to the dealer who issued it. Similarly, when a Fund writes a dealer option, it may generally be able to close out the option prior to its expiration only by entering into a closing purchase transaction with the dealer to whom a Fund originally wrote the option. While a Fund will seek to enter into dealer options only with dealers who will agree to and which are expected to be capable of entering into closing transactions with a Fund, there can be no assurance that a Fund will at any time be able to liquidate a dealer option at a favorable price at any time prior to expiration. Unless a Fund, as a covered dealer call option writer, is able to effect a closing purchase transaction, it will not be able to liquidate a dealer option. With respect to options written by a Fund, the inability to enter into a closing transaction may result in material losses to a Fund. For example, because a Fund must maintain a secured position with respect to any call option on a security it writes, a Fund may not sell the assets, which it has segregated to secure the position while it is obligated under the option. This requirement may impair a Fund's ability to sell portfolio securities at a time when such sale might be advantageous.

The Staff of the SEC has taken the position that purchased dealer options are illiquid securities. A Fund may treat the cover used for written dealer options as liquid if the dealer agrees that a Fund may repurchase the dealer option it has written for a maximum price to be calculated by a predetermined formula. In such cases, the dealer option would be considered illiquid only to the extent the maximum purchase price under the formula exceeds the intrinsic value of the option. Accordingly, a Fund will treat dealer options as subject to a Fund's limitation on illiquid securities. If the SEC changes its position on the liquidity of dealer options, a Fund will change its treatment of such instruments accordingly.

### Spread Transactions

A Fund may purchase covered spread options from securities dealers. These covered spread options are not presently exchange-listed or exchange-traded. The purchase of a spread option gives a Fund the right to put securities that it owns at a fixed dollar spread or fixed yield spread in relationship to another security that a Fund does not own, but which is used as a benchmark. The risk to a Fund, in addition to the risks of dealer options described above, is the cost of the premium paid as well as any transaction costs. The purchase of spread options will be used to protect a Fund against adverse changes in prevailing credit quality spreads, *i.e.*, the yield spread between high quality and lower quality securities. This protection is provided only during the life of the spread options.

# Option Overlay Strategy

A Fund may purchase exchange-traded and over the counter ("OTC") put and call options on various indexes. When a Fund purchases a call option, the Fund has the right, but not the obligation, to buy an asset at a specified price (strike price) within a specific time period. When a Fund purchases a put option, the Fund has the right, but not the obligation, to sell an asset at a specified price (strike price) within a specific time period. The options are meant to hedge against market moves. The adviser selects options based upon its evaluation of relative value based on cost, strike price (price that the option can be bought or sold by the option holder) and maturity (the last date the option contract is valid) and will exercise or close the options based on maturity or portfolio rebalancing requirements. While the option overlay is intended to improve a Fund's performance, there is no guarantee that it will do so.

# Repurchase Agreements

A Fund may enter into repurchase agreements. In a repurchase agreement, an investor (such as a Fund) purchases a security (known as the "underlying security") from a securities dealer or bank. Any such dealer or bank must be deemed creditworthy by the Adviser. At that time, the bank or securities dealer agrees to repurchase the underlying security at a mutually agreed upon price on a designated future date. The repurchase price may be higher than the purchase price, the difference being income to a Fund, or the purchase and repurchase prices may be the same, with interest at an agreed upon rate due to a Fund on repurchase. In either case, the income to a Fund generally will be unrelated to the interest rate on the underlying securities. Repurchase agreements must be "fully collateralized," in that the market value of the underlying securities (including accrued interest) must at all times be equal to or greater than the repurchase price. Therefore, a repurchase agreement can be considered a loan collateralized by the underlying securities.

Repurchase agreements are generally for a short period of time, often less than a week, and will generally be used by a Fund to invest excess cash or as part of a temporary defensive strategy. Repurchase agreements that do not provide for payment within seven days will be treated as illiquid securities. In the event of a bankruptcy or other default by the seller of a repurchase agreement, a Fund could experience both delays in liquidating the underlying security and losses. These losses could result from: (a) possible decline in the value of the underlying security while a Fund is seeking to enforce its rights under the repurchase agreement; (b) possible reduced levels of income or lack of access to income during this period; and (c) expenses of enforcing its rights.

# Reverse Repurchase Transactions

A Fund may enter into reverse repurchase transactions. In a reverse repurchase transaction, a Fund concurrently agrees to sell portfolio securities to financial institutions such as banks and broker-dealers, and to repurchase the same securities at a later date at a mutually agreed upon price. The repurchase price generally is equal to the original sales price plus interest. The Fund retains record ownership of the securities and the right to receive interest and principal payments. A Fund will enter into a reverse repurchase transaction in order to obtain funds to pursue additional investment opportunities with a return that may be in excess of the cost of the reverse repurchase transaction. Such transactions may increase fluctuations in the market value of Fund assets and are viewed as a form of leverage. Reverse purchase transactions also involve the risk that the market value of the securities sold by the Fund may decline below the price at which a Fund is obligated to repurchase the securities. In the event of bankruptcy or other default by the purchaser, a Fund could experience both delays in repurchasing the portfolio securities and losses. A Fund will enter into reverse purchase transactions are considered by the SEC to be borrowings by the Fund under the 1940 Act or a form of derivative governed by Rule 18f-4.

### Trading in Futures Contracts

A futures contract provides for the future sale by one party and purchase by another party of a specified amount of a specific financial instrument (e.g., units of a stock index) for a specified price, date, time and place designated at the time the contract is made. Brokerage fees are paid when a futures contract is bought or sold and margin deposits must be maintained. Entering into a contract to buy is commonly referred to as buying or purchasing a contract or holding a long position. Entering into a contract to sell is commonly referred to as selling a contract or holding a short position.

Unlike when a Fund purchases or sells a security, no price would be paid or received by a Fund upon the purchase or sale of a futures contract. Upon entering into a futures contract, and to maintain a Fund's open positions in futures contracts, a Fund would be required to deposit with its custodian or futures broker in a segregated account in the name of the futures broker an amount of cash, U.S. government securities, suitable money market instruments, or other liquid securities, known as "initial margin." The margin required for a particular futures contract is set by the exchange on which the contract is traded, and may be significantly modified from time to time by the exchange during the term of the contract. Futures contracts are customarily purchased and sold on margins that may range upward from less than 5% of the value of the contract being traded.

If the price of an open futures contract changes (by increase in underlying instrument or index in the case of a sale or by decrease in the case of a purchase) so that the loss on the futures contract reaches a point at which the margin on deposit does not satisfy margin requirements, the broker will require an increase in the margin. However, if the value of a position increases because of favorable price changes in the futures contract so that the margin deposit exceeds the required margin, the broker will pay the excess to a Fund.

These subsequent payments, called "variation margin," to and from the futures broker, are made on a daily basis as the price of the underlying assets fluctuate making the long and short positions in the futures contract more or less valuable, a process known as "marking to the market." A Fund expects to earn interest income on margin deposits.

Although certain futures contracts, by their terms, require actual future delivery of and payment for the underlying instruments, in practice most futures contracts are usually closed out before the delivery date. Closing out an open futures contract purchase or sale is effected by entering into an offsetting futures contract sale or purchase, respectively, for the same aggregate amount of the identical underlying instrument or index and the same delivery date. If the offsetting purchase price is less than the original sale price, a Fund realizes a gain; if it is more, a Fund realizes a loss. Conversely, if the offsetting sale price is more than the original purchase price, a Fund realizes a gain; if it is less, a Fund realizes a loss. The transaction costs must also be included in these calculations. There can be no assurance, however, that a Fund will be able to enter into an offsetting transaction with respect to a particular futures contract at a particular time. If a Fund is not able to enter into an offsetting transaction, a Fund will continue to be required to maintain the margin deposits on the futures contract.

For example, one contract in the Financial Times Stock Exchange 100 Index future is a contract to buy 25 pounds sterling multiplied by the level of the UK Financial Times 100 Share Index on a given future date. Settlement of a stock index futures contract may or may not be in the underlying instrument or index. If not in the underlying instrument or index, then settlement will be made in cash, equivalent over time to the difference between the contract price and the actual price of the underlying asset at the time the stock index futures contract expires.

### Regulation as a Commodity Pool Operator

The Adviser is registered with the National Futures Association as a commodity pool operator under the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended, and the rules of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission promulgated thereunder, with respect to the Funds' operation. The Adviser, on behalf of the Funds, has filed with the National Futures Association, a notice claiming an exemption from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" in accordance with Rule 4.5 under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"), as amended, and the rules of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission promulgated thereunder, with respect to the Funds' operations. Accordingly, the Funds are not subject, nor will they be subject, to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the CEA.

# When-Issued, Forward Commitments and Delayed Settlements

A Fund may purchase and sell securities on a when-issued, forward commitment or delayed settlement basis. In this event, the Custodian (as defined under the section entitled "Custodian") will segregate liquid assets equal to the amount of the commitment in a separate account. Normally, the Custodian will set aside portfolio securities to satisfy a purchase commitment. In such a case, a Fund may be required subsequently to segregate additional assets in order to assure that the value of the account remains equal to the amount of a Fund's commitment. It may be expected that a Fund's net assets will fluctuate to a greater degree when it sets aside portfolio securities to cover such purchase commitments than when it sets aside cash.

The Funds do not intend to engage in these transactions for speculative purposes but only in furtherance of their investment objectives. Because a Fund will segregate liquid assets to satisfy purchase commitments in the manner described, a Fund's liquidity and the ability of the Adviser to manage them may be affected in the event a Fund's forward commitments, commitments to purchase when-issued securities and delayed settlements ever exceeded 15% of the value of its net assets.

A Fund will purchase securities on a when-issued, forward commitment or delayed settlement basis only with the intention of completing the transaction. If deemed advisable as a matter of investment strategy, however, a Fund may dispose of or renegotiate a commitment after it is entered into, and may sell securities it has committed to purchase before those securities are delivered to a Fund on the settlement date. In these cases a Fund may realize a taxable capital gain or loss. When a Fund engages in when-issued, forward commitment and delayed settlement transactions, it relies on the other party to consummate the trade. Failure of such party to do so may result in a Fund incurring a loss or missing an opportunity to obtain a price credited to be advantageous.

The market value of the securities underlying a when-issued purchase, forward commitment to purchase securities, or a delayed settlement and any subsequent fluctuations in their market value is taken into account when determining the market value of a Fund starting on the day a Fund agrees to purchase the securities. A Fund does not earn interest on the securities it has committed to purchase until it has paid for and delivered on the settlement date.

# Illiquid and Restricted Securities

A Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities. Illiquid securities include securities subject to contractual or legal restrictions on resale (e.g., because they have not been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act")) and securities that are otherwise not readily marketable (e.g., because trading in the security is suspended or because market makers do not exist or will not entertain bids or offers). Securities that have not been registered under the Securities Act are referred to as private placements or restricted securities and are purchased directly from the issuer or in the secondary market. Foreign securities that are freely tradable in their principal markets are not considered to be illiquid.

Restricted and other illiquid securities may be subject to the potential for delays on resale and uncertainty in valuation. A Fund might be unable to dispose of illiquid securities promptly or at reasonable prices and might thereby experience difficulty in satisfying redemption requests from shareholders. A Fund might have to register restricted securities in order to dispose of them, resulting in additional expense and delay. Adverse market conditions could impede such a public offering of securities.

A large institutional market exists for certain securities that are not registered under the Securities Act, including foreign securities. The fact that there are contractual or legal restrictions on resale to the general public or to certain institutions may not be indicative of the liquidity of such investments. Rule 144A under the Securities Act allows such a broader institutional trading market for securities otherwise subject to restrictions on resale to the general public. Rule 144A establishes a "safe harbor" from the registration requirements of the Securities Act for resale of certain securities to qualified institutional buyers. Rule 144A has produced enhanced liquidity for many restricted securities, and market liquidity for such securities may continue to expand as a result of this regulation and the consequent existence of the PORTAL system, which is an automated system for the trading, clearance and settlement of unregistered securities of domestic and foreign issuers sponsored by NASDAQ.

Under guidelines adopted by the Board, the Adviser may determine that particular Rule 144A securities, and commercial paper issued in reliance on the private placement exemption from registration afforded by Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act, are liquid even though they are not registered. A determination of whether such a security is liquid or not is a question of fact. In making this determination, the Adviser will consider, as it deems appropriate under the circumstances and among other factors: (1) the frequency of trades and quotes for the security; (2) the number of dealers willing to purchase or sell the security; (3) the number of other potential purchasers of the security; (4) dealer undertakings to make a market in the security; (5) the nature of the security (e.g., debt or equity, date of maturity, terms of dividend or interest payments, and other material terms) and the nature of the marketplace trades (e.g., the time needed to dispose of the security, the method of soliciting offers, and the mechanics of transfer); and (6) the rating of the security and the financial condition and prospects of the issuer. In the case of commercial paper, the Adviser will also determine that the paper (1) is not traded flat or in default as to principal and interest, and (2) is rated in one of the two highest rating categories by at least two Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations ("NRSROs") or, if only one NRSRO rates the security, by that NRSRO, or, if the security is unrated, the Adviser determines that it is of equivalent quality.

Rule 144A securities and Section 4(a)(2) commercial paper that have been deemed liquid as described above will continue to be monitored by the Adviser to determine if the security is no longer liquid as the result of changed conditions. Investing in Rule 144A securities or Section 4(a)(2) commercial paper could have the effect of increasing the amount of a Fund's assets invested in illiquid securities if institutional buyers are unwilling to purchase such securities.

# Lending Portfolio Securities

For the purpose of achieving income, a Fund may lend its portfolio securities, provided (1) the loan is secured continuously by collateral consisting of U.S. Government securities or cash or cash equivalents (cash, U.S. Government securities, negotiable certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances or letters of credit) maintained on a daily mark-to-market basis in an amount at least equal to the current market value of the securities loaned, (2) a Fund may at any time call the loan and obtain the return of securities loaned, (3) a Fund will receive any interest or dividends received on the loaned securities, and (4) the aggregate value of the securities loaned will not at any time exceed one-third of the total assets of a Fund.

# INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

Each Fund has adopted the following investment restrictions that may not be changed without approval by a "majority of the outstanding shares" of a Fund, which, as used in this SAI, means the vote of the lesser of (a) 67% or more of the shares of a Fund represented at a meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares of a Fund are present or represented by proxy, or (b) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of a Fund. Each Fund may not:

- 1. Issue senior securities, except as otherwise permitted under the 1940 Act, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder;
- 2. Borrow money, except (a) from a bank, provided that immediately after such borrowing there is an asset coverage of 300% for all borrowings of a Fund; or (b) from a bank or other persons for temporary purposes only, provided that such temporary borrowings are in an amount not exceeding 5% of a Fund's total assets at the time when the borrowing is made. This limitation does not preclude a Fund from entering into reverse repurchase transactions, provided that a Fund has an asset coverage of 300% for all borrowings and repurchase commitments of a Fund pursuant to reverse repurchase transactions;
- 3. Engage in the business of underwriting securities issued by others, except to the extent that the Fund may be considered an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act, in the disposition of restricted securities or in connection with its investments in other investment companies;
- 4. Purchase or sell real estate or interests in real estate. This limitation is not applicable to investments in marketable securities that are secured by or represent interests in real estate. This limitation does not preclude a Fund from investing in mortgage-related securities or investing in companies engaged in the real estate business or that have a significant portion of their assets in real estate (including REITs);
- 5. Invest more than 25% of the market value of its assets in the securities of companies engaged in any one industry or group of industries. This limitation does not apply to investment in the securities of the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities;
- 6. Purchase or sell commodities (unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other investments) or commodity futures contracts, except that a Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts and options to the full extent permitted under the 1940 Act, sell foreign currency contracts in accordance with any rules of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, invest in securities or other instruments backed by commodities, and invest in companies that are engaged in a commodities business or have a significant portion of their assets in commodities; or
- 7. Make loans to others, except that a Fund may, in accordance with its investment objective and policies, (i) lend portfolio securities, (ii) purchase and hold debt securities or other debt instruments, including but not limited to loan participations and sub-participations, assignments, and structured securities, (iii) make loans secured by mortgages on real property, (iv) enter into repurchase agreements, (v) enter into transactions where each loan is represented by a note executed by the borrower, and (vi) make time deposits with financial institutions and invest in instruments issued by financial institutions. For purposes of this limitation, the term "loans" shall not include the purchase of a portion of an issue of publicly distributed bonds, debentures or other securities.

If a restriction on a Fund's investments is adhered to at the time an investment is made, a subsequent change in the percentage of Fund assets invested in certain securities or other instruments of a Fund's investment portfolio, resulting from changes in the value of a Fund's total assets, will not be considered a violation of the restriction; provided, however, that the asset coverage requirement applicable to borrowings shall be maintained in the manner contemplated by applicable law.

The SEC has adopted new regulations under the 1940 Act governing the use of derivatives by registered investment companies ("Rule 18f-4"). Rule 18f-4 imposes limits on the amount of derivatives a Fund can enter into, treats derivatives as senior securities, and requires a Fund to maintain a comprehensive derivatives risk management program and appoint a derivatives risk manager if its exposure to derivatives is above a specified amount.

With respect to fundamental investment restriction #2 above, if a Fund's asset coverage falls below 300%, a Fund will reduce borrowing within 3 days in order to ensure that a Fund has 300% asset coverage.

With respect to fundamental investment restriction #5 above, tax-exempt securities issued by states, municipalities and their political subdivisions are not considered to be part of any industry.

### **Non-Fundamental Policies**

Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF has adopted a non-fundamental policy to invest, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in equity securities of U.S. companies.

This policy is non-fundamental and may be changed by the Board without shareholder approval. Shareholders will be provided with at least sixty days' written notice of such change.

# POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR DISCLOSURE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

The Trust has adopted a policy regarding the disclosure of information about each Fund's portfolio holdings. The Funds and their service providers may not receive compensation or any other consideration (which includes any agreement to maintain assets in a Fund or in other investment companies or accounts managed by the Adviser or any affiliated person of the Adviser) in connection with the disclosure of portfolio holdings information of the Funds. The Trust's policy is implemented and overseen by the Chief Compliance Officer of the Trust, subject to the oversight of the Board. Periodic reports regarding these procedures will be provided to the Board. The Trust, the Adviser and the Distributor (as defined below) will not disseminate non-public information concerning the Trust. The Board must approve all material amendments to this policy.

Each business day, the Funds' portfolio holdings information will generally be provided for dissemination through the facilities of the National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") and/or other fee-based subscription services to NSCC members and/or subscribers to those other fee-based subscription services, including Authorized Participants (as defined below), and to entities that publish and/or analyze such information in connection with the process of purchasing or redeeming Creation Units or trading shares of the Funds in the secondary market. This information typically reflects a Fund's anticipated holdings as of the next Business Day (as defined below).

Access to information concerning each Fund's portfolio holdings may be permitted to personnel of third party service providers, including the Funds' custodian, transfer agent, auditors and counsel, as may be necessary to conduct business in the ordinary course in a manner consistent with such service providers' agreements with the Trust on behalf of the Funds.

Portfolio holdings information made available in connection with the creation/redemption process may be provided to other entities that provide services to a Fund in the ordinary course of business after it has been disseminated to the NSCC. From time to time, information concerning portfolio holdings other than portfolio holdings information made available in connection with the creation/redemption process, as discussed above, may be provided to other entities that provide services to a Fund, including rating or ranking organizations, in the ordinary course of business, no earlier than one business day following the date of the information.

The Funds disclose on the Adviser's website at www.simplify.us/etfs at the start of each Business Day the identities and quantities of the securities and other assets held by the Funds that will form the basis of each Fund's calculation of its NAV on that Business Day. The portfolio holdings so disclosed will be based on information as of the close of business on the prior Business Day and/or trades that have been completed prior to the opening of business on that Business Day and that are expected to settle on that Business Day. The Funds may also concurrently disclose this portfolio holdings information directly to ratings agencies on a daily basis.

Quarterly Portfolio Schedule. The Trust is required to disclose the complete schedule of each Fund's portfolio holdings with the SEC on Form N-PORT. The Trust will also disclose a complete schedule of each Fund's portfolio holdings with the SEC on Form N-CSR after its second and fourth quarters.

Form N-PORT and Form N-CSR for the Funds are available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Each Fund's Form N-PORT and Form N-CSR is available without charge, upon request, by calling 1 (855) 772-8488 or by writing to: Simplify Exchange Traded Funds 222 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York NY 10038.

# **Other Service Providers**

Advisers. Personnel of the Advisers, including personnel responsible for managing each Fund's portfolio, may have full daily access to Fund portfolio holdings since that information is necessary in order for the Adviser to provide its management, administrative, and investment services to the Funds. As required for purposes of analyzing the impact of existing and future market changes on the prices, availability, as demand and liquidity of such securities, as well as for the assistance of portfolio managers in the trading of such securities, Adviser personnel may also release and discuss certain portfolio holdings with various broker-dealers.

**Sub-Adviser.** Personnel of the Sub-Adviser, including personnel responsible for managing a Fund's portfolio, may have full daily access to Fund portfolio holdings since that information is necessary in order for the sub-adviser to provide its management, administrative, and investment services to the Funds. As required for purposes of analyzing the impact of existing and future market changes on the prices, availability, as demand and liquidity of such securities, as well as for the assistance of portfolio managers in the trading of such securities, sub-adviser personnel may also release and discuss certain portfolio holdings with various broker-dealers.

Bank of New York Mellon. Bank of New York Mellon is the fund accountant, administrator, transfer agent and custodian for the Funds; therefore, its personnel have full daily access to each Fund's portfolio holdings since that information is necessary in order for them to provide the agreed-upon services for the Trust.

Cohen & Company, Ltd. . Cohen & Company, Ltd. is each Fund's independent registered public accounting firm; therefore, its personnel have access to each Fund's portfolio holdings in connection with auditing of each Fund's annual financial statements and providing assistance and consultation in connection with SEC filings.

Thompson Hine LLP. Thompson Hine LLP is counsel to the Funds; therefore, its personnel have access to each Fund's portfolio holdings in connection with review of each Fund's annual and semi-annual shareholder reports and SEC filings.

# Additions to List of Approved Recipients

The Trust's Chief Compliance Officer is the person responsible, and whose prior approval is required, for any disclosure of the Funds' portfolio securities at any time or to any persons other than those described above. In such cases, the recipient must have a legitimate business need for the information and must be subject to a duty to keep the information confidential. There are no ongoing arrangements in place with respect to the disclosure of portfolio holdings. In no event shall the Funds, the Advisers, or any other party receive any direct or indirect compensation in connection with the disclosure of information about the Funds' portfolio holdings.



### **Compliance with Portfolio Holdings Disclosure Procedures**

The Trust's Chief Compliance Officer will report periodically to the Board with respect to compliance with the Funds' portfolio holdings disclosure procedures, and from time to time will provide the Board any updates to the portfolio holdings disclosure policies and procedures.

There is no assurance that the Trust's policies on disclosure of portfolio holdings will protect the Funds from the potential misuse of holdings information by individuals or firms in possession of that information.

### MANAGEMENT

The business of the Trust is managed under the direction of the Board in accordance with the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and the Trust's By-laws (the "Governing Documents"), which have been filed with the SEC and are available upon request. The Board consists of four (4) individuals, three of whom are not "interested persons" (as defined under the 1940 Act) of the Trust or any investment adviser to any series of the Trust ("Independent Trustees"). Pursuant to the Governing Documents, the Trustees shall elect officers including a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Principal Executive Officer and a Principal Accounting Officer. The Board retains the power to conduct, operate and carry on the business of the Trust and has the power to incur and pay any expenses, which, in the opinion of the Board, are necessary or incidental to carry out any of the Trust's purposes. The Board, officers, employees and agents of the Trust, when acting in such capacities, shall not be subject to any personal liability except for his or her own bad faith, willful misfeasance, gross negligence or reckless disregard of his or her duties.

### **Board Leadership Structure**

The Trust is led by Paul Kim, who has served as the Chairman of the Board since June 2020. The Board is comprised of 3 independent Trustees. Under certain 1940 Act governance guidelines that apply to the Trust, the Independent Trustees will meet in executive session, at least quarterly. Under the Governing Documents, the Chairman of the Board is responsible for (a) presiding at board meetings, (b) calling special meetings on an as-needed basis, (c) executing and administering of Trust policies including (i) setting the agendas for board meetings and (ii) providing information to board members in advance of each board meeting and between board meetings. The Trust believes that its Chairman, the independent chair of the Audit Committee, and, as an entity, the full Board, provide effective leadership that is in the best interests of the Trust, its funds and each shareholder.

### **Board Risk Oversight**

The Board has a standing independent Audit Committee. The Board is responsible for overseeing risk management, and the full Board regularly engages in discussions of risk management and receives compliance reports that inform its oversight of risk management from its Chief Compliance Officer at quarterly meetings and on an ad hoc basis, when and if necessary. The Audit Committee considers financial and reporting risk within its area of responsibilities. Generally, the Board believes that its oversight of material risks is adequately maintained through the compliance-reporting chain where the Chief Compliance Officer is the primary recipient and communicator of such risk-related information.

#### **Trustee Qualifications**

Generally, the Trust believes that each Trustee is competent to serve because of their individual overall merits including: (i) experience, (ii) qualifications, (iii) attributes and (iv) skills.

Christopher Caltagirone worked for a major service provider to investment managers and mutual funds for more than 9 years, including as a portfolio manager for fixed income securities. His expertise in fixed income securities and portfolio trading enables Mr. Caltagirone to bring a unique perspective to service provider oversight for the Trust.

**Craig Enders** has over 22 years of experience as a professor at two major universities. Mr. Enders study of multiple imputation and maximum likelihood and Bayesian estimation with incomplete data enables him to provide oversight for the Trust.

**Paul Kim** has worked as a senior director and vice president in ETF strategy and product management for over ten-years. His expertise in developing ETF strategies and actively managed ETFs provides him unique insight on the formation and regulatory oversight of ETFs.

Zung Nguyen has more than 22 years' experience in the investment management industry and has extensive investment adviser experience. During the course of his career, Mr. Zung has served as a senior managing director and executive wealth advisor for large advisory firm. Mr. Zung has excellent communications skills, as well as an ability to work effectively with others. Mr. Zung brings a diversity of viewpoint, background and experience to the Board.

The Trust does not believe any one factor is determinative in assessing a Trustee's qualifications, but that the collective experience of each Trustee makes them each highly qualified.

The following is a list of the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust and each person's principal occupation over the last five years. The business address of each Trustee and Officer is Simplify Exchange Traded Funds 222 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10038. All correspondence to the Trustees and Officers should be directed to c/o Simplify Exchange Traded Funds 222 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10038.

# Independent Trustees

Name and Year of Birth	Position/Term of Office*	Principal Occupation During the Past Five Years	Number of Funds in Fund Complex** Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships held by Trustee during the Past Five Years
Christopher Caltagirone Year of Birth: 1971	Independent Trustee	Deputy Sheriff, Ravalli County Sheriff's Department (2019 to Present); Unemployed (2015 to 2019); Portfolio Manager, PIMCO (2006 to 2015).	33	None
Craig Enders Year of Birth: 1968	Independent Trustee	Professor, University of California Los Angeles (2015 to Present).	33	None
Zung Nguyen Year of Birth: 1955	Independent Trustee	Founder, ZTN Capital Consulting, LLC (2015 to Present).	33	None

\* The term of office for each Trustee and officer listed above will continue indefinitely until the individual resigns or is removed.

Name and Year of Birth	Position/Term of Office*	Principal Occupation During the Past Five Years	Number of Funds in Fund Complex** Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships held by Trustee during the Past Five Years
Paul Kim Year of Birth: 1977	Trustee, President and Treasurer since 2020	Co-Founder, Simplify Asset Management, Inc. (February 2020 to Present); Managing Director, Principal Global Advisors (2015 to 2020).	33	None
David Berns Year of Birth: 1978	Secretary since 2020	Co-Founder, Simplify Asset Management, Inc. (February 2020 to Present); CEO, Portfolio Designer, LLC (2019 to Present); Managing Director, Nasdaq (2018 to 2019); CEO, DMB Trading, LLC (2015 to 2018).	N/A	N/A
James Nash Year of Birth: 1981	Chief Compliance Officer since 2020	Director, Foreside Financial Group, LLC (2016 to Present); Regulatory Administration Advisor, JP Morgan Chase & Co. (2014 to 2016).	N/A	N/A
Fiona Ho Year of Birth: 1974	Treasurer since November 2023	Chief Operating Officer, Simplify Asset Management, Inc. (2021 to Present); Vice President, Strategic Programs, Spring Education Group (2016-2020); Vice President, Account Management, Pacific Investment Management Company, LLC (2010-2016).	N/A	N/A

The term of office for each Trustee and officer listed above will continue indefinitely until the individual resigns or is removed. The term "Fund Complex" applies only to the operational series of the Trust. \*

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# **Board Committees**

### Audit Committee

The Board has an Audit Committee that consists of all the Independent Trustees. The Audit Committee's responsibilities include: (i) recommending to the Board the selection, retention or termination of the Trust's independent auditors; (ii) reviewing with the independent auditors the scope, performance and anticipated cost of their audit; (iii) discussing with the independent auditors certain matters relating to the Trust's financial statements, including any adjustment to such financial statements recommended by such independent auditors, or any other results of any audit; (iv) reviewing on a periodic basis a formal written statement from the independent auditors with respect to their independence, discussing with the independent auditors any relationships or services disclosed in the statement that may impact the objectivity and independence; and (v) considering the comments of the independent auditors and management's responses thereto with respect to the quality and adequacy of the Trust's accounting and financial reporting policies and practices and internal controls. The Audit Committee operates pursuant to an Audit Committee Charter. Christopher Caltagirone serves as the Chairman of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is also responsible for reviewing and setting Independent Trustee compensation from time to time when considered necessary or appropriate. The Audit Committee expects to meet four times during the upcoming fiscal year.

# Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

The Board has a Nominating and Governance Corporate Committee that consists of all the Independent Trustees. The Committee's responsibilities (which may also be conducted by the Board) include: (i) recommend persons to be nominated or re-nominated as Trustees in accordance with the Independent Trustee's Statement of Policy on Criteria for Selecting Independent Trustees; (ii) review the Fund's officers, and conduct Chief Compliance Officer searches, as needed, and provide consultation regarding other CCO matters, as requested; (iii) reviewing trustee qualifications, performance, and compensation; (iv) review periodically with the Board the size and composition of the Board as a whole; (v) annually evaluate the operations of the Board and its Committees and assist the Board in conducting its annual self-evaluation; (vi) make recommendations on the requirements for, and means of, Board orientation and training; (vii) periodically review the Board's corporate governance policies and practices and recommend, as it deems appropriate, any changes to the Board; (ix) considering any corporate governance issues that arise from time to time, and to develop appropriate recommendations for the Board; and (x) supervising counsel for the independent Trustees. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee generally will not consider shareholder nominees. Zung Nguyen serves as the Chairman of the Committee. The Nominating and Governance Committee operates pursuant to a Nominating and Governance Committee Charter. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee expects to meet two times in the upcoming fiscal year.

# **Compensation**

Each Independent Trustee receives a yearly fee of \$100,000 paid by the Trust within 10 days of the commencement of each calendar quarter for his service as a Trustee of the Board and for serving in his respective capacity as Chair of the Audit Committee, Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee and Contract Review Committee, as well as reimbursement for any reasonable expenses incurred for attending regularly scheduled Board and Committee meetings.

None of the executive officers or interested Trustees receive compensation from the Trust.

The table below details the amount of compensation the Trustees are expected to receive from the Funds and the Trust for the initial fiscal year. The Trust does not have a bonus, profit sharing, pension or retirement plan.

Name and Position	Aggregate Fiscal Year Compensation from the Funds	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of Funds Expenses	Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation From Trust and Fund Complex* Paid to Trustees
Craig Enders	\$8,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Christopher Caltagirone	\$8,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Zung Nguyen	\$8,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000

\* There are currently numerous series comprising the Trust. The term "Fund Complex" refers only to the operational series of the Trust.

# Management and Trustee Ownership

As of December 31, 2023, the Trustees and officers, as a group, owned the following shares of a Fund or any of the Fund Complex's outstanding shares.

Board Member Name	Dollar Range of Shares Owned in the Fund	Aggregate Dollar Range of Shares Owned in Trust	
Interested Board Member			
Paul Kim	None	Over \$100,000	
Independent Board Members			
Christopher Caltagirone	None	None	
Craig Enders	None	None	
Zung Nguyen	None	Over \$100,000	

# DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

The following information supplements and should be read in conjunction with the section in the Prospectus entitled "Dividends, Other Distributions, and Taxes."

### **General Policies**

Each Fund typically distributes substantially all of its net investment income in the form of dividends and taxable capital gains to its shareholders. Each Fund expects to make quarterly dividend distributions. Each Fund may make distributions of its net realized capital gains (after any reductions for capital loss carry forwards) annually.

# **Dividend Distributions**

Dividends and other distributions on Shares are distributed, as described below, on a pro rata basis to Beneficial Owners of such Shares. Dividend payments are made through DTC Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners then of record with proceeds received from the Trust.

#### **Dividend Reinvestment Service**

The Trust will not make the DTC book-entry dividend reinvestment service available for use by Beneficial Owners for reinvestment of their cash proceeds, but certain individual broker-dealers may make available the DTC book-entry Dividend Reinvestment Service for use by Beneficial Owners of a Fund through DTC Participants for reinvestment of their dividend distributions. Investors should contact their brokers to ascertain the availability and description of these services. Beneficial Owners should be aware that each broker may require investors to adhere to specific procedures and timetables in order to participate in the dividend reinvestment service and investors should ascertain from their brokers such necessary details. If this service is available and used, dividend distributions of both income and realized gains will be automatically reinvested in additional whole Shares issued by the Trust of the same Fund at NAV per Share. Distributions reinvested in additional Shares of a Fund will nevertheless be taxable to Beneficial Owners acquiring such additional Shares to the same extent as if such distributions had been received in cash.

# CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS

A principal shareholder is any person who owns (either of record or beneficially) 5% or more of the outstanding shares of a fund. A control person is one who owns, either directly or indirectly more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledges the existence of control. A control person is one who owns beneficially or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledged the existence of control. As of the date of this SAI, no person owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the Funds.

### INVESTMENT ADVISER

### Investment Advisers and Advisory Agreements

Simplify Asset Management Inc., located at 222 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10038, serves as investment adviser to each of Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF pursuant to an investment advisory agreement between the Trust and the Adviser, and Simplify EQLS LLC, located at 222 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10038, serves as investment adviser to Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF pursuant to an investment advisory agreement between the Trust and the Adviser (each a "Management Agreement" and together the "Management Agreements"). Each Adviser is registered with the SEC as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended.

Subject to the supervision of the Board, each Adviser provides or arranges to provide to the respective Fund(s) such investment advice as the Adviser in its discretion deems advisable and furnishes or arranges to furnish a continuous investment program for each of the Funds consistent with each Fund's investment objective and policies. Each Adviser determines or arranges for others to determine the securities to purchase for a respective Fund, the portfolio securities held or sold by such Fund and the portion of such Fund's assets held uninvested, subject always to the Fund's investment objective, policies and restrictions, as each of the same shall be from time to time in effect, and subject further to such policies and instructions as the Board may from time to time establish. Each Adviser furnishes such reports, evaluations, information or analyses to the Trust as the Board may request from time to time or as the Adviser may deem to be desirable. Each Adviser also advises and assists the officers of the Trust in taking such steps as are necessary or appropriate to carry out the decisions of the Board and the appropriate committees of the Board regarding the conduct of the business of the Trust.

Pursuant to the respective Management Agreement, each Fund pays the respective Adviser a unitary fee ("Management Fee") in return for the services it provides to the Fund. SAMI is paid a monthly Management Fee at an annual rate of 1.00% of the average daily net assets of each Fund for which it serves as investment adviser. EQLS LLC is paid a monthly Management Fee at an annual rate of 0.75% of the average daily net assets of Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF, for which it serves as investment adviser.

Under a unitary fee structure, each Adviser is responsible for paying substantially all the operating expenses of the respective Fund(s), excluding interest expenses, taxes, brokerage expenses, Rule 12b-1 fees (if any), acquired fund fees and expenses, expenses incidental to a meeting of the Fund's shareholders and the Management Fee. In addition to the excluded operating expenses, the Funds also pay non-operating expenses such as litigation and indemnification expenses and other expenses determined to be extraordinary by the Trust.

Each Management Agreement is in effect for two (2) years initially and shall continue from year to year provided such continuance is approved at least annually by (a) a vote of the majority of the Independent Trustees, cast in person at a meeting specifically called for the purpose of voting on such approval and by (b) the majority vote of either all of the Trustees or the vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the respective Fund(s). Each Management Agreement may be terminated without penalty on 60 days written notice by a vote of a majority of the Trustees or by the respective Adviser, or by holders of a majority of each Fund's outstanding shares (with respect to that Fund). Each Management Agreement shall terminate automatically in the event of its assignment.

Each Management Agreement was approved by the Board, including by a majority of the Independent Trustees, at a meeting held on August 23, 2024. A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's approval of each Management Agreement with respect to the respective Fund(s) will be available in the Funds' first shareholder report.

The Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the "Declaration") provides that by virtue of becoming a shareholder of the Trust, each shareholder is bound by the provisions of the Declaration. The Declaration provides a detailed process for the bringing of derivative actions by shareholders for claims other than federal securities law claims. Prior to bringing a derivative action, a written demand by the complaining shareholder must first be made on the Trustees. The Declaration details conditions that must be met with respect to the demand. Following receipt of the demand, the Trustees must be afforded a reasonable amount of time to investigate and consider the demand. If the demand is rejected, the complaining shareholder must reimburse the Fund. The foregoing summary of the derivatives claims process is qualified in its entirety by the Declaration, which is incorporated herein by reference.



### Sub-Adviser and Sub-Advisory Agreements

Each Adviser has engaged the Sub-Adviser to serve as sub-adviser to the respective Fund(s) under a sub-advisory agreement ("Sub-Advisory Agreement") with the respective Adviser. The Sub-Adviser is responsible for the management of a Fund's portfolio subject to the respective Adviser's oversight and instructions. The Sub-Adviser has been registered with the SEC as an investment adviser since 2023.

Each Sub-Advisory Agreement will continue in effect for two (2) years initially and then from year to year, provided it is approved at least annually by a vote of the majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the agreement or interested persons of any such party, cast in person at a meeting specifically called for the purpose of voting on such approval. Each Sub-Advisory Agreement may be terminated without penalty at any time by the respective Adviser or the applicable sub-adviser on 60 days' written notice and will automatically terminate in the event of its "assignment" (as that term is defined in the 1940 Act).

SAMI, not the Fund, pays the Sub-Adviser 0.50% of the average net assets of Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF. The Sub-Adviser does not receive a sub-advisory fee with respect to Simplify Wolfe U.S. Equity 150/50 ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF or Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF.

The Sub-Adviser is required to furnish, at its own expense, all investment facilities necessary to perform its obligations under the respective Sub-Advisory Agreement. Pursuant to each Sub-Advisory Agreement between the respective Adviser and the Sub-Adviser, the Sub-Adviser is entitled to receive an annual sub-advisory fee, which is paid by the Adviser, not the respective Fund. Each Sub-Advisory Agreement was approved by the Board, including by a majority of the Independent Trustees, at a Meeting held on August 23, 2024. A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's approval of each Sub-Advisory Agreement with respect to a Fund, will be available in the Funds' first shareholder report.

### Codes of Ethics

The Trust, the Advisers, the Sub-Adviser and the Distributor have each adopted codes of ethics (each a "Code") under Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act that governs the personal securities transactions of their board members, officers and employees who may have access to current trading information of the Trust. Under the Codes, the Trustees are permitted to invest in securities that may also be purchased by the Funds.

In addition, the Trust has adopted a code of ethics (the "Trust Code"), which applies only to the Trust's executive officers to ensure that these officers promote professional conduct in the practice of corporate governance and management. The purpose behind these guidelines is to promote (i) honest and ethical conduct, including the ethical handling of actual or apparent conflicts of interest between personal and professional relationships; (ii) full, fair, accurate, timely, and understandable disclosure in reports and documents that the Trust files with, or submits to, the SEC and in other public communications made by the Funds; (iii) compliance with applicable governmental laws, rule and regulations; (iv) the prompt internal reporting of violations of the Trust Code to an appropriate person or persons identified in the Trust Code; and (v) accountability for adherence to the Trust Code.

### **Proxy Voting Policies**

The Board has adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures ("Policies") on behalf of the Trust, which delegate the responsibility for voting proxies to the Adviser or its designee, subject to the Board's continuing oversight. The Policies require that the Adviser or its designee vote proxies received in a manner consistent with the best interests of the Funds and shareholders. The Policies also require the Adviser or its designee to present to the Board, at least annually, the Adviser's Proxy Policies, or the proxy policies of the Adviser's designee, and a record of each proxy voted by the Adviser or its designee on behalf of the Funds, including a report on the resolution of all proxies identified by the Adviser as involving a conflict of interest.

Where a proxy proposal raises a material conflict between the Adviser's interests and a Fund's interests, the Adviser will resolve the conflict by voting in accordance with the policy guidelines or at the client's directive using the recommendation of an independent third party. If the third party's recommendations are not received in a timely fashion, the Adviser will abstain from voting the securities held by that client's account. A copy of the Adviser's proxy voting policies is attached hereto as Appendix A.

*More information.* Information regarding how the Funds voted proxies relating to portfolio securities held by the Funds during the most recent 12-month period ending June 30 will be available (1) without charge, upon request, by calling the Funds at 1 (855) 772-8488; and (2) on the SEC's website at http://www.sec.gov. In addition, a copy of the Funds' proxy voting policies and procedures are also available by calling 877.658.9473 and will be sent within three business days of receipt of a request.

### THE DISTRIBUTOR

Foreside Financial Services, LLC (the "Distributor"), serves as the principal underwriter and national distributor for the shares of the Funds pursuant to an ETF Distribution Agreement with the Trust (the "Distribution Agreement"). The Distributor is registered as a broker-dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and each state's securities laws and is a member of FINRA. The offerings of the Shares are continuous and the Distributor acts as an agent for the Trust. The Distributor will deliver a Prospectus to persons purchasing Shares in Creation Units and will maintain records of both orders placed with it and confirmations of acceptance furnished by it. The Distributor has no role in determining the investments or investment policies of a Fund.

The Distribution Agreement provides that, unless sooner terminated, it will continue in effect for two years initially and thereafter shall continue from year to year, subject to annual approval by (a) the Board or a vote of a majority of the outstanding shares, and (b) by a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the Distribution Agreement or the Trust's distribution plan or interested persons of the Trust or of the Distributor ("Qualified Trustees") by vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval.

The Distribution Agreement may at any time be terminated, without penalty by the Trust, by vote of a majority of the Qualified Trustees or by vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Trust on 60 days' written notice to the other party. The Distribution Agreement will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment.

The Funds do not pay the Distributor any fees under the Distribution Agreement. However, the Adviser pays an annual fee to the Distributor plus reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by Distributor in connection with activities performed for the Funds, including, without limitation, printing and distribution of prospectuses and shareholder reports, out of its own resources.

### Rule 12b-1 Plans

The Trust, with respect to each Fund, has adopted the Trust's Master Distribution and Shareholder Servicing Plans pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act (the "Plan") for Shares pursuant to which the Funds are authorized to pay the Distributor, as compensation for Distributor's account maintenance services under the Plans. The Board has approved a distribution and shareholder servicing fee at the rate of up to 0.25% of a Fund's average daily net assets. Such fees are to be paid by the Funds monthly, or at such other intervals as the Board shall determine. Such fees shall be based upon each Fund's average daily net assets during the preceding month, and shall be calculated and accrued daily. The Funds may pay fees to the Distributor at a lesser rate, as agreed upon by the Board and the Distributor. The Plan authorizes payments to the Distributor as compensation for providing account maintenance services to Fund shareholders, including arranging for certain securities dealers or brokers, administrators and others ("Recipients") to provide these services and paying compensation for these services. The Funds will bear their own costs of distribution with respect to its shares. The Plan was adopted in order to permit the implementation of a Fund's method of distribution. No fees are currently paid by the Funds under the Plan, and there are no current plans to impose such fees. In the event such fees were to be charged, over time they would increase the cost of an investment in the Funds.

The services to be provided by Recipients may include, but are not limited to, the following: assistance in the offering and sale of Fund shares and in other aspects of the marketing of the shares to clients or prospective clients of the respective recipients; answering routine inquiries concerning the Funds; assisting in the establishment and maintenance of accounts or sub-accounts in the Funds and in processing purchase and redemption transactions; making the Funds' investment plan and shareholder services available; and providing such other information and services to investors in shares of the Funds as the Distributor or the Trust, on behalf of the Funds, may reasonably request. The distribution services shall also include any advertising and marketing services provided by or arranged by the Distributor with respect to the Funds.

The Distributor is required to provide a written report, at least quarterly to the Board, specifying in reasonable detail the amounts expended pursuant to the Plan and the purposes for which such expenditures were made. Further, the Distributor will inform the Board of any Rule 12b-1 fees to be paid by the Distributor to Recipients.

The Plan may not be amended to increase materially the amount of the Distributor's compensation to be paid by each Fund, unless such amendment is approved by the vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of a Fund (as defined in the 1940 Act). All material amendments must be approved by a majority of the Board and a majority of the Rule 12b-1 Trustees by votes cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on the Plans. During the term of the Plans, the selection and nomination of non-interested Trustees of the Trust will be committed to the discretion of current non-interested Trustees. The Distributor will preserve copies of the Plans, any related agreements, and all reports, for a period of not less than six years from the date of such document and for at least the first two years in an easily accessible place.

Any agreement related to a Plan will be in writing and provide that: (a) it may be terminated by the Trust or the Funds at any time upon sixty days written notice, without the payment of any penalty, by vote of a majority of the respective Rule 12b-1 Trustees, or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Trust or the Funds; (b) it will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act); and (c) it will continue in effect for a period of more than one year from the date of its execution or adoption only so long as such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by a majority of the Board and a majority of the Rule 12b-1 Trustees by votes cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such agreement.

# Securities Lending

For the purpose of achieving income, a Fund may lend its portfolio securities, provided (1) the loan is secured continuously by collateral consisting of U.S. Government securities or cash or cash equivalents (cash, U.S. Government securities, negotiable certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances or letters of credit) maintained on a daily mark-to-market basis in an amount at least equal to the current market value of the securities loaned, (2) a Fund may at any time call the loan and obtain the return of securities loaned, (3) a Fund will receive any interest or dividends received on the loaned securities, and (4) the aggregate value of the securities loaned will not at any time exceed one-third of the total assets of a Fund.

David Berns, David Jackson and Sheng Wang are jointly and primarily responsible for the management of the Funds.

As of July 31, 2024, the portfolio managers are responsible for the portfolio management of the following types of accounts in addition to the Funds:

# David Berns

Total Other Accounts By Type	Total Number of Accounts by Account Type	Total Assets By Account Type (in millions)	Number of Accounts by Type Subject to a Performance Fee	Total Assets By Account Type Subject to a Performance Fee (in millions)
Registered Investment Companies	28	\$5,535.2	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Accounts	0	\$0	0	\$0

# David Jackson

Total Other Accounts By Type	Total Number of Accounts by Account Type	Total Assets By Account Type (in millions)	Number of Accounts by Type Subject to a Performance Fee	Total Assets By Account Type Subject to a Performance Fee
Registered Investment Companies	3	\$267.9	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Accounts	0	\$0	0	\$0

Sheng Wang

Total Other Accounts By Type	Total Number of Accounts by Account Type	Total Assets By Account Type (in millions)	Number of Accounts by Type Subject to a Performance Fee	Total Assets By Account Type Subject to a Performance Fee
Registered Investment Companies	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Accounts	0	\$0	0	\$0

# **Conflicts of Interest**

As a general matter, certain conflicts of interest may arise in connection with a portfolio manager's management of a Fund's investments, on the one hand, and the investments of other accounts for which the portfolio manager is responsible, on the other. For example, it is possible that the various accounts managed could have different investment strategies that, at times, might conflict with one another to the possible detriment of a Fund. Alternatively, to the extent that the same investment opportunities might be desirable for more than one account, possible conflicts could arise in determining how to allocate them. Other potential conflicts might include conflicts created by specific portfolio manager compensation arrangements, and conflicts relating to selection of brokers or dealers to execute a Fund's portfolio trades and/or specific uses of commissions from a Fund's portfolio trades (for example, research, or "soft dollars", if any). The Adviser has adopted policies and procedures and has structured the portfolio managers' compensation in a manner reasonably designed to safeguard the Funds from being negatively affected as a result of any such potential conflicts.

## **Compensation**

Messrs. Berns and Jackson are compensated through a salary and equity participation in SAMI. Mr. Wang is compensated through a salary from Wolfe.

# **Ownership of Securities**

The following table shows the dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned by the portfolio managers in each Fund as of the date of this SAI.

Name of Portfolio Manager / Name of Fund	David Berns	David Jackson	Sheng Wang
Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF	None	None	None
Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF	None	None	None
Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF	None	None	None
Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF	None	None	None

# ALLOCATION OF PORTFOLIO BROKERAGE

Specific decisions to purchase or sell securities for the Funds are made by the portfolio managers who are employees of the Adviser. The Adviser is authorized by the Board to allocate the orders placed on behalf of the Funds to brokers or dealers who may, but need not, provide research or statistical material or other services to the Funds or the Adviser for the Funds' use. Such allocation is to be in such amounts and proportions as the Adviser may determine.

In selecting a broker or dealer to execute each particular transaction, the Adviser will take the following into consideration:

- the best net price available;
- the reliability, integrity and financial condition of the broker or dealer;

- the size of and difficulty in executing the order; and
- the value of the expected contribution of the broker or dealer to the investment performance of the Funds on a continuing basis.

Brokers or dealers executing a portfolio transaction on behalf of the Funds may receive a commission in excess of the amount of commission another broker or dealer would have charged for executing the transaction if the Adviser determines in good faith that such commission is reasonable in relation to the value of brokerage and research services provided to the Funds. In allocating portfolio brokerage, the Adviser may select brokers or dealers who also provide brokerage, research and other services to other accounts over which the Adviser exercises investment discretion. Some of the services received as the result of Fund transactions may primarily benefit accounts other than the Funds, while services received as the result of portfolio transactions effected on behalf of those other accounts may primarily benefit the Funds.

## PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

Each Fund's portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the fiscal year by the monthly average of the value of the portfolio securities owned by a Fund during the fiscal year. The calculation excludes from both the numerator and the denominator securities with maturities at the time of acquisition of one year or less. High portfolio turnover involves correspondingly greater brokerage commissions and other transaction costs, which will be borne directly by a Fund. A 100% turnover rate would occur if all of a Fund's portfolio securities were replaced once within a one-year period. The Funds do not have any portfolio turnover because they has not yet launched.

### **OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS**

#### Fund Administration

Bank of New York Mellon (the "Administrator"), which has its principal office at 240 Greenwich St., New York, NY 10286, is primarily in the business of providing administrative, fund accounting and transfer agent services to retail and institutional mutual funds.

Pursuant to a Fund Services Agreement with the Funds, the Administrator provides administrative services to the Funds, subject to the supervision of the Board. The Administrator may provide persons to serve as officers of the Funds. Such officers may be directors, officers or employees of the Administrator or its affiliates.

The Fund Services Agreement remains in effect for two years from the effective date of the agreement, and will continue thereafter in for successive twelve month periods that such continuance if specifically approved at least annually by a majority of the Board. The agreement is terminable by the Board or the Administrator on ninety days' written notice and may be assigned provided the non-assigning party provides prior written consent. This agreement provides that in the absence of willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on the part of the Administrator or reckless disregard of its obligations thereunder, the Administrator shall not be liable for any action or failure to act in accordance with its duties thereunder.

Under the Fund Services Agreement, the Administrator provides facilitating administrative services, including: (i) providing services of persons competent to perform such administrative and clerical functions as are necessary to provide effective administration of the Funds; (ii) facilitating the performance of administrative and professional services to the Fund by others, including the Custodian; (iii) preparing, but not paying for, the periodic updating of the Funds' Registration Statement, Prospectuses and Statements of Additional Information in conjunction with Fund counsel, including the printing of such documents for the purpose of filings with the SEC and state securities administrators, and preparing reports to the Fund's shareholders and the SEC; (iv) preparing in conjunction with Fund counsel, but not paying for, all filings under the securities or "Blue Sky" laws of such states or countries as are designated by the Distributor, which may be required to register or qualify, or continue the registration or qualification, of a Fund and/or its shares under such laws; (v) preparing notices and agendas for meetings of the Board and minutes of such meetings in all matters required by the 1940 Act to be acted upon by the Board; and (vi) monitoring daily and periodic compliance with respect to all requirements and restrictions of the 1940 Act, the Internal Revenue Code and the Prospectus.

The Administrator also provides the Funds with accounting services, including: (i) daily computation of net asset value; (ii) maintenance of security ledgers and books and records as required by the 1940 Act; (iii) production of the Funds' listing of portfolio securities and general ledger reports; (iv) reconciliation of accounting records; (v) calculation of yield and total return for the Funds; (vi) maintenance of certain books and records described in Rule 31a-1 under the 1940 Act, and reconciliation of account information and balances among the Custodian and Adviser; and (vii) monitoring and evaluation of daily income and expense accruals, and sales and redemptions of shares of the Funds.

For administrative services rendered to the Funds under the agreement, the Administrator receives the greater of an annual minimum fee or an asset-based fee, which scales downward based upon net assets. For the fund accounting services rendered to the Funds under the Agreement, the Administrator receives the greater of an annual minimum fee or an asset-based fee, which scales downward based upon net assets. The Administrator is also reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses.

### Transfer Agent

Bank of New York Mellon, located at 240 Greenwich St., New York, NY 10286, acts as transfer, dividend disbursing, and shareholder servicing agent for a Fund pursuant to written agreement with Fund (the "Transfer Agent"). Under the agreement, the Transfer Agent is responsible for administering and performing transfer agent functions, dividend distribution, shareholder administration, and maintaining necessary records in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

#### <u>Custodian</u>

Bank of New York Mellon, located at 240 Greenwich St., New York, NY 10286 (the "Custodian"), serves as the custodian of the Funds' assets pursuant to a Custodian and Transfer Agent Agreement by and between the Custodian and the Trust on behalf of the Funds. The Custodian's responsibilities include safeguarding and controlling the Funds' cash and securities, handling the receipt and delivery of securities, and collecting interest and dividends on the Funds' investments. Pursuant to the Custodian and Transfer Agent Agreement, the Custodian also maintains original entry documents and books of record and general ledgers; posts cash receipts and disbursements; and records purchases and sales based upon communications from the Adviser. The Funds may employ foreign sub-custodians that are approved by the Board to hold foreign assets.

### **Compliance Officer**

Foreside Fund Officer Services, LLC ("Foreside"), Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101, provides a Chief Compliance Officer to the Trust as well as related compliance services pursuant to a consulting agreement between Foreside and the Trust. Foreside's compliance services consist primarily of reviewing and assessing the policies and procedures of the Trust and its service providers pertaining to compliance with applicable federal securities laws, including Rule 38a-1 under the 1940 Act. For the compliance services rendered to the Funds, the Trust pays Foreside a fixed annual fund fee and an additional fee per each fund. The Funds also pay Foreside for any out-of-pocket expenses.

# **DESCRIPTION OF SHARES**

Each share of beneficial interest of the Trust has one vote in the election of Trustees. Cumulative voting is not authorized for the Trust. This means that the holders of more than 50% of the shares voting for the election of Trustees can elect 100% of the Trustees if they choose to do so, and, in that event, the holders of the remaining shares will be unable to elect any Trustees.

Shareholders of the current series of the Trust and any other future series of the Trust will vote in the aggregate and not by series except as otherwise required by law or when the Board determines that the matter to be voted upon affects only the interest of the shareholders of a particular series or classes. Matters such as election of Trustees are not subject to separate voting requirements and may be acted upon by shareholders of the Trust voting without regard to series.

The Trust is authorized to issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest. Each share has equal, dividend, distribution and liquidation rights. There are no conversion or preemptive rights applicable to any shares of a Fund. All shares issued are fully paid and non-assessable.

# ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING PROGRAM

The Trust has established an Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Program (the "Program") as required by the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 ("USA PATRIOT Act"). To ensure compliance with this law, the Trust's Program provides for the development of internal practices, procedures and controls, designation of anti-money laundering compliance officers, an ongoing training program and an independent audit function to determine the effectiveness of the Program. The Trust's secretary serves as its Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer.

Procedures to implement the Program include, but are not limited to, determining that the Funds' Distributor and Transfer Agent have established proper anti-money laundering procedures, reporting suspicious and/or fraudulent activity and a providing a complete and thorough review of all new opening account applications. The Trust will not transact business with any person or entity whose identity cannot be adequately verified under the provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act.

As a result of the Program, the Trust may be required to "freeze" the account of a shareholder if the shareholder appears to be involved in suspicious activity or if certain account information matches information on government lists of known terrorists or other suspicious persons, or the Trust may be required to transfer the account or proceeds of the account to a governmental agency.

### PURCHASE, REDEMPTION AND PRICING OF SHARES

### **Calculation of Share Price**

As indicated in the Prospectus under the heading "How Shares are Priced," the NAV of a Fund's shares is determined by dividing the total value of a Fund's portfolio investments and other assets, less any liabilities, by the total number of shares outstanding of a Fund.

Generally, the Funds' domestic securities (including underlying ETFs which hold portfolio securities primarily listed on foreign (non-U.S.) exchanges) are valued each day at the last quoted sales price on each security's primary exchange. Securities traded or dealt in upon one or more securities exchanges for which market quotations are readily available and not subject to restrictions against resale shall be valued at the last quoted sales price on the primary exchange, at the mean between the current bid and ask prices on such exchange. Securities primarily traded in the NASDAQ National Market System for which market quotations are readily available, securities will be valued at their fair market value as determined in good faith by the Adviser as the Board's valuation designee in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and as further described below. Securities that are not traded or dealt in any securities exchange (whether domestic or foreign) and for which over-the-counter market quotations are readily available generally shall be valued at the last sale price or, in the absence of a sale, at the mean between the current bid and ask price on such over-the- counter market.

Certain securities or investments for which daily market quotes are not readily available may be valued, pursuant to guidelines established by the Board, with reference to other securities or indices. Debt securities not traded on an exchange may be valued at prices supplied by a pricing agent(s) based on broker or dealer supplied valuations or matrix pricing, a method of valuing securities by reference to the value of other securities with similar characteristics, such as rating, interest rate and maturity. Short-term investments having a maturity of 60 days or less may be generally valued at amortized cost when it approximated fair value.

Exchange traded options are valued at the last quoted sales price or, in the absence of a sale, at the mean between the current bid and ask prices on the exchange on which such options are traded. Futures and options on futures are valued at the settlement price determined by the exchange, or, if no settlement price is available, at the last sale price as of the close of business prior to when the Funds calculate NAV. Other securities for which market quotes are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Adviser acting as the Board's valuation designee. Swap agreements and other derivatives are generally valued daily depending on the type of instrument and reference assets based upon market prices, the mean between bid and asked prices quotations from market makers or by a pricing service or other parties in accordance with the valuation procedures of the Adviser as valuation designee.

Under certain circumstances, a Fund may use an independent pricing service to calculate the fair market value of foreign equity securities on a daily basis by applying valuation factors to the last sale price or the mean price as noted above. The fair market values supplied by the independent pricing service will generally reflect market trading that occurs after the close of the applicable foreign markets of comparable securities or the value of other instruments that have a strong correlation to the fair-valued securities. The independent pricing service will also take into account the current relevant currency exchange rate. A security that is fair valued may be valued at a price higher or lower than actual market quotations or the value determined by other funds using their own fair valuation procedures. Because foreign securities may trade on days when Shares are not priced, the value of securities held by the Funds can change on days when Shares cannot be redeemed or purchased. In the event that a foreign security's market quotations are not readily available or are deemed unreliable (for reasons other than because the foreign exchange on which it trades closed before the Funds' calculation of NAV), the security will be valued at its fair market value as determined in good faith by the Adviser as valuation designee in accordance with procedures approved by the Board as discussed below. Without fair valuation, it is possible that short-term traders could take advantage of the arbitrage opportunity and dilute the NAV of long-term investors. Fair valuation of the Funds' portfolio securities can serve to reduce arbitrage opportunities available to short-term traders, but there is no assurance that it will prevent dilution of the Funds' NAV by short-term traders. In addition, because the Funds may invest in underlying ETFs do not price their shares, the value of these portfolio securities may change on days when you may not be able to buy or sell Shares.

Investments initially valued in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted to U.S. dollars using exchange rates obtained from pricing services or other parties in accordance with the valuation procedures of the Adviser as the Board's valuation designee. As a result, the NAV of the Shares may be affected by changes in the value of currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar. The value of securities traded in markets outside the United States or denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar may be affected significantly on a day that the Exchange is closed and an investor is not able to purchase, redeem or exchange Shares.

Shares are valued at the close of regular trading on each Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) (the "Exchange Close") on each day that each Exchange is open. For purposes of calculating the NAV, a Fund normally use pricing data for domestic equity securities received shortly after the Exchange Close and does not normally take into account trading, clearances or settlements that take place after the Exchange Close. Domestic fixed income and foreign securities are normally priced using data reflecting the earlier closing of the principal markets for those securities. Information that becomes known to the Funds or its agents after the NAV has been calculated on a particular day will not generally be used to retroactively adjust the price of the security or the NAV determined earlier that day.

When market quotations are insufficient or not readily available, the Funds may value securities at fair value or estimate their value as determined in good faith by the Adviser as the Board's valuation designee, pursuant to procedures approved by the Board. Fair valuation may also be used by the Board if extraordinary events occur after the close of the relevant market but prior to the Exchange Close.

### **Creation Units**

Each Fund sells and redeems Shares in Creation Units on a continuous basis through the Distributor, without a sales load, at the NAV next determined after receipt of an order in proper form on any Business Day. A "Business Day" is any day on which each Exchange is open for business. As of the date of this SAI, each Exchange observes the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

A Creation Unit is an aggregation of 25,000 Shares. The Board may declare a split or a consolidation in the number of Shares outstanding of a Fund or Trust and make a corresponding change in the number of Shares in a Creation Unit.

#### **Authorized Participants**

Only Authorized Participants that have entered into agreements with the Trust or the Distributor may purchase or redeem Creation Units. In order to be an Authorized Participant, a firm must be either a broker-dealer or other participant ("Participating Party") in the Continuous Net Settlement System ("Clearing Process") of the National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") or a participant in DTC with access to the DTC system ("DTC Participant"), and you must execute an agreement ("Participant Agreement") with the Distributor that governs transactions in each Fund's Creation Units.

Investors who are not Authorized Participants but want to transact in Creation Units may contact the Distributor for the names of Authorized Participants. An Authorized Participant may require investors to enter into a separate agreement to transact through it for Creation Units and may require orders for purchases of shares placed with it to be in a particular form. Investors transacting through a broker that is not itself an Authorized Participant and therefore must still transact through an Authorized Participant may incur additional charges. There are expected to be a limited number of Authorized Participants at any one time.

Orders must be transmitted by an Authorized Participant by telephone or other transmission method acceptable to the Distributor. Market disruptions and telephone or other communication failures may impede the transmission of orders.

## **Transaction Fees**

A fixed fee payable to the Custodian is imposed on each creation and redemption transaction regardless of the number of Creation Units involved in the transaction ("Fixed Fee"). Purchases and redemptions of Creation Units for cash or involving cash-in-lieu (as defined below) are required to pay an additional variable charge to compensate the Funds and its ongoing shareholders for brokerage and market impact expenses relating to Creation Unit transactions ("Variable Charge," and together with the Fixed Fee, the "Transaction Fees"). With the approval of the Board, the Adviser may waive or adjust the Transaction Fees, including the Fixed Fee and/or Variable Charge (shown in the table below), from time to time. In such cases, the Authorized Participant will reimburse the Funds for, among other things, any difference between the market value at which the securities and/or financial instruments were purchased by a Fund and the cash-in-lieu amount, applicable registration fees, brokerage commissions and certain taxes. In addition, purchasers of Creation Units are responsible for the costs of transferring the deposit securities to the account of a Fund.

Investors who use the services of a broker, or other such intermediary may be charged a fee for such services. The Transaction Fees for the Funds are listed in the table below.

Fund	Fee for In-Kind and Cash Purchases	Maximum Additional Variable Charge for Cash Purchases*
Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF	\$500	3%
Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF	\$500	3%
Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF	\$500	3%
Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF	\$500	3%

\* As a percentage of the amount invested.

# The Clearing Process

Transactions by an Authorized Participant that is a Participating Party using the NSCC system are referred to as transactions "through the Clearing Process." Transactions by an Authorized Participant that is a DTC Participant using the DTC system are referred to as transactions "outside the Clearing Process." The Clearing Process is an enhanced clearing process that is available only for certain securities and only to DTC participants that are also participants in the Continuous Net Settlement System of the NSCC. In-kind (portions of) purchase orders not subject to the Clearing Process will go through a manual clearing process run by DTC. Portfolio Deposits that include government securities must be delivered through the Federal Reserve Bank wire transfer system ("Federal Reserve System"). Fund Deposits that include cash may be delivered through the Clearing Process or the Federal Reserve System. In-kind deposits of securities for orders outside the Clearing Process must be delivered through the Federal Reserve System (for government securities) or through DTC (for corporate securities).

### **Foreign Securities**

Because the portfolio securities of the Funds may trade on days that each Exchange is closed or are otherwise not Business Days for the Funds, shareholders may not be able to redeem their shares of the Funds, or to purchase or sell shares of the Funds on each Exchange, on days when the NAV of the Funds could be significantly affected by events in the relevant foreign markets.

#### Purchasing Creation Units

#### Portfolio Deposit

The consideration for a Creation Unit generally consists of the deposit securities and a Cash Component. Together, the deposit securities and the Cash Component constitute the "Portfolio Deposit." The Cash Component serves the function of compensating for any differences between the net asset value per Creation Unit and the deposit securities. Thus, the Cash Component is equal to the difference between (x) the net asset value per Creation Unit of a Fund and (y) the market value of the deposit securities. If (x) is more than (y), the Authorized Participant will pay the Cash Component to a Fund. If (x) is less than (y), the Authorized Participant will receive the Cash Component from a Fund.

On each Business Day, prior to the opening of business on each Exchange (currently 9:30 a.m., Eastern Time), the Adviser through the Custodian makes available through NSCC the name and amount of each deposit security in the current Portfolio Deposit (based on information at the end of the previous Business Day) for a Fund and the (estimated) Cash Component, effective through and including the previous Business Day, per Creation Unit. The deposit securities announced are applicable to purchases of Creation Units until the next announcement of deposit securities.

The deposit securities may change and as rebalancing adjustments and corporate action events of the Underlying Index are reflected from time to time by the Adviser in a Fund's portfolio. The deposit securities may also change in response to the rebalancing and/or constitution of the Underlying Index. These adjustments will reflect changes known to the Adviser on the date of announcement to be in effect by the time of delivery of the Portfolio Deposit.

Payment of any stamp duty or the like shall be the sole responsibility of the Authorized Participant purchasing a Creation Unit. The Authorized Participant must ensure that all deposit securities properly denote change in beneficial ownership.

## Custom Orders and Cash-in-Lieu

Each Fund may, in its sole discretion, permit or require the substitution of an amount of cash ("cash-in-lieu") to be added to the Cash Component to replace any deposit security. A Fund may permit or require cash-in-lieu when, for example, a deposit security may not be available in sufficient quantity for delivery or may not be eligible for transfer through the systems of DTC or the Clearing Process. Similarly, a Fund may permit or require cash in lieu of deposit securities when, for example, the Authorized Participant or its underlying investor is restricted under U.S. or local securities laws or policies from transacting in one or more deposit securities. The Funds will comply with the federal securities laws in accepting deposit securities including that the deposit securities are sold in transactions that would be exempt from registration under the Securities Act. All orders involving cash-in-lieu, as well as certain other types of orders, are considered to be "Custom Orders."

### Purchase Orders

To order a Creation Unit, an Authorized Participant must submit an irrevocable purchase order to the Distributor.

# Timing of Submission of Purchase Orders

An Authorized Participant must submit an irrevocable purchase order no later than the earlier of (i) 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time or (ii) the closing time of the bond markets and/or the trading session on each Exchange, on any Business Day in order to receive that Business Day's NAV ("Cut-off Time"). The Cut-off Time for Custom Orders is generally two hours earlier. The Business Day the order is deemed received by the Distributor is referred to as the "Transmittal Date." An order to create Creation Units is deemed received on a Business Day if (i) such order is received by the Distributor by the Cut-off Time on such day and (ii) all other procedures set forth in the Participant Agreement are properly followed. Persons placing or effectuating custom orders and/or orders involving cash should be mindful of time deadlines imposed by intermediaries, such as DTC and/or the Federal Reserve Bank wire system, which may impact the successful processing of such orders to ensure that cash and securities are transferred by the "Settlement Date," which is generally the Business Day immediately following the Transmittal Date ("T+1") for cash and the third Business Day following the Transmittal Date for securities ("T+3").

## Orders Using the Clearing Process

If available, (portions of) orders may be settled through the Clearing Process. In connection with such orders, such trade instructions are transmitted, on behalf of the Authorized Participant, as are necessary to effect the creation order. Pursuant to such trade instructions, the Authorized Participant agrees to deliver the requisite Portfolio Deposit to a Fund, together with such additional information as may be required by the Distributor. Cash Components will be delivered using either the Clearing Process or the Federal Reserve System.

## Orders Outside the Clearing Process

If the Clearing Process is not available for (portions of) an order, Portfolio Deposits will be made outside the Clearing Process. Orders outside the Clearing Process must state that the DTC Participant is not using the Clearing Process and that the creation of Creation Units will be effected through DTC. The Portfolio Deposit transfer must be ordered by the DTC Participant on the Transmittal Date in a timely fashion so as to ensure the delivery of deposit securities (whether standard or custom) through DTC to a Fund account by 11:00 a.m., Eastern time, on T+1. The Cash Component, along with any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee, must be transferred directly to the Custodian through the Federal Reserve System in a timely manner so as to be received by the Custodian no later than 12:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on T+1. If the Custodian does not receive both the deposit securities and the cash by the appointed time, the order may be canceled. A canceled order may be resubmitted the following Business Day but must conform to that Business Day's Portfolio Deposit. Authorized Participants that submit a canceled order will be liable to a Fund for any losses incurred by a Fund in connection therewith.

Orders involving foreign deposit securities are expected to be settled outside the Clearing Process. Thus, upon receipt of an irrevocable purchase order, the Distributor will notify the Adviser and the Custodian of such order. The Custodian, who will have caused the appropriate local sub-custodian(s) of a Fund to maintain an account into which an Authorized Participant may deliver deposit securities (or cash-in-lieu), with adjustments determined by a Fund, will then provide information of the order to such local sub-custodian(s). The ordering Authorized Participant will then deliver the deposit securities (and any cash-in-lieu) to a Fund's account at the applicable local sub-custodian. The Authorized Participant must also make available on or before the contractual settlement date, by means satisfactory to a Fund, immediately available or same day funds in U.S. dollars estimated by a Fund to be sufficient to pay the Cash Component and Transaction Fee. When a relevant local market is closed due to local market holidays, the local market settlement process will not commence until the end of the local holiday period. Settlement must occur by 2:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the contractual settlement date.

# Acceptance of Purchase Order

All questions as to the number of shares of each security in the deposit securities and the validity, form, eligibility and acceptance for deposit of any securities to be delivered shall be determined by a Fund. A Fund's determination shall be final and binding.

Each Fund reserves the right to reject or revoke acceptance of a purchase order transmitted to it under certain circumstances including but not limited to (a) the order is not in proper form; (b) the investor(s), upon obtaining the shares ordered, would own 80% or more of the currently outstanding shares of a Fund; (c) the deposit securities delivered do not conform to the deposit securities for the applicable date; (d) the acceptance of the Portfolio Deposit would, in the opinion of counsel, be unlawful; or (d) in the event that circumstances outside the control of the Trust, the Distributor and the Adviser make it for all practical purposes impossible to process purchase orders. Examples of such circumstances include acts of God; public service or utility problems resulting in telephone, telecopy or computer failures; fires, floods or extreme weather conditions; market conditions or activities causing trading halts; systems failures involving computer or other informational systems affecting the Trust, the Distributor, DTC, NSCC, the Adviser, the Custodian, a sub-custodian or any other participant in the creation process; and similar extraordinary events. The Distributor shall notify an Authorized Participant of its rejection of the order. The Funds, the Custodian, any sub-custodian and the Distributor are under no duty, however, to give notification of any defects or irregularities in the delivery of Portfolio Deposits, and they shall not incur any liability for the failure to give any such notification.

### Issuance of a Creation Unit

Once a Fund has accepted an order, upon next determination of a Fund's NAV, a Fund will confirm the issuance of a Creation Unit, against receipt of payment, at such NAV. A confirmation of acceptance will be transmitted to the Authorized Participant that placed the order.

Except as provided below, a Creation Unit will not be issued until a Fund obtains good title to the deposit securities and the Cash Component, along with any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee. The delivery of Creation Units will generally occur no later than T+3 except with respect to certain foreign securities.

In certain cases, Authorized Participants will create and redeem Creation Units on the same trade date. In these instances, the Trust reserves the right to settle these transactions on a net basis.

With respect to orders involving foreign deposit securities, when the applicable local sub-custodian(s) have confirmed to the Custodian that the deposit securities (or cash-in-lieu) have been delivered to a Fund's account at the applicable local sub-custodian(s), the Distributor and the Adviser shall be notified of such delivery, and a Fund will issue and cause the delivery of the Creation Unit. While, as stated above, Creation Units are generally delivered on T+3, a Fund may settle Creation Unit transactions on a basis other than T+3, in order to accommodate foreign market holiday schedules, to account for different treatment among foreign and U.S. markets of dividend record dates and ex-dividend dates (that is the last day the holder of a security can sell the security and still receive dividends payable on the security), and in certain other circumstances.

A Fund may issue a Creation Unit prior to receiving good title to the deposit securities, under the following circumstances. Pursuant to the applicable Participant Agreement, a Fund may issue a Creation Unit notwithstanding that (certain) deposit securities have not been delivered, in reliance on an undertaking by the relevant Authorized Participant to deliver the missing deposit securities as soon as possible, which undertaking is secured by such Authorized Participant's delivery to and maintenance with the Custodian of collateral having a value equal to at least 115% of the value of the missing deposit securities ("Collateral"), as adjusted by time to time by the Adviser. Such Collateral will have a value greater than the NAV of the Creation Unit on the date the order is placed. Such Collateral must be delivered no later than 2:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on T+1. The only Collateral that is acceptable to a Fund is cash in U.S. Dollars.

While (certain) deposit securities remain undelivered, the Collateral shall at all times have a value equal to at least 115% (as adjusted by the Adviser) of the daily marked-to-market value of the missing deposit securities. At any time, a Fund may use the Collateral to purchase the missing securities, and the Authorized Participant will be liable to a Fund for any costs incurred thereby or losses resulting therefrom, whether or not they exceed the amount of the Collateral, including any Transaction Fee, any amount by which the purchase price of the missing deposit securities exceeds the market value of such securities on the Transmittal Date, brokerage and other transaction costs. The Trust will return any unused Collateral once all of the missing securities have been received by a Fund. More information regarding a Fund's current procedures for collateralization is available from the Distributor.

#### Cash Purchase Method

When cash purchases of Creation Units are available or specified for a Fund, they will be effected in essentially the same manner as in-kind purchases. In the case of a cash purchase, the investor must pay the cash equivalent of the Portfolio Deposit. In addition, cash purchases will be subject to Transaction Fees, as described above.

## **Redeeming a Creation Unit**

#### Redemption Basket

The consideration received in connection with the redemption of a Creation Unit generally consists of an in-kind basket of designated securities ("Redemption Securities") and a Cash Component. Together, the Redemption Securities and the Cash Component constitute the "Redemption Basket."

There can be no assurance that there will be sufficient liquidity in Shares in the secondary market to permit assembly of a Creation Unit. In addition, investors may incur brokerage and other costs in connection with assembling a Creation Unit.

The Cash Component serves the function of compensating for any differences between the net asset value per Creation Unit and the Redemption Securities. Thus, the Cash Component is equal to the difference between (x) the net asset value per Creation Unit of a Fund and (y) the market value of the Redemption Securities. If (x) is more than (y), the Authorized Participant will receive the Cash Component from a Fund. If (x) is less than (y), the Authorized Participant will pay the Cash Component to a Fund.

If the Redemption Securities on a Business Day are different from the deposit securities, prior to the opening of business on each Exchange (currently 9:30 a.m., Eastern Time), the Adviser through the Custodian makes available through NSCC the name and amount of each Redemption Security in the current Redemption Basket (based on information at the end of the previous Business Day) for a Fund and the (estimated) Cash Component, effective through and including the previous Business Day, per Creation Unit. If the Redemption Securities on a Business Day are different from the deposit securities, all redemption requests that day will be processed outside the Clearing Process.

The Redemption Securities may change as rebalancing adjustments and corporate action events of the Underlying Index are reflected from time to time by the Adviser in a Fund's portfolio. The Redemption Securities may also change in response to the rebalancing and/or reconstitution of the Underlying Index. These adjustments will reflect changes known to the Adviser on the date of announcement to be in effect by the time of delivery of the Redemption Basket.

The right of redemption may be suspended or the date of payment postponed: (i) for any period during which the NYSE is closed (other than customary weekend and holiday closings); (ii) for any period during which trading on the NYSE is suspended or restricted; (iii) for any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which disposal of the Shares or determination of the ETF's NAV is not reasonably practicable; or (iv) in such other circumstances as permitted by the SEC, including as described below.

## Custom Redemptions and Cash-in-Lieu

Each Fund may, in its sole discretion, permit or require the substitution of cash-in-lieu to be added to the Cash Component to replace any Redemption Security. Each Fund may permit or require cash-in-lieu when, for example, a Redemption Security may not be available in sufficient quantity for delivery or may not be eligible for transfer through the systems of DTC or the Clearing Process. Similarly, each Fund may permit or require cash-in-lieu of Redemption Securities when, for example, the Authorized Participant or its underlying investor is restricted under U.S. or local securities law or policies from transacting in one or more Redemption Securities. Each Fund will comply with the federal securities laws in satisfying redemptions with Redemption Securities, including that the Redemption Securities are sold in transactions that would be exempt from registration under the Securities Act. All redemption requests involving cash-in-lieu are considered to be "Custom Redemptions."

#### Redemption Requests

To redeem a Creation Unit, an Authorized Participant must submit an irrevocable redemption request to the Distributor.

An Authorized Participant submitting a redemption request is deemed to represent to a Fund that it or, if applicable, the investor on whose behalf it is acting, (i) owns outright or has full legal authority and legal beneficial right to tender for redemption the Creation Unit to be redeemed and can receive the entire proceeds of the redemption, and (ii) all of the Shares that are in the Creation Unit to be redeemed have not been borrowed, loaned or pledged to another party nor are they the subject of a repurchase agreement, securities lending agreement or such other arrangement that would preclude the delivery of such Shares to a Fund. Each Fund reserves the absolute right, in its sole discretion, to verify these representations, but will typically require verification in connection with higher levels of redemption activity and/or short interest in a Fund. If the Authorized Participant, upon receipt of a verification request, does not provide sufficient verification of the requested representations, the redemption request will not be considered to be in proper form and may be rejected by a Fund.

## Timing of Submission of Redemption Requests

An Authorized Participant must submit an irrevocable redemption order no later than the Cut-off Time. The Cut-off Time for Custom Orders is generally two hours earlier. The Business Day the order is deemed received by the Distributor is referred to as the "Transmittal Date." A redemption request is deemed received if (i) such order is received by the Distributor by the Cut-off Time on such day and (ii) all other procedures set forth in the Participant Agreement are properly followed. Persons placing or effectuating Custom Redemptions and/or orders involving cash should be mindful of time deadlines imposed by intermediaries, such as DTC and/or the Federal Reserve System, which may impact the successful processing of such orders to ensure that cash and securities are transferred by the Settlement Date, as defined above.

#### Requests Using the Clearing Process

If available, (portions of) redemption requests may be settled through the Clearing Process. In connection with such orders, such trade instructions as are necessary to effect the redemption are transmitted on behalf of the Authorized Participant. Pursuant to such trade instructions, the Authorized Participant agrees to deliver the requisite Creation Unit(s) to a Fund, together with such additional information as may be required by the Distributor. Cash Components will be delivered using either the Clearing Process or the Federal Reserve System, as described above.

#### Requests Outside the Clearing Process

If the Clearing Process is not available for (portions of) an order, Redemption Baskets will be delivered outside the Clearing Process. Orders outside the Clearing Process must state that the DTC Participant is not using the Clearing Process and that the redemption will be effected through DTC. The Authorized Participant must transfer or cause to be transferred the Creation Unit(s) of shares being redeemed through the book-entry system of DTC so as to be delivered through DTC to the Custodian by 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on received T+1. In addition, the Cash Component must be received by the Custodian by 12:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on T+1. If the Custodian does not receive the Creation Unit(s) and Cash Component by the appointed times on T+1, the redemption will be rejected, except in the circumstances described below. A rejected redemption request may be resubmitted the following Business Day.

Orders involving foreign Redemption Securities are expected to be settled outside the Clearing Process. Thus, the Adviser and the Custodian will be notified upon receipt of an irrevocable redemption request. The Custodian will then provide information of the redemption to a Fund's local sub-custodian(s). The redeeming Authorized Participant, or the investor on whose behalf is acting, will have established appropriate arrangements with a broker-dealer, bank or other custody provider in each jurisdiction in which the Redemption Securities are customarily traded and to which such Redemption Securities (and any cash-in-lieu) can be delivered from a Fund's accounts at the applicable local sub-custodian(s).

# Acceptance of Redemption Requests

All questions as to the number of shares of each security in the deposit securities and the validity, form, eligibility and acceptance for deposit of any securities to be delivered shall be determined by the Trust. The Trust's determination shall be final and binding.

#### Delivery of Redemption Basket

Once a Fund has accepted a redemption request, upon next determination of a Fund's NAV, a Fund will confirm the issuance of a Redemption Basket, against receipt of the Creation Unit(s) at such NAV, any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee. A Creation Unit tendered for redemption and the payment of the Cash Component, any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee will be effected through DTC. The Authorized Participant, or the investor on whose behalf it is acting, will be recorded on the book-entry system of DTC.

The Redemption Basket will generally be delivered to the redeeming Authorized Participant within T+3. Except under the circumstances described below, however, a Redemption Basket generally will not be issued until the Creation Unit(s) are delivered to a Fund, along with the Cash Component, any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee.

In certain cases, Authorized Participants will create and redeem Creation Units on the same trade date. In these instances, the Trust reserves the right to settle these transactions on a net basis.

With respect to orders involving foreign Redemption Securities, a Fund may settle Creation Unit transactions on a basis other than T+3 in order to accommodate foreign market holiday schedules, to account for different treatment among foreign and U.S. markets of dividend record dates and exdividend dates (that is the last day the holder of a security can sell the security and still receive dividends payable on the security), and in certain other circumstances. When a relevant local market is closed due to local market holidays, the local market settlement process will not commence until the end of the local holiday period.

### Cash Redemption Method

When cash redemptions of Creation Units are available or specified for a Fund, they will be effected in essentially the same manner as in-kind redemptions. In the case of a cash redemption, the investor will receive the cash equivalent of the Redemption Basket minus any Transaction Fees, as described above.

## TAX STATUS

The following discussion is general in nature and should not be regarded as an exhaustive presentation of all possible tax ramifications. All shareholders should consult a qualified tax advisor regarding their investment in a Fund.

Each Fund has qualified and intends to continue to qualify and has elected to be treated as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Tax Code"), and intends to continue to so qualify, which requires compliance with certain requirements concerning the sources of its income, diversification of its assets, and the amount and timing of its distributions to shareholders. Such qualification does not involve supervision of management or investment practices or policies by any government agency or bureau. By so qualifying, a Fund should not be subject to federal income or excise tax on its net investment income or net capital gain, which are distributed to shareholders in accordance with the applicable timing requirements. Net investment income and net capital gain of a Fund will be computed in accordance with Section 852 of the Tax Code.

Net investment income is made up of dividends and interest less expenses. Net capital gain for a fiscal year is computed by taking into account any capital loss carryforward of a Fund. Capital losses incurred after January 31, 2011 may now be carried forward indefinitely and retain the character of the original loss. Under pre-enacted laws, capital losses could be carried forward to offset any capital gains for eight years, and carried forward as shortterm capital, irrespective of the character of the original loss. Capital loss carry forwards are available to offset future realized capital gains. To the extent that these carry forwards are used to offset future capital gains it is probable that the amount offset will not be distributed to shareholders.

Each Fund intends to distribute all of its net investment income, any excess of net short-term capital gains over net long-term capital losses, and any excess of net long-term capital gains over net short-term capital losses in accordance with the timing requirements imposed by the Tax Code and therefore should not be required to pay any federal income or excise taxes. Distributions of net capital gain, if any, will be made annually no later than December 31 of each year. Both types of distributions will be in shares of a Fund unless a shareholder elects to receive cash.

To be treated as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Tax Code, a Fund must also (a) derive at least 90% of its gross income from dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans, net income from certain publicly traded partnerships and gains from the sale or other disposition of securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including, but not limited to, gains from options, futures or forward contracts) derived with respect to the business of investing in such securities or currencies, and (b) diversify its holding so that, at the end of each fiscal quarter, (i) at least 50% of the market value of a Fund's assets is represented by cash, U.S. government securities and securities of other regulated investment companies, and other securities (for purposes of this calculation, generally limited in respect of any one issuer, to an amount not greater than 5% of the market value of a Fund's assets and 10% of the outstanding voting securities of other regulated investment companies) and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of its assets is invested in the securities of other regulated investment companies) any one issuer, two or more issuers that a Fund controls and that are determined to be engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses, or the securities of certain publicly traded partnerships.

If a Fund fails to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M in any fiscal year, it will be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes. As such a Fund would be required to pay income taxes on its net investment income and net realized capital gains, if any, at the rates generally applicable to corporations. Shareholders of a Fund generally would not be liable for income tax on a Fund's net investment income or net realized capital gains, would be treated as taxable dividends to the extent of current or accumulated earnings and profits of a Fund.

Each Fund is subject to a 4% non-deductible excise tax on certain undistributed amounts of ordinary income and capital gain under a prescribed formula contained in Section 4982 of the Tax Code. The formula requires payment to shareholders during a calendar year of distributions representing at least 98% of a Fund's ordinary income for the calendar year and at least 98.2% of its capital gain net income (i.e., the excess of its capital gains over capital losses) realized during the one-year period ending October 31 during such year plus 100% of any income that was neither distributed nor taxed to a Fund during the preceding calendar year. Under ordinary circumstances, each Fund expects to time its distributions so as to avoid liability for this tax.

The following discussion of tax consequences is for the general information of shareholders that are subject to tax. Shareholders that are IRAs or other qualified retirement plans are exempt from income taxation under the Tax Code.

Distributions of taxable net investment income and the excess of net short-term capital gain over net long-term capital loss are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income.

Distributions of net capital gain ("capital gain dividends") generally are taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gain; regardless of the length of time the shares of the Trust have been held by such shareholders.

Certain U.S. shareholders, including individuals and estates and trusts, are subject to an additional 3.8% Medicare tax on all or a portion of their "net investment income," which should include dividends from a Fund and net gains from the disposition of shares of a Fund. U.S. shareholders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the implications of the additional Medicare tax resulting from an investment in a Fund.

Redemption of Fund shares by a shareholder will result in the recognition of taxable gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized and the shareholder's tax basis in his or her Fund shares. Such gain or loss is treated as a capital gain or loss if the shares are held as capital assets. However, any loss realized upon the redemption of shares within six months from the date of their purchase will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any amounts treated as capital gain dividends during such six-month period. All or a portion of any loss realized upon the redemption of shares are purchased (including shares acquired by means of reinvested dividends) within 30 days before or after such redemption.

Distributions of taxable net investment income and net capital gain will be taxable as described above, whether received in additional cash or shares. Shareholders electing to receive distributions in the form of additional shares will have a cost basis for federal income tax purposes in each share so received equal to the net asset value of a share on the reinvestment date.

All distributions of taxable net investment income and net capital gain, whether received in shares or in cash, must be reported by each taxable shareholder on his or her federal income tax return. Dividends or distributions declared in October, November or December as of a record date in such a month, if any, will be deemed to have been received by shareholders on December 31, if paid during January of the following year. Redemptions of shares may result in tax consequences (gain or loss) to the shareholder and are also subject to these reporting requirements.

Under the Tax Code, a Fund will be required to report to the Internal Revenue Service all distributions of taxable income and capital gains as well as gross proceeds from the redemption or exchange of Fund shares, except in the case of certain exempt shareholders. Under the backup withholding provisions of Section 3406 of the Tax Code, distributions of taxable net investment income and net capital gain and proceeds from the redemption or exchange of the shares of a regulated investment company may be subject to withholding of federal income tax in the case of non-exempt shareholders who fail to furnish the investment company with their taxpayer identification numbers and with required certifications regarding their status under the federal income tax law, or if a Fund is notified by the IRS or a broker that withholding is required due to an incorrect TIN or a previous failure to report taxable interest or dividends. If the withholding provisions are applicable, any such distributions and proceeds, whether taken in cash or reinvested in additional shares, will be reduced by the amounts required to be withheld.

### **Options, Futures, Forward Contracts and Swap Agreements**

To the extent such investments are permissible for a Fund, a Fund's transactions in options, futures contracts, hedging transactions, forward contracts, straddles and foreign currencies will be subject to special tax rules (including mark-to-market, constructive sale, straddle, wash sale and short sale rules), the effect of which may be to accelerate income to a Fund, defer losses to a Fund, cause adjustments in the holding periods of a Fund's securities, convert long-term capital gains into short-term capital gains and convert short-term capital losses into long-term capital losses. These rules could therefore affect the amount, timing and character of distributions to shareholders.

To the extent such investments are permissible, certain of a Fund's hedging activities (including its transactions, if any, in foreign currencies or foreign currency-denominated instruments) are likely to produce a difference between its book income and its taxable income. If a Fund's book income exceeds its taxable income, the distribution (if any) of such excess book income will be treated as (i) a dividend to the extent of a Fund's remaining earnings and profits (including earnings and profits arising from tax-exempt income), (ii) thereafter, as a return of capital to the extent of the recipient's basis in the shares, and (iii) thereafter, as gain from the sale or exchange of a capital asset. If a Fund's book income is less than taxable income, a Fund could be required to make distributions exceeding book income to qualify as a regulated investment company that is accorded special tax treatment.

#### Passive Foreign Investment Companies

Investment by a Fund in certain passive foreign investment companies ("PFICs") could subject a Fund to a U.S. federal income tax (including interest charges) on distributions received from the company or on proceeds received from the disposition of shares in the company, which tax cannot be eliminated by making distributions to Fund shareholders. However, a Fund may elect to treat a PFIC as a qualified electing fund ("QEF"), in which case a Fund will be required to include its share of the company's income and net capital gains annually, regardless of whether it receives any distribution from the company.

A Fund also may make an election to mark the gains (and to a limited extent losses) in such holdings "to the market" as though it had sold and repurchased its holdings in those PFICs on the last day of a Fund's taxable year. Such gains and losses are treated as ordinary income and loss. The QEF and mark-to-market elections may accelerate the recognition of income (without the receipt of cash) and increase the amount required to be distributed for a Fund to avoid taxation. Making either of these elections, therefore, may require a Fund to liquidate other investments (including when it is not advantageous to do so) to meet its distribution requirement, which also may accelerate the recognition of gain and affect a Fund's total return.

### Foreign Currency Transactions

A Fund's transactions in foreign currencies, foreign currency-denominated debt securities and certain foreign currency options, futures contracts and forward contracts (and similar instruments) may give rise to ordinary income or loss to the extent such income or loss results from fluctuations in the value of the foreign currency concerned.

### Foreign Taxation

Income received by a Fund from sources within foreign countries may be subject to withholding and other taxes imposed by such countries. Tax treaties and conventions between certain countries and the U.S. may reduce or eliminate such taxes. If more than 50% of the value of a Fund's total assets at the close of its taxable year consists of securities of foreign corporations, a Fund may be able to elect to "pass through" to a Fund's shareholders the amount of eligible foreign income and similar taxes paid by a Fund. If this election is made, a shareholder generally subject to tax will be required to include in gross income (in addition to taxable dividends actually received) his or her pro rata share of the foreign taxes paid by a Fund, and may be entitled either to deduct (as an itemized deduction) his or her pro rata share of foreign taxes in computing his or her taxable income or to use it as a foreign tax credit against his or her U.S. federal income tax liability, subject to certain limitations. In particular, a shareholder must hold his or her shares (without protection from risk of loss) on the ex-dividend date and for at least 15 more days during the 30-day period surrounding the ex-dividend date to be eligible to claim a foreign taxe may be claimed by a shareholder who does not itemize deductions. Each shareholder will be notified within 60 days after the close of a Fund's taxable year whether the foreign taxes paid by a Fund will "pass through" for that year.

Generally, a credit for foreign taxes is subject to the limitation that it may not exceed the shareholder's U.S. tax attributable to his or her total foreign source taxable income. For this purpose, if the pass-through election is made, the source of a Fund's income will flow through to shareholders of a Fund. With respect to a Fund, gains from the sale of securities will be treated as derived from U.S. sources and certain currency fluctuation gains, including fluctuation gains from foreign currency-denominated debt securities, receivables and payables will be treated as ordinary income derived from U.S. sources. The limitation on the foreign tax credit is applied separately to foreign source passive income, and to certain other types of income. A shareholder may be unable to claim a credit for the full amount of his or her proportionate share of the foreign taxes paid by a Fund. The foreign tax credit can be used to offset only 90% of the revised alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations and individuals and foreign taxes generally are not deductible in computing alternative minimum taxable income.

### **Original Issue Discount and Pay-In-Kind Securities**

Current federal tax law requires the holder of a U.S. Treasury or other fixed income zero coupon security to accrue as income each year a portion of the discount at which the security was purchased, even though the holder receives no interest payment in cash on the security during the year. In addition, pay-in-kind securities will give rise to income, which is required to be distributed and is taxable even though a Fund holding the security receives no interest payment in cash on the security during the year.

Some of the debt securities (with a fixed maturity date of more than one year from the date of issuance) that may be acquired by a Fund may be treated as debt securities that are issued originally at a discount. Generally, the amount of the original issue discount ("OID") is treated as interest income and is included in income over the term of the debt security, even though payment of that amount is not received until a later time, usually when the debt security matures. A portion of the OID includable in income with respect to certain high-yield corporate debt securities (including certain pay-in-kind securities) may be treated as a dividend for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Some of the debt securities (with a fixed maturity date of more than one year from the date of issuance) that may be acquired by a Fund in the secondary market may be treated as having market discount. Generally, any gain recognized on the disposition of, and any partial payment of principal on, a debt security having market discount is treated as ordinary income to the extent the gain, or principal payment, does not exceed the "accrued market discount" on such debt security. Market discount generally accrues in equal daily installments. The Funds may make one or more of the elections applicable to debt securities having market discount, which could affect the character and timing of recognition of income.

Some debt securities (with a fixed maturity date of one year or less from the date of issuance) that may be acquired by a Fund may be treated as having acquisition discount, or OID in the case of certain types of debt securities. Generally, the Funds will be required to include the acquisition discount, or OID, in income over the term of the debt security, even though payment of that amount is not received until a later time, usually when the debt security matures. The Funds may make one or more of the elections applicable to debt securities having acquisition discount, or OID, which could affect the character and timing of recognition of income.

A Fund that holds the foregoing kinds of securities may be required to pay out as an income distribution each year an amount that is greater than the total amount of cash interest a Fund actually received. Such distributions may be made from the cash assets of a Fund or by liquidation of portfolio securities, if necessary (including when it is not advantageous to do so). A Fund may realize gains or losses from such liquidations. In the event a Fund realizes net capital gains from such transactions, its shareholders may receive a larger capital gain distribution, if any, than they would in the absence of such transactions.

Shareholders of a Fund may be subject to state and local taxes on distributions received from a Fund and on redemptions of the Shares.

A brief explanation of the form and character of the distribution accompany each distribution. In January of each year, the Funds issue to each shareholder a statement of the federal income tax status of all distributions.

Shareholders should consult their tax advisors about the application of federal, state and local and foreign tax law in light of their particular situation.

# INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Cohen & Company, Ltd. 1350 Euclid Ave., Suite 800, Cleveland, OH, 44115 serves as the Funds' independent registered public accounting firm for the current fiscal year. The firm provides services including (i) audit of annual financial statements, (ii) tax services for the Funds, and (ii) assistance and consultation in connection with SEC filings.

# LEGAL COUNSEL

Thompson Hine LLP, located at 41 South High Street, Suite 1700, Columbus, Ohio 43215, serves as the Trust's legal counsel.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A copy of the Trust's Semi-Annual Report and Annual Report when issued may be obtained upon request and without charge by calling 1 (855) 772-8488 during normal business hours. Because the Funds have not yet commenced operations, no financial highlights are available for the Fund at this time.

## PROXY VOTING POLICY - APPENDIX A

### **Policies and Procedures**

Simplify Asset Management, Inc. ("SAMI" or the "Company") has the authority to vote proxies with respect of securities in client accounts ("Client Securities") over which the Company has voting discretion. In such cases, the Company will cast proxy votes in a manner that is consistent with the best interests of the Company's clients. Where the Company undertakes proxy voting responsibilities on behalf of multiple clients, it shall consider whether it should have different voting policies for some or all of these different clients, depending on the investment strategy and objectives of each client. These proxy voting policies and procedures are designed to deal with the complexities which may arise in cases where the Company's interests conflict or appear to conflict with the interests of its clients and to provide a copy of proxy voting and these procedures upon client request. SAMI will also make available the record of the Company's votes promptly upon request.

Unless contractually obligated to vote in a certain manner, the Company will reach its voting decisions independently, after appropriate investigation. It does not generally intend to delegate its decision-making or to rely on the recommendations of any third party, although it may take such recommendations into consideration. Where the Company deviates from the guidelines listed below, or depends upon a third party to make the decision, the reasons shall be documented. SAMI may consult with such other experts, such as CPA's, investment bankers, attorneys, etc., as it deems necessary to help reach informed decisions.

The CCO is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of this policy.

SAMI generally will monitor proposed corporate actions and proxy issues regarding client securities and may take any of the following actions based on the best interests of its clients: (i) determine how to vote the proxies; (ii) abstain; or (iii) follow the recommendations of an independent proxy voting service in voting the proxies.

In general, the Company will determine how to vote proxies based on reasonable judgment of the vote most likely to produce favorable financial results for its clients. Proxy votes generally will be cast in favor of proposals that maintain or strengthen the shared interests of shareholders. Proxy votes generally will be cast against proposals having the opposite effect. The Company will always consider each side of each proxy issue.

# **Non-Voting of Proxies**

SAMI will generally not vote proxies in the following situations:

- Where the Company and client have agreed in advance to limit the conditions under which the Company would exercise voting authority;
  - Proxies are received for equity securities where, at the time of receipt, the Company's position, across all clients that it advises, is less than, or equal to, 1% of the total outstanding voting equity (an "immaterial position"); or
  - Where the Company has determined that refraining is in the best interest of the client, such as when the cost to the client of voting the proxy is greater than the expected benefit of voting (e.g. voting a foreign security that is required to be made in person).
- Proxies are received for equity securities where, at the time of receipt, the Company's clients no longer hold that position.

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## **Management Proposals**

Absent good reason to the contrary, the Company will generally give substantial weight to management recommendations regarding voting. This is based on the view that management is usually in the best position to know which corporate actions are in the best interests of common shareholders as a whole.

SAMI will generally vote for routine matters proposed by issuer management, such as setting a time or place for an annual meeting, changing the name or fiscal year of the company, or voting for directors in favor of the management proposed slate. Other routine matters in which the Company will generally vote along with company management include: appointment of auditors; fees paid to board members; and change in the board structure. The Company will generally vote along with management as long as the proposal does not: i) measurably change the structure, management, control or operations of the company; ii) measurably change the terms of, or fees or expenses associated with, an investment in the company; and (iii) the proposal is consistent with customary industry standards and practices, as well as the laws of the state of incorporation applicable to the company. Routine matters may not necessitate the same level of analysis than non-routine matters.

## **Non-Routine Matters**

Non-routine matters include such things as:

- Amendments to management incentive plans;
- The authorization of additional common or preferred stock;
- Initiation or termination of barriers to takeover or acquisition;
- Mergers or acquisitions;
- Changes in the state of incorporation;
- Corporate reorganizations;
- Term limits for board members; and
- "Contested" director slates.

In non-routine matters, the Company will attempt to be generally familiar with the questions at issue. Non-routine matters will be voted on a case-by-case basis given the complexity of many of these issues. When determining how to vote non-routine matters the Company shall conduct an issue-specific analysis, giving consideration to the potential effect on the value of a client's investments, documentation of the analysis shall be maintained in the Company's proxy voting files.

## **Processing Proxy Votes**

The CCO will be responsible for determining whether each proxy is for a "routine" matter, as described above, and whether the policy and procedures set forth herein actually address the specific issue. For proxies that are not clearly "routine", the Company, in conjunction with the CCO, will determine how to vote each such proxy by applying these policies and procedures. Upon making a decision, the proxy will be executed and returned for submission to the issuer. SAMI's proxy voting record will be updated at the time the proxy is submitted.

An independent proxy voting advisory and research firm may be appointed as a "Proxy Service" for voting the Company's proxies after approval by the CCO.



# **Periodic Testing**

The Company shall evaluate compliance by periodically sampling the proxy votes it casts on behalf of its clients by sampling proxy votes that relate to proposals that are non-routine matters and require more issue-specific analysis (*e.g.*, mergers and acquisition transactions, dissolutions, conversions, or consolidations).

# **Conflicts of Interest**

Conflicts of interest between the Company or a principal of the Company and the Company's clients with respect to a proxy issue conceivably may arise, for example, from personal or professional relationships with an issuer or with the directors, candidates for director, or senior executives of an issuer.

Potential conflicts of interest between the Company and its clients may arise when the Company's relationships with an issuer or with a related third party actually conflict, or appear to conflict, with the best interests of the Company's clients.

If the issue is specifically addressed in these policies and procedures, the Company will vote in accordance with these policies. In a situation where the issue is not specifically addressed in these policies and procedures and an apparent or actual conflict exists, the Company shall either: i) delegate the voting decision to an independent third party; ii) inform clients of the conflict of interest and obtain advance consent of a majority of such clients for a particular voting decision; or iii) obtain approval of a voting decision from the Company's CCO, who will be responsible for documenting the rationale for the decision made and voted.

In all such cases, the Company will make disclosures to clients of all material conflicts and will keep documentation supporting its voting decisions.

If the CCO determines that a material conflict of interest exists, the following procedures shall be followed:

- 1. SAMI may disclose the existence and nature of the conflict to the client(s) owning the securities, and seek directions on how to vote the proxies;
- 2. SAMI may abstain from voting, particularly if there are conflicting client interests (for example, where client accounts hold different client securities in a competitive merger situation); or
- 3. SAMI may follow the recommendations of an independent proxy voting service in voting the proxies.

## **Disclosure to Clients**

A summary of the Company's proxy voting policy will be included in the Company's Disclosure Brochure. The full text of the Company's proxy voting policy will be provided to clients upon request.

## Proxy Advisory Firm

When the Company retains a proxy advisory firm to provide research, voting recommendations or voting execution services, the Company shall conduct reasonable oversight to ensure the proxy advisor's recommendations are consistent with the Company's proxy voting policies and in the best interest of the Company's clients and investors. The level of oversight may vary depending on (1) the scope of the investment adviser's voting authority, and (2) the type of functions and services that the investment adviser has retained the proxy advisory firm to perform.

## Periodic Advisory Firm Testing

The Company shall periodically evaluate the proxy services provided by third party providers which should consider the services, recommendations made by the provider and how the provider voted, as applicable, and consider the steps enumerated below.



When conducting oversight of a proxy advisory firm, the Company should consider taking the following steps:

- whether the proxy advisory firm has the capacity and competency to adequately analyze the matters for which the investment adviser is responsible for voting including the adequacy and quality of the proxy advisory firm's staffing, personnel, and/or technology;
- the adequacy of disclosures the proxy advisory firm has provided regarding its methodologies in formulating voting recommendations, such that the Company can understand the factors underlying the proxy advisory firm's voting recommendations
- the effectiveness of the proxy advisory firm's policies and procedures for obtaining current and accurate information relevant to matters included in its research and on which it makes voting recommendations;
- the Company's access to the proxy advisory firm's sources of information and methodologies used in formulating voting recommendations or executing voting instructions;
- the nature of any third-party information sources that the proxy advisory firm uses as a basis for its voting recommendations;
- whether the proxy advisory firm has adequate policies and procedures to identify, disclose, and address actual and potential conflicts of interest.

### **Class Action Lawsuits**

From time to time, securities held in the accounts of clients will be the subject of class action lawsuits. SAMI has no obligation to determine if securities held by the client are subject to a pending or resolved class action lawsuit. It also has no duty to evaluate a client's eligibility or to submit a claim to participate in the proceeds of a securities class action settlement or verdict. Furthermore, the Company has no obligation or responsibility to initiate litigation to recover damages on behalf of clients who may have been injured because of actions, misconduct, or negligence by corporate management of issuers whose securities are held by clients.

Where the Company receives written or electronic notice of a class action lawsuit, settlement, or verdict directly relating to a client account, it will forward all notices, proof of claim forms, and other materials, to the client. Electronic mail is acceptable where appropriate if the client has authorized contact in this manner.

# PART C: OTHER INFORMATION

## Item 28. Exhibits

- (a) (1) Certificate of Trust dated February 28, 2020, as filed with the State of Delaware on February 28, 2020, for Simplify Exchange Traded Funds (the "Registrant" or "Trust")<sup>2</sup>
  - (2) <u>Agreement and Declaration of Trust of the Registrant<sup>3</sup></u>
- (b) (1) <u>By-Laws of the Registrant<sup>3</sup></u>
- (b) (2) <u>Amended and Restated By-Laws of the Registrant<sup>22</sup></u>
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) (1) Management Agreement between the Registrant and Simplify Asset Management Inc. (the "Adviser") with respect to Simplify US Equity PLUS Convexity ETF, Simplify US Equity PLUS Downside Convexity ETF, Simplify US Equity PLUS Upside Convexity ETF, Simplify Volt Tesla Revolution ETF, Simplify U.S. Equity PLUS GBTC ETF, Simplify Volatility Premium ETF, Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF, Simplify Tail Risk ETF, Simplify Intermediate Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF, Simplify Hedged Equity ETF, Simplify Health Care ETF, Simplify Volt Web3 ETF, Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income ETF, Simplify Short Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF, Simplify Stable Income ETF, Simplify Enhanced Income ETF, Simplify Conservative Allocation ETF, Simplify Moderate Allocation ETF, Simplify Growth Allocation ETF, Simplify Income Allocation ETF, Simplify Propel Opportunities ETF, Simplify Multi-QIS Alternative ETF, Simplify Opportunistic Income ETF, Simplify Macro Strategy ETF, Simplify High Yield PLUS Credit Hedge ETF, Simplify Aggregate Bond ETF, Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF, Simplify Enhanced Income ETF, Simplify Commodities Strategy No K-1 ETF, Simplify MBS ETF and Simplify US Equity PLUS QIS ETF<sup>21</sup>
  - (2) <u>Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between the Adviser and Volt Equity LLC ("Volt")</u><sup>5</sup>
  - (3) <u>Management Agreement between the Adviser and the Simplify Volatility Premium Cayman Fund<sup>6</sup></u>
  - (4) <u>Management Agreement between the Adviser and the Simplify U.S. Equity PLUS Bitcoin Cayman Fund</u><sup>7</sup>
  - (5) <u>Management Agreement between the Adviser and the Simplify Managed Futures Strategy Cayman Fund.<sup>12</sup></u>
  - (6) <u>Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between the Adviser and Volt with respect to Simplify Volt Web3 ETF<sup>13</sup></u>
  - (7) <u>Management Agreement between the Adviser and the Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income Cayman Fund<sup>14</sup></u>
  - (8) <u>Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between the Trust, Adviser and the Sub-Adviser with respect to the Simplify Propel Opportunities</u> ETF<sup>17</sup>
  - (9) Fee Waiver Agreement between the Trust, Adviser and the Sub-Adviser with respect to the Simplify Propel Opportunities ETF<sup>21</sup>
  - (10) <u>Management Agreement between the Adviser and the Simplify Commodities No K-1 Strategy Cayman Fund<sup>18</sup></u>



- (11) <u>Management Agreement between the Registrant and Adviser on behalf of the Simplify Multi-QIS Alternative Cayman Fund<sup>21</sup></u>
- (12) <u>Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between the Adviser and Asterozoa Capital, LLC with respect to Simplify Opportunistic Income</u> ETF<sup>19</sup>
- (13) <u>Trading Advisory Agreement between Adviser and Altis Partners (Jersey) Limited<sup>18</sup></u>
- (14) Fee Waiver Agreement between the Trust, the Adviser, the Sub-Adviser with respect to Simplify Opportunistic Income ETF<sup>21</sup>
- (15) <u>Management Agreement between the Registrant and Adviser on behalf of the Simplify Enhanced Income Cayman Fund Limited<sup>19</sup></u>
- (16) (i) Amendment to Exhibit A of the Management Agreement between the Registrant and the Adviser, as previously filed on October 27, 2023, for the purpose of adding Simplify Boosted US Equity Active ETF, Simplify Boosted US Quality Active ETF, Simplify Boosted US Value Active ETF, and Simplify Opportunistic Equity ETF<sup>27</sup>
  - (ii) <u>Amendment to Exhibit A of the Management Agreement between the Registrant and the Adviser, as previously filed on October</u> 27, 2023, for the purpose of adding Simplify Tara India Opportunities ETF<sup>22</sup>
  - (iii) <u>Amendment to Exhibit A of the Management Agreement between the Registrant and the Adviser, as previously filed on October</u> 27, 2023, for the purpose of adding Simplify Next Intangible Core Index ETF and Simplify Next Intangible Value Index ETF<sup>23</sup>
  - (iv) <u>Amendment to Exhibit A of the Management Agreement between the Registrant and the Adviser, as previously filed on October</u> 27, 2023, for the purpose of adding <u>Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF</u> and <u>Simplify National Muni Bond ETF</u><sup>25</sup>
  - (v) Amendment to Exhibit A of the Management Agreement between the Registrant and the Adviser, as previously filed on October 27, 2023, for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF, and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF<sup>27</sup>
  - (vi) Amendment to Exhibit A of the Management Agreement between the Registrant and the Adviser, as previously filed on October 27, 2023, for the purpose of adding Simplify Gold Strategy PLUS Income ETF, Simplify US Small Cap PLUS Income ETF, Simplify Currency ETF, and Simplify Downside Interest Rate Hedge ETF<sup>27</sup>
  - (vii) Amendment to Exhibit A of the Management Agreement between the Registrant and the Adviser for the purpose of adding Simplify Tactical US ETF and Simplify China A Shares PLUS Income ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (17) Fee Waiver Agreement between the Trust and the Adviser with respect to Simplify Short Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF, Simplify Macro Strategy ETF, Simplify Aggregate Bond ETF, Simplify High Yield PLUS Credit Hedge ETF, and Simplify MBS ETF<sup>21</sup>
- (18) (i) First Amendment to Exhibit A of the Fee Waiver Agreement between the Trust and the Adviser as previously filed on October 27, 2023 for the purpose of adding Simplify Boosted US Equity Active ETF, Simplify Boosted US Quality Active ETF, and Simplify Boosted US Value Active ETF<sup>27</sup>

- (19) <u>Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between the Trust, Adviser and System 2 Advisors L.P. with respect to the Simplify Tara India</u> Opportunities ETF<sup>22</sup>
- (20) Fee Waiver Agreement between the Adviser and System 2 Advisors L.P. with respect to Simplify Tara India Opportunities ETF<sup>22</sup>
- (21) <u>Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between the Adviser and Gamma Asset Management LLC with respect to Simplify Gamma</u> <u>Emerging Market Bond ETF<sup>25</sup></u>
- (22) Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between the Trust, Adviser, and FCO Advisors LP with respect to Simplify National Muni Bond ETF<sup>25</sup>
- (23) <u>Investment Management Agreement between the Trust and Simplify EQLS LLC with respect to Simplify Market Neutral Equity</u> Long/Short ETF<sup>24</sup>
- (24) Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between Simplify EQLS LLC and Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC with respect to the Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF<sup>26</sup>
- (25) <u>Fee Waiver Agreement between the Trust and the Adviser with respect to Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF<sup>25</sup></u>
- (26) <u>Sub-Advisory Fee Waiver Agreement between the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser with respect to Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond</u> ETF<sup>25</sup>
- (27) <u>Management Agreement between the Trust and Simplify EQLS LLC with respect to Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF<sup>26</sup></u>
- (28) Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between the Adviser and Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC with respect to each of Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF, and Simplify Market Neutral Quality ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (e) (1) <u>Distribution Agreement<sup>3</sup></u>
  - (2) <u>Amendment to the ETF Distribution Agreement<sup>19</sup></u>
  - $(3) \qquad \underline{\text{Amendment to the ETF Distribution Agreement}^{21}}$
  - (4) Amendment to the ETF Distribution Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Next Intangible Core Index ETF and Simplify Next Intangible Value Index ETF<sup>24</sup>
  - (5) Amendment to the ETF Distribution Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF and Simplify National Muni Bond ETF<sup>27</sup>
  - (6) Amendment to the ETF Distribution Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF, and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF<sup>27</sup>

- (7) Amendment to the ETF Distribution Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Gold Strategy PLUS Income ETF, Simplify US Small Cap PLUS Income ETF, Simplify Currency ETF, and Simplify Downside Interest Rate Hedge ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (8) Amendment to the ETF Distribution Agreement, for the purpose of adding Simplify Tactical US ETF and Simplify China A Shares PLUS Income ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (9) Amendment to the ETF Distribution Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF<sup>26</sup>
- (f) Not applicable.
- (g) (1) <u>Custody Agreement<sup>3</sup></u>
  - (2) <u>Cayman Custody Agreement<sup>6</sup></u>
  - (3) <u>Amendment to Cayman Custody Agreement<sup>18</sup></u>
  - (4) <u>Amendment to the Custody Agreement<sup>21</sup></u>
  - (5) Amendment to the Custody Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Next Intangible Core Index ETF and Simplify Next Intangible Value Index ETF<sup>27</sup>
  - (6) Amendment to the Custody Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF and Simplify National Muni Bond ETF<sup>27</sup>
  - (7) Amendment to the Custody Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF, and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF<sup>27</sup>
  - (8) Amendment to the Custody Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Gold Strategy PLUS Income ETF, Simplify US Small Cap PLUS Income ETF, Simplify Currency ETF, and Simplify Downside Interest Rate Hedge ETF<sup>27</sup>
  - (9) Amendment to the Custody Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Tactical US ETF and Simplify China A Shares PLUS Income ETF<sup>27</sup>
  - (10) <u>Amendment to the Custody Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF<sup>26</sup></u>
- (h) (1) <u>Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement<sup>3</sup></u>
  - (2) <u>Transfer Agency and Service Agreement<sup>3</sup></u>
  - (3) <u>Amendment to Transfer Agency and Service Agreement<sup>19</sup></u>
  - (4) Form of Fund of Funds Investment Management Agreement<sup>10</sup>

- (5) <u>Amendment to Fund Accounting and Administration Agreement (Cayman Funds)<sup>18</sup></u>
- (6) <u>Amendment to Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement<sup>18</sup></u>
- (7) <u>Amendment to Transfer Agency and Service Agreement<sup>18</sup></u>
- (8) <u>Amendment to the Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement<sup>19</sup></u>
- (9) <u>Amendment to the Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement<sup>21</sup></u>
- (10) <u>Amendment to the Transfer Agency and Service Agreement<sup>21</sup></u>
- (11) Amendment to the Transfer Agency and Service Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Next Intangible Core Index ETF and Simplify Next Intangible Value Index ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (12) Amendment to the Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Next Intangible Core Index ETF and Simplify Next Intangible Value Index ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (13) <u>Fund CCO and AMLO Agreement between the Trust and Foreside Fund Officer Services, LLC<sup>23</sup></u>
- (14) Amendment to the Transfer Agency and Service Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF and Simplify National Muni Bond ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (15) Amendment to the Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF and Simplify National Muni Bond ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (16) Amendment to the Transfer Agency and Service Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF, and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (17) Amendment to the Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF, and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (18) Amendment to the Transfer Agency and Service Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Gold Strategy PLUS Income ETF, Simplify US Small Cap PLUS Income ETF, Simplify Currency ETF, and Simplify Downside Interest Rate Hedge ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (19) Amendment to the Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement, as previously filed on August 19, 2020, for the purpose of adding Simplify Gold Strategy PLUS Income ETF, Simplify US Small Cap PLUS Income ETF, Simplify Currency ETF, and Simplify Downside Interest Rate Hedge ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (20) Amendment to the Transfer Agency and Service Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Tactical US ETF and Simplify China A Shares PLUS Income ETF<sup>27</sup>

- (21) Amendment to the to the Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Tactical US ETF and Simplify China A Shares PLUS Income ETF<sup>27</sup>
- (22) <u>Amendment to Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF<sup>26</sup></u>
- (23) <u>Amendment to Transfer Agency and Service Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF<sup>26</sup></u>
- (i) <u>Legal Opinion and Consent of Thompson Hine LLP<sup>26</sup></u>
- (j) Consent of Independent Registered Accounting Firm<sup>27</sup>
- (k) Not applicable.
- (l) None.
- (m) <u>12b-1 Distribution and Service Plan<sup>26</sup></u>
- (n) Not applicable.
- (o) Reserved.
- (p) (1) <u>Code of Ethics of the Registrant<sup>14</sup></u>
  - (2) <u>Code of Ethics of the Adviser<sup>14</sup></u>
  - (3) <u>Code of Ethics of the Sub-Adviser (Volt)<sup>5</sup></u>
  - (4) <u>Code of Ethics of Altis Partners (Jersey) Limited<sup>12</sup></u>
  - (5) <u>Code of Ethics of Sub-Adviser (Propel Bio Management, LLC)<sup>16</sup></u>
  - (6) <u>Code of Ethics of Asterozoa Capital, LLC<sup>19</sup></u>
  - (7) <u>Code of Ethics of System 2 Advisors L.P.<sup>22</sup></u>
  - (8) <u>Code of Ethics of Gamma Asset Management LLC<sup>25</sup></u>
  - (9) <u>Code of Ethics of FCO Advisors  $LP^{25}$ </u>

(10) <u>Code of Ethics of Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC<sup>26</sup></u>

- 1 [reserved]
- 2 Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on May 18, 2020.
- 3 Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on August 19, 2020.
- 4 Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on November 24, 2020.
- Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on December 3, 2020.
   Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on May 7, 2021
- Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on May 7, 2021.
   Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on May 21, 2021
- Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on May 21, 2021.
  Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on September 9, 2021.
- Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on October 12, 2021.
   Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on October 12, 2021.
- Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on October 18, 2021.
- <sup>11</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on October 21, 2021.
- <sup>12</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on January 27, 2022.
- <sup>13</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on March 29, 2022.
- <sup>14</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on September 16, 2022.
- <sup>15</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on August 25, 2022.
- <sup>16</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on October 27, 2022.
- 17 Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on December 20, 2022.
- <sup>18</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on March 17, 2023.
- <sup>19</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on June 12, 2023.
- <sup>20</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on October 23, 2023.
- <sup>21</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on October 27, 2023.
- 22 Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on February 16, 2024.
- 23 Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on April 11, 2024.
- <sup>24</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on May 28, 2024.
- <sup>25</sup> Filed as an exhibit to the Registrant's Registration Statement on July 10, 2024.
- 26 Filed herewith.
- 27 To be filed by subsequent amendment.

## Item 29. Persons Controlled by or Under Common Control with the Funds

The table below depicts the persons controlled or under common control with the Funds:

Fund	Controlled Foreign Corporation
Simplify Volatility Premium ETF	Simplify Volatility Premium Cayman Fund
Simplify Macro Strategy ETF	Simplify Macro Strategy Cayman Fund
Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF	Simplify Managed Futures Strategy Cayman Fund
Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income ETF	Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income Cayman Fund
Simplify Commodities Strategy No K-1 ETF	Simplify Commodities Strategy No K-1 Cayman Fund
Simplify Enhanced Income ETF	Simplify Enhanced Income Cayman Fund Limited
Simplify Multi-QIS Alternative ETF	Simplify Multi-QIS Alternative Cayman Fund Limited
Simplify Aggregate Bond ETF	Simplify Aggregate Bond Cayman Fund Limited

Each a Controlled Foreign Corporation was formed under and is subject to the laws of the Cayman Islands. The financial statements of each Cayman Controlled Foreign Corporation are consolidated with the financial statements of its respective fund.

## Item 30. Indemnification

Pursuant to the Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the "Declaration"), every person who is, or has been, a Trustee, officer, or employee of the Trust, including persons who serve at the request of the Trust as directors, trustees, officers, employees or agents of another organization in which the Trust has an interest as a shareholder, creditor or otherwise ("Covered Person"), shall be indemnified by the Trust to the fullest extent permitted by law against liability and against all expenses reasonably incurred or paid by him in connection with any claim, action, suit or proceeding in which he becomes involved as a party or otherwise by virtue of his being or having been such a Trustee, director, officer, employee or agent and against amounts paid or incurred by him in settlement thereof.

No indemnification shall be provided under the Declaration to a Covered Person to the extent such indemnification is prohibited by applicable federal law.

The Underwriting Agreement provides that the Registrant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Foreside Financial Services, LLC (the "Distributor"), its affiliates and each of their respective directors, officers and employees and agents and any person who controls the Distributor within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act of 1933 against any loss, liability, claim, damages or expense (including the reasonable cost of investigating or defending any alleged loss, liability, claim, damages or expense and reasonable counsel fees incurred in connection therewith) that the Distributor may incur arising out of or based upon: (i) Distributor serving as distributor for the Trust in compliance with this Agreement and applicable law; (ii) the allegation of any wrongful act of the Trust or any of its directors, officers, employees or affiliates in connection with its duties and responsibilities in this Agreement; (iii) any claim that the Registration Statement, Prospectus, Statement of Additional Information, product description, shareholder reports, Marketing Materials and advertisements specifically approved by the Registrant and the Adviser/Sub-Adviser or other information filed or made public by the Registrant (as from time to time amended) included an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein (and in the case of the Prospectus, Statement of Additional Information and product description, in light of the circumstances under which they were made) not misleading under the Securities Act, or any other statute or the common law; (iv) the breach by the Registrant of any obligation, representation or warranty contained in this Agreement; or (v) the Registrant's failure to comply in any material respect with applicable securities laws.



## Item 31. Business and Other Connections of the Investment Adviser

A description of any other business, profession, vocation, or employment of a substantial nature in which the Adviser or each Sub-Adviser is set forth in the applicable Fund's Prospectus in the section entitled "Management" and Statement of Additional Information in the section titled "Investment Adviser".

The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Adviser is incorporated by reference to the Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-119255). The Adviser's Form ADV may be obtained, free of charge, at the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Sub-Adviser (Volt Equity, LLC) is incorporated by reference to the Sub-Adviser (Propel Bio Management, LLC) is incorporated by reference to the Sub-Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-119673). The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Sub-Adviser (Propel Bio Management, LLC) is incorporated by reference to the Sub-Adviser (Asterozoa Capital, LLC) is incorporated by reference to the Sub-Adviser (Asterozoa Capital, LLC) is incorporated by reference to the Sub-Adviser (System 2 Advisors, L.P.) is incorporated by reference to the Sub-Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-122731). The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Sub-Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-122731). The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Sub-Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-129754). The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Sub-Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-129754). The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Sub-Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-129754). The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Sub-Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-12023). The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Sub-Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-129754). The information required by this Item 31 with respect to each director, officer or partner of the Sub-Adviser's Form ADV (File No. 801-12293). The information requir

# Item 32. Foreside Financial Services, LLC

- Item 32(a) Foreside Financial Services, LLC (the "Distributor") serves as principal underwriter for the following investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended:
- 1. AB Active ETFs, Inc.
- 2. ABS Long/Short Strategies Fund
- 3. Absolute Shares Trust
- 4. ActivePassive Core Bond ETF, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 5. ActivePassive Intermediate Municipal Bond ETF, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 6. ActivePassive International Equity ETF, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 7. ActivePassive U.S. Equity ETF, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 8. Adaptive Core ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 9. AdvisorShares Trust
- 10. AFA Private Credit Fund
- 11. AGF Investments Trust
- 12. AIM ETF Products Trust
- 13. Alexis Practical Tactical ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 14. AlphaCentric Prime Meridian Income Fund
- 15. American Century ETF Trust
- 16. Amplify ETF Trust
- 17. Applied Finance Dividend Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 18. Applied Finance Explorer Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 19. Applied Finance Select Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 20. ARK ETF Trust

- 21. ARK Venture Fund
- 22. Bitwise Funds Trust
- 23. Bluestone Community Development Fund
- 24. BondBloxx ETF Trust
- 25. Bramshill Multi-Strategy Income Fund, Series of Investment Managers Series Trust
- 26. Bridgeway Funds, Inc.
- 27. Brinker Capital Destinations Trust
- 28. Brookfield Real Assets Income Fund Inc.
- 29. Build Funds Trust
- 30. Calamos Convertible and High Income Fund
- 31. Calamos Convertible Opportunities and Income Fund
- 32. Calamos Dynamic Convertible and Income Fund
- 33. Calamos ETF Trust
- 34. Calamos Global Dynamic Income Fund
- 35. Calamos Global Total Return Fund
- 36. Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund
- 37. Carlyle Tactical Private Credit Fund
- 38. Cascade Private Capital Fund
- 39. Center Coast Brookfield MLP & Energy Infrastructure Fund
- 40. Clifford Capital Focused Small Cap Value Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 41. Clifford Capital International Value Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 42. Clifford Capital Partners Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 43. Cliffwater Corporate Lending Fund
- 44. Cliffwater Enhanced Lending Fund
- 45. Cohen & Steers Infrastructure Fund, Inc.
- 46. Convergence Long/Short Equity ETF, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 47. CornerCap Small-Cap Value Fund, Series of Managed Portfolio Series
- 48. CrossingBridge Pre-Merger SPAC ETF, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 49. Curasset Capital Management Core Bond Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 50. Curasset Capital Management Limited Term Income Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 51. CYBER HORNET S&P 500<sup>®</sup> and Bitcoin 75/25 Strategy ETF, Series of ONEFUND Trust
- 52. Davis Fundamental ETF Trust
- 53. Defiance Daily Short Digitizing the Economy ETF, Series of ETF Series Solutions
- 54. Defiance Hotel, Airline, and Cruise ETF, Series of ETF Series Solutions
- 55. Defiance Next Gen Connectivity ETF, Series of ETF Series Solutions
- 56. Defiance Next Gen H2 ETF, Series of ETF Series Solutions
- 57. Defiance Quantum ETF, Series of ETF Series Solutions
- 58. Denali Structured Return Strategy Fund
- 59. Direxion Funds
- 60. Direxion Shares ETF Trust
- 61. Dividend Performers ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 62. Dodge & Cox Funds
- 63. DoubleLine ETF Trust
- 64. DoubleLine Income Solutions Fund
- 65. DoubleLine Opportunistic Credit Fund
- 66. DoubleLine Yield Opportunities Fund
- 67. DriveWealth ETF Trust
- 68. EIP Investment Trust
- 69. Ellington Income Opportunities Fund
- 70. ETF Opportunities Trust

- 71. Evanston Alternative Opportunities Fund
- 72. Exchange Listed Funds Trust
- 73. FlexShares Trust
- 74. Forum Funds
- 75. Forum Funds II
- 76. Forum Real Estate Income Fund
- 77. Goose Hollow Enhanced Equity ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 78. Goose Hollow Multi-Strategy Income ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 79. Goose Hollow Tactical Allocation ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 80. Grayscale Future of Finance ETF, Series of ETF Series Solutions
- 81. Gramercy Emerging Markets Debt Fund, Series of Investment Managers Series Trust
- 82. Guinness Atkinson Funds
- 83. Harbor ETF Trust
- 84. Horizon Kinetics Blockchain Development ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 85. Horizon Kinetics Energy and Remediation ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 86. Horizon Kinetics Inflation Beneficiaries ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 87. Horizon Kinetics Medical ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 88. Horizon Kinetics SPAC Active ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 89. IDX Funds
- 90. Innovator ETFs Trust
- 91. Ironwood Institutional Multi-Strategy Fund LLC
- 92. Ironwood Multi-Strategy Fund LLC
- 93. John Hancock Exchange-Traded Fund Trust
- 94. LDR Real Estate Value-Opportunity Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 95. Mairs & Power Balanced Fund, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 96. Mairs & Power Growth Fund, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 97. Mairs & Power Minnesota Municipal Bond ETF, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 98. Mairs & Power Small Cap Fund, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 99. Manor Investment Funds
- 100. Milliman Variable Insurance Trust
- 101. Mindful Conservative ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 102. Moerus Worldwide Value Fund, Series of Northern Lights Fund Trust IV
- 103. Mohr Growth ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 104. Mohr Industry Nav ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 105. Mohr Sector Nav ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 106. Morgan Stanley ETF Trust
- 107. Morningstar Funds Trust
- 108. Mutual of America Investment Corporation
- 109. NEOS ETF Trust
- 110. Niagara Income Opportunities Fund
- 111. North Square Investments Trust
- 112. OTG Latin American Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 113. Overlay Shares Core Bond ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 114. Overlay Shares Foreign Equity ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 115. Overlay Shares Hedged Large Cap Equity ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 116. Overlay Shares Large Cap Equity ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 117. Overlay Shares Municipal Bond ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 118. Overlay Shares Short Term Bond ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 119. Overlay Shares Small Cap Equity ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 120. Palmer Square Opportunistic Income Fund

- 121. Partners Group Private Income Opportunities, LLC
- 122. Performance Trust Mutual Funds, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 123. Performance Trust Short Term Bond ETF, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 124. Perkins Discovery Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 125. Philotimo Focused Growth and Income Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 126. Plan Investment Fund, Inc.
- 127. PMC Core Fixed Income Fund, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 128. PMC Diversified Equity Fund, Series of Trust for Professional Managers
- 129. Point Bridge America First ETF, Series of ETF Series Solutions
- 130. Preferred-Plus ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 131. Putnam ETF Trust
- 132. Rareview Dynamic Fixed Income ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 133. Rareview Systematic Equity ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 134. Rareview Tax Advantaged Income ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 135. Rareview Total Return Bond ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 136. Renaissance Capital Greenwich Funds
- 137. Reynolds Funds, Inc.
- 138. RiverNorth Enhanced Pre-Merger SPAC ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 139. RiverNorth Patriot ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 140. RMB Investors Trust
- 141. Robinson Opportunistic Income Fund, Series of Investment Managers Series Trust
- 142. Robinson Tax Advantaged Income Fund, Series of Investment Managers Series Trust
- 143. Roundhill Alerian LNG ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 144. Roundhill Ball Metaverse ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 145. Roundhill Cannabis ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 146. Roundhill ETF Trust
- 147. Roundhill Magnificent Seven ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 148. Roundhill S&P Global Luxury ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 149. Roundhill Sports Betting & iGaming ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 150. Roundhill Video Games ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 151. Rule One Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 152. Securian AM Real Asset Income Fund, Series of Investment Managers Series Trust
- 153. Six Circles Trust
- 154. Sound Shore Fund, Inc.
- 155. SP Funds Trust
- 156. Sparrow Funds
- 157. Spear Alpha ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 158. STF Tactical Growth & Income ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 159. STF Tactical Growth ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 160. Strategic Trust
- 161. Strategy Shares
- 162. Swan Hedged Equity US Large Cap ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 163. Syntax ETF Trust
- 164. Tekla World Healthcare Fund
- 165. Tema ETF Trust
- 166. Teucrium Agricultural Strategy No K-1 ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 167. Teucrium AiLA Long-Short Agriculture Strategy ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 168. Teucrium AiLA Long-Short Base Metals Strategy ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 169. The 2023 ETF Series Trust
- 170. The 2023 ETF Series Trust II

- 171. The Community Development Fund
- 172. The Finite Solar Finance Fund
- 173. The Private Shares Fund
- 174. The SPAC and New Issue ETF, Series of Collaborative Investment Series Trust
- 175. Third Avenue Trust
- 176. Third Avenue Variable Series Trust
- 177. Tidal ETF Trust
- 178. Tidal Trust II
- 179. TIFF Investment Program
- 180. Timothy Plan High Dividend Stock Enhanced ETF, Series of The Timothy Plan
- 181. Timothy Plan High Dividend Stock ETF, Series of The Timothy Plan
- 182. Timothy Plan International ETF, Series of The Timothy Plan
- 183. Timothy Plan Market Neutral ETF, Series of The Timothy Plan
- 184. Timothy Plan US Large/Mid Cap Core ETF, Series of The Timothy Plan
- 185. Timothy Plan US Large/Mid Core Enhanced ETF, Series of The Timothy Plan
- 186. Timothy Plan US Small Cap Core ETF, Series of The Timothy Plan
- 187. Total Fund Solution
- 188. Touchstone ETF Trust
- 189. TrueShares Active Yield ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 190. TrueShares Eagle Global Renewable Energy Income ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 191. TrueShares Low Volatility Equity Income ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 192. TrueShares Structured Outcome (April) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 193. TrueShares Structured Outcome (August) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 194. TrueShares Structured Outcome (December) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 195. TrueShares Structured Outcome (February) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 196. TrueShares Structured Outcome (January) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 197. TrueShares Structured Outcome (July) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 198. TrueShares Structured Outcome (June) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 199. TrueShares Structured Outcome (March) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 200. TrueShares Structured Outcome (May) ETF, Listed Funds Trust
- 201. TrueShares Structured Outcome (November) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 202. TrueShares Structured Outcome (October) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 203. TrueShares Structured Outcome (September) ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 204. TrueShares Technology, AI & Deep Learning ETF, Series of Listed Funds Trust
- 205. U.S. Global Investors Funds
- 206. Union Street Partners Value Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 207. Vest Bitcoin Strategy Managed Volatility Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 208. Vest S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Dividend Aristocrats Target Income Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 209. Vest US Large Cap 10% Buffer Strategies Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 210. Vest US Large Cap 10% Buffer Strategies VI Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 211. Vest US Large Cap 20% Buffer Strategies Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 212. Vest US Large Cap 20% Buffer Strategies VI Fund, Series of World Funds Trust
- 213. VictoryShares Core Intermediate Bond ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 214. VictoryShares Core Plus Intermediate Bond ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 215. VictoryShares Corporate Bond ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 216. VictoryShares Developed Enhanced Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 217. VictoryShares Dividend Accelerator ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 218. VictoryShares Emerging Markets Value Momentum ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 219. VictoryShares Free Cash Flow ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 220. VictoryShares International High Div Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II

- 221. VictoryShares International Value Momentum ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 222. VictoryShares International Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 223. VictoryShares NASDAQ Next 50 ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 224. VictoryShares Short-Term Bond ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 225. VictoryShares THB Mid Cap ESG ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 226. VictoryShares US 500 Enhanced Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 227. VictoryShares US 500 Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 228. VictoryShares US Discovery Enhanced Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 229. VictoryShares US EQ Income Enhanced Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 230. VictoryShares US Large Cap High Div Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 231. VictoryShares US Multi-Factor Minimum Volatility ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 232. VictoryShares US Small Cap High Div Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 233. VictoryShares US Small Cap Volatility Wtd ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 234. VictoryShares US Small Mid Cap Value Momentum ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 235. VictoryShares US Value Momentum ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 236. VictoryShares WestEnd US Sector ETF, Series of Victory Portfolios II
- 237. Volatility Shares Trust
- 238. West Loop Realty Fund, Series of Investment Managers Series Trust
- 239. Wilshire Mutual Funds, Inc.
- 240. Wilshire Variable Insurance Trust
- 241. WisdomTree Digital Trust
- 242. WisdomTree Trust
- 243. WST Investment Trust
- 244. XAI Octagon Floating Rate & Alternative Income Term Trust
- Item 32(b) The following are the Officers and Manager of the Distributor, the Registrant's underwriter. The Distributor's main business address is Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, Maine 04101.

Name	Address	Position with Underwriter	Position with Registrant
Teresa Cowan	111 E. Kilbourn Ave, Suite 2200, Milwaukee, WI 53202	President/Manager	None
Chris Lanza	Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101	Vice President	None
Kate Macchia	Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101	Vice President	None
Nanette K. Chern	Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101	Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer	None
Kelly B. Whetstone	Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101	Secretary	None
Susan L. LaFond	111 E. Kilbourn Ave, Suite 2200, Milwaukee, WI 53202	Treasurer	None
Weston Sommers	Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101	Financial and Operations Principal and Chief Financial Officer	None

Item 32(c) Not applicable.

## Item 33. Location of Accounts and Records

The books, accounts and other documents required by Section 31(a) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and the rules promulgated thereunder are maintained in the physical possession of Simplify Asset Management, Inc., 222 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10038; and Bank of New York Mellon 240 Greenwich St. New York, NY 10286. Foreside maintains all records relating to its services as Distributor of the Registrant at Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101.

# Item 34. Management Services

Not applicable.

# Item 35. Undertakings

Not applicable

### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Registrant has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, duly authorized, in the city of Bexley and State of Ohio, on the 20th day of September 2024.

Simplify Exchange Traded Funds

By: Paul Kim, President\*

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed below by the following person in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Signature	Title	
Paul Kim*	President, Trustee, and Principal Executive Officer	
Fiona Ho**	Treasurer and Principal Financial Officer	
Zung Nguyen*	Trustee	
Craig Enders*	Trustee	
Christopher Caltagirone*	Trustee	
<ul> <li>* Pursuant to Powers of Attorney<sup>19</sup></li> <li>** Pursuant to Power of Attorney<sup>22</sup></li> </ul>		
	By: /s/ JoAnn M. Strasser	
	Name: JoAnn M. Strasser	
	Title: Attorney-in-Fact	
	Date: September 20, 2024	
	C-15	

# Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.	Exhibit Name
(d)(24)	Investment Sub-Advisory Agreement between Simplify EQLS LLC and Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC with respect to the Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF
(d)(27)	Management Agreement between the Trust and Simplify EQLS LLC with respect to Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF
(e)(9)	Amendment to the ETF Distribution Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF
(g)(10)	Amendment to the Custody Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF
(h)(22)	Amendment to Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF
(h)(23)	Amendment to Transfer Agency and Service Agreement for the purpose of adding Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF
(i)	Legal Opinion and Consent of Thompson Hine LLP
(m)	12b-1 Distribution and Service Plan
(p)(10)	Code of Ethics of Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC

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#### SUB-ADVISORY AGREEMENT

THIS SUB-ADVISORY AGREEMENT (the "Agreement") is made and entered into as of September 19, 2024 by and between Simplify EQLS LLC. (the "Adviser"), a Delaware corporation registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the "Advisers Act"), with an office at 222 Broadway 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10038; and Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC (the "Sub-Adviser"), a New York limited liability company registered under the Advisers Act, with an office at 757 Third Avenue 6th Floor New York, NY 10017; with respect to the Simplify Wolf US Equity 150/50 ETF (the "Fund"), a series of the Simplify Exchange Traded Funds (the "Trust"), a Delaware statutory trust.

WHEREAS, the Adviser has been retained to act as investment adviser for the Fund pursuant to a Management Agreement with the Trust dated as of May 26, 2023 (the "Management Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Management Agreement permits the Adviser to delegate certain of its duties under the Management Agreement to other investment advisers, subject to the requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended ("1940 Act");

WHEREAS, the Adviser desires to retain the Sub-Adviser to assist it in the provision of a continuous investment program for the Fund's assets, and the Sub-Adviser is willing to render such services subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree:

1. <u>Appointment and Status of Sub-Adviser</u>. The Adviser hereby appoints the Sub-Adviser to provide investment advisory services to the Fund for the period and on the terms set forth in this Agreement. The Sub-Adviser accepts such appointment and agrees to render the services herein set forth, upon the terms and for the compensation herein provided. The Sub-Adviser shall for all purposes herein be deemed to be an independent contractor of the Adviser and the Trust and shall, unless otherwise expressly provided herein or authorized by the Adviser or the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Trust from time to time, have no authority to act for or represent the Adviser or the Trust in any way or otherwise be deemed an agent of the Adviser or the Trust.

2. <u>Sub-Adviser's Duties</u>. Subject to the general supervision of the Board and the Adviser, the Sub-Adviser shall, on a discretionary basis, assist in the management of the investment operations of the Fund and manage the composition of the portfolio of securities belonging to the Fund, including determination of securities to be purchased, retained and disposed thereof and the execution of agreements relating thereto, in accordance with the Fund's investment objective, policies and restrictions as stated in the Fund's then-current Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information (collectively, the "Prospectus") and subject to the following understandings:

(a) The Sub-Adviser shall furnish, in its discretion and subject to the oversight and review of the Adviser and the Board, a continuous investment program for the Fund and determine the securities to be purchased, retained or sold by the Fund and what portion of the assets belonging to the Fund will be invested;

- (b) The Sub-Adviser, in the performance of its duties and obligations under this agreement for the Fund, shall act in conformity with the Fund's Prospectus and with the reasonable instructions and directions of the Board and the Adviser, and will conform to and comply with the applicable requirements of the 1940 Act, the Advisers Act, the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended ("CEA") and the rules under each, and all other federal and state laws or regulations applicable to the Sub-Adviser with respect to its duties and obligations hereunder;
- (c) Subject to the general supervision of the Board and the Adviser, the Sub-Adviser shall determine the securities to be purchased or sold by the Fund and instruct the Adviser to place portfolio transactions pursuant to its determinations. For avoidance of doubt, the Adviser, and not the Sub-Adviser, will be responsible for placing all trades (including cash positions) on behalf of the Fund and seeking best execution on behalf of the Fund, unless otherwise specified by the Adviser in writing;
- (d) The Sub-Adviser shall maintain books and records of all recommendations made pursuant to this Agreement, in the form and for the period required by Rule 31a-2 under the Company Act, and shall render to the Adviser and the Board such periodic and special reports as the Adviser or the Board may reasonably request;
- (e) The Sub-Adviser represents and warrants to the Adviser that: (i) it is registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act and is registered or licensed as an investment adviser under the laws of all jurisdictions in which its activities require it to be so registered or licensed; (ii) the Sub-Adviser is not an "affiliated person," as such term is defined in Section 2(a)(3) of the 1940 Act, of the Trust, the Fund or the Adviser other than by reason of serving as Sub-Adviser to the Fund; (iii) it has reviewed the registration requirements of the CEA and the National Futures Association ("NFA") relating to commodity trading advisors and is either appropriately registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and a member of the NFA or exempt or excluded from CFTC registration requirements; (iv) it will maintain each such registration, license or membership in effect at all times during the term of this Agreement and will obtain and maintain such additional governmental, self-regulatory, exchange or other licenses, approvals and/or memberships and file and maintain effective such other registrations as may be required to enable the Sub-Adviser to perform its obligations under this Agreement;
- (f) The Sub-Adviser hereby represents that it has adopted a written code of ethics complying with the requirements of Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act and Rule 204A-1 under the Advisers Act and will provide the Adviser and the Trust with a copy of the code of ethics. Within 45 days of the last calendar quarter of each year while this Agreement is in effect, the Sub-Adviser shall certify to the Adviser and the Trust that the Sub-Adviser has complied with the requirements of Rule 17j-1 and Rule 204A-1 during the previous year and that there has been no material violation of the Sub-Adviser's code of ethics or, if such a material violation has occurred, that appropriate action was taken in response to such violation. Upon the written request of the Adviser, or the Trust, the Sub-Adviser shall provide reasonable periodic certifications regarding compliance with its code of ethics, including the Sub-Adviser's chief compliance officer's annual report required by the Advisers Act;

- (g) The Sub-Adviser agrees to maintain adequate compliance procedures reasonably designed to maintain its compliance in all material respects with the 1940 Act, the Advisers Act, the CEA, and other applicable federal and state regulations. The Sub-Adviser shall provide to the Trust's chief compliance officer an annual written report regarding the Sub-Adviser's compliance program.
- (h) The Adviser has delivered to the Sub-Adviser copies of (i) the Trust's Declaration of Trust and Bylaws, (ii) the Trust's Registration Statement with respect to the Fund, all exhibits thereto, and all amendments thereto filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), or the 1940 Act, (iii) the Fund's current Prospectus, and (iv) all procedures adopted by the Trust with respect to the Fund (e.g., repurchase agreement procedures). Upon request, the Trust shall deliver to the Sub-Adviser (a) a certified copy of the resolution of the Board appointing the Sub-Adviser and authorizing the execution and delivery of this Agreement, (b) a copy of all proxy statements and related materials relating to the Fund, and (c) any other documents, materials or information that the Sub-Adviser shall reasonably request to enable it to perform its duties pursuant to this Agreement or to comply with applicable laws. The Sub-Adviser may disclose only that portion of the information which is advised by legal counsel that is required by law to be disclosed. The Adviser shall furnish, to the extent practicable, to the Sub-Adviser a copy of each amendment of or supplement to the foregoing;
- (i) The Sub-Adviser has delivered to the Adviser (i) a copy of its Form ADV as most recently filed with the SEC, and (ii) a copy of its current compliance policies and procedures. The Sub-Adviser shall promptly furnish the Adviser and Trust with all amendments of or supplements to the foregoing at least annually.
- (j) If required by the CEA or the rules and regulations thereunder promulgated by the CFTC the Sub-Adviser will provide the Fund with a copy of its most recent CFTC disclosure document or a written explanation of the reason why it is not required to deliver such a disclosure document.

3. <u>Custodian</u>. The assets of the Fund shall be held by an independent custodian identified by the Adviser. Neither the Adviser nor the Sub-Adviser will have custody of any securities, cash or other assets of the Fund.

4. <u>Risk Acknowledgment</u>. The Trust and the Adviser shall expect of the Sub-Adviser, and the Sub-Adviser will give the Trust and the Adviser the benefit of, the Sub-Adviser's best judgment in rendering its services hereunder. The Adviser acknowledges and agrees that the Sub-Adviser shall not be liable to the Adviser or the Trust hereunder for any mistake of judgment or any loss, except as provided herein under Section 10 or under applicable law.

The Sub-Adviser shall not be liable to the Adviser or the Trust for any action taken or failure to act in good faith reliance upon: (i) information, instructions or requests, whether oral or written, with respect to the Fund that the Sub-Adviser reasonably believes were made by a duly authorized officer of the Adviser or the Trust, (ii) the written advice of counsel to the Trust, and (iii) any written instruction or certified copy of any resolution of the Board.

5. <u>Directions to the Sub-Adviser</u>. The Adviser will be responsible for providing all Adviser and/or Trust directions, notices, and instructions to the Sub-Adviser in writing, which shall be effective upon receipt by the Sub-Adviser. The Sub-Adviser shall be fully protected in relying upon any such direction, notice, or instruction until it has been duly advised in writing of changes therein.

6. <u>Cooperation with Agents</u>. The Sub-Adviser agrees to cooperate with and provide reasonable assistance to the Adviser, the Trust, the Fund, the Fund's custodian, accounting agent, administrator, pricing agents, independent auditors and all other agents, representatives and service providers of the Fund and the Adviser with respect to the assets of the Fund as they may reasonably request from time to time in the performance of their obligations, provide prompt responses to reasonable requests made by such persons and establish appropriate interfaces with each so as to promote the efficient exchange of information and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

7. Books and Records. The Sub-Adviser shall maintain and preserve the Trust's books and records required to be maintained by it in connection with the services it provides under this Agreement and as required of an investment adviser of a registered investment company pursuant to the 1940 Act and the Advisers Act and the rules thereunder. The Sub-Adviser agrees that all records that it maintains for the Trust are the property of the Trust and it will promptly surrender any of such records to the Trust upon the Trust's request. To the extent that such records contain the Sub-Adviser's proprietary information, the Trust agrees to safeguard such information and not disclose such information to any third party except pursuant to applicable law, regulation, regulatory guidance, government request, or legal process. Upon request, the Adviser shall provide the Sub-Adviser with commercially reasonable records and information as the Adviser may access regarding the Fund.

8. <u>Expenses of the Sub-Adviser</u>. During the term of this Agreement, the Sub-Adviser shall pay all expenses incurred by it in connection with the performance of its services under this Agreement. The Sub-Adviser shall not be liable for any expenses of the Adviser or the Fund unless liable pursuant to Section 10 of this Agreement.

9. <u>Compensation of the Sub-Adviser</u>. For the services provided and the expenses borne by the Sub-Adviser pursuant to this Agreement, the Adviser will pay monthly the Sub-Adviser a sub-advisory fee as set forth on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto. Payment of this compensation shall be the responsibility of the Adviser and shall not be an obligation of the Trust. If the Sub-Adviser is terminated as specified in this Agreement, then the compensation to the Sub-Adviser shall be prorated to the termination date.

10. <u>Liability</u>. Neither the Sub-Adviser nor its shareholders, members, officers, directors, employees, agents, control persons or affiliates of any thereof, shall be liable for (a) any error of judgment, (b) mistake of law, or for (c) any loss suffered by the Fund, the Adviser, or the Trust in connection with the matters to which this Agreement relates except a loss resulting from Sub-Adviser's breach of fiduciary duty with respect to (x) its receipt of compensation for services under this Agreement (in which case any award of damages shall be limited to the period and the amount set forth in Section 36(b)(3) of the 1940 Act) or (y) a loss resulting from Sub-Adviser's willful misfeasance, bad faith, or gross negligence in the performance of its duties under this Agreement.

Any person, even though also a director, officer, employee, shareholder, member or agent of the Sub-Adviser, who may be or become an officer, director, trustee, employee or agent of the Trust, shall be deemed, when rendering services to the Trust or acting on any business of the Trust (other than services or business in connection with the Sub-Adviser's duties hereunder), to be rendering such services to or acting on such business solely for the Trust and not as a director, officer, employee, shareholder, member or agent of the Sub-Adviser, or one under the Sub-Adviser's control or direction, even though paid by the Sub-Adviser.

11. Duration and Termination. The term of this Agreement shall begin as of the day it is executed and, unless sooner terminated as hereinafter provided, shall continue in effect for a period of two years. This Agreement shall continue in effect from year to year thereafter, subject to termination as hereinafter provided, if such continuance is approved at least annually (a) by a majority of the outstanding voting securities (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund or by vote of the Trust's Board, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval, and (b) by vote of a majority of the Trustees of the Trust who are not parties to this Agreement or "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of any party to this Agreement, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Sub-Adviser shall furnish to the Adviser and the Trust, promptly upon their request, such information as may reasonably be necessary to evaluate the terms of this Agreement or any extension, renewal or amendment thereof.

This Agreement may be terminated at any time on 60 days' prior written notice to the Sub-Adviser, without the payment of any penalty, (i) by vote of the Board, (ii) by the Adviser for Cause (defined below), (iii) by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund, or (iv) in accordance with the terms of any exemptive order obtained by the Trust or the Adviser under Section 6(c) of the 1940 Act, exempting the Trust or the Fund from Section 15(a) and Rule 18f-2 under the 1940 Act. The Sub-Adviser may terminate this Agreement at any time, without the payment of any penalty, on at least 60 days' prior written notice to the Adviser and the Trust. Termination of this Agreement and/or the services of the Sub-Adviser will not affect (i) the validity of any action previously taken by the Sub-Adviser under this Agreement; (ii) liabilities or obligations of the parties for transactions initiated before termination of this Agreement; or (iii) the Fund's obligation to pay advisory fees to Adviser. If this Agreement is terminated by the Adviser or Sub-Adviser, the Sub-Adviser will have no further obligation to take any action subsequent to termination with respect to the Fund except as may be reasonably required pursuant to the notice of termination and in furtherance of its role as a fiduciary in order to facilitate an orderly transition of its duties and obligations herein. This Agreement will automatically and immediately terminate in the event of its assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act).

"Cause," as used in the preceding paragraph, means Sub-Adviser's or its manager's who are responsible for providing advisory services to the Fund hereunder: (1) illegal conduct, willful misconduct, or fraud in connection with the performance of Sub-Adviser's duties to the Adviser, the Fund, or the Trust; (2) conviction or a plea of nolo contendere (or the equivalent) to a felony involving the securities business, any crime involving moral turpitude, any felony or misdemeanor involving conduct described in Section 203(e)(2)(A)-(D) of the Adviser Act, or of any of the conduct specified in paragraphs (1), (5) or (6) of Section 203(e) of the Advisers Act; or (3) subjection to a Securities and Exchange Commission order issued under Sections 203(f) or 203(e)(3) or (4) of the Advisers Act.

### 12. Exclusivity.

- (a) The Sub-Adviser, its officers, employees, and agents, may have or take the same or similar positions in specific investments for their own accounts, or for the accounts of other clients, as the Sub-Adviser does for the Fund. The Adviser expressly acknowledges and understands that the Sub-Adviser shall be free to render investment advice to others and that the Sub-Adviser does not make its investment management services available exclusively to the Adviser or the Fund. Nothing in this Agreement shall impose upon the Sub-Adviser any obligation to purchase or sell, or to recommend for purchase or sale, for the Fund any security which the Sub-Adviser, its principals, affiliates or employees, may purchase or sell for their own accounts or for the account of any other client, if in the reasonable opinion of the Sub-Adviser such investment would be unsuitable for the Fund or if the Sub-Adviser determines in the best interest of the Fund such purchase or sale would be impractical. Except to the extent necessary to perform its obligations hereunder, and notwithstanding the limitations of section (b), below, nothing herein shall be deemed to limit or restrict the Sub-Adviser's right, or the right of any of the Sub-Adviser's directors, officers, managers, analysts or employees to engage in any other business or to devote time and attention to the management or other aspects of any other business, whether of a similar or dissimilar nature, or to render services of any kind to any other corporation, trust, firm, individual or association.
- (b) The Sub-Adviser agrees that during the term of this Agreement, the Sub-Adviser shall not serve as investment adviser or sub-adviser to another registered investment company managed in a substantially similar style to the Fund. The Adviser may waive this limitation.

13. Use of Name. Except as required by law or governmental regulations, the Adviser and the Fund may use the Sub-Adviser's name to identify the Sub-Adviser as the sub-adviser to the Fund in the Trust's registration statement, shareholder reports, marketing materials for the Fund, or otherwise, without the prior written approval of the Sub-Adviser, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

14. <u>Good Standing</u>. The Adviser and the Sub-Adviser hereby warrant and represent that they are investment advisers in good standing that their respective regulatory filings are current and accurately reflect their advisory operations, and that they are in compliance with applicable state and federal rules and regulations pertaining to investment advisers. In addition, the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser further warrant and represent (as of the date hereof and continuing during the term of this Agreement) that neither is (nor any of their respective Associated Persons are) subject to any censure, denial bar, or suspension of registration as set forth in Sections 203(e) and 203(f) of the Advisers Act (or any successor Advisers Act sections or rules), nor are they currently the subject of any investigation or proceeding which could result in such censure, denial bar, or suspension of registration. The Adviser and the Sub-Adviser acknowledge that their respective obligations to advise the other with respect to these representations shall be continuing and ongoing, and should any representation change for any reason, each agrees to advise the other immediately and provide the corresponding pertinent facts and circumstances.

15. <u>Amendment</u>. This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser, provided the Trust approves the amendment (i) by vote of a majority of the Trustees of the Trust, including Trustees who are not parties to this Agreement or "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of any such party, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such amendment, and (ii) if required under then current interpretations of the 1940 Act by the Securities and Exchange Commission, by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund affected by such amendment.

16. <u>Confidentiality</u>. The Adviser and the Sub-Adviser acknowledge prior receipt of the other's Privacy Policy. The Adviser and the Sub-Adviser agree to safeguard all information pertaining to the Fund consistent with the requirements of applicable state and federal privacy statutes pertaining to registered investment advisers.

17. <u>Cooperation</u>. Each party to this Agreement agrees to cooperate with each other party and with all appropriate governmental authorities having the requisite jurisdiction (including, but not limited to, the Securities and Exchange Commission, CFTC and state regulators) in connection with any investigation or inquiry relating to this Agreement or the Fund.

18. <u>Notice</u>. Whenever any notice is required or permitted to be given under any provision of this Agreement, such notice shall be in writing, shall be signed by or on behalf of the party giving the notice and shall be mailed by first class or express mail, or sent by courier or facsimile with confirmation of transmission to the other party at the addresses or facsimile numbers specified on page one or to such other address as a party may from time to time specify to the other party by such notice hereunder. Any such notice shall be deemed duly given when delivered at such address.

19. <u>Arbitration</u>. Subject to the conditions and exceptions noted below, and to the extent not inconsistent with applicable law, in the event of any dispute pertaining to this Agreement, the Sub-Adviser and the Adviser agree to submit the dispute to arbitration in accordance with the auspices and rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"), provided that the AAA accepts jurisdiction. The Sub-Adviser and the Adviser understand that such arbitration shall be final and binding, and that by agreeing to arbitration, the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser are waiving their respective rights to seek remedies in court, including the right to a jury trial.

20. <u>Governing Law</u>. (a) This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, without regard to the conflicts of laws principles thereof, and (b) any question of interpretation of any term or provision of this Agreement having a counterpart in or otherwise derived from a term or provision of the 1940 Act, shall be resolved by reference to such term or provision of the 1940 Act and to interpretation thereof, if any, by the United States courts or in the absence of any controlling decision of any such court, by rules, regulations or orders of the SEC issued pursuant to said 1940 Act. In addition, where the effect of a requirement of the 1940 Act reflected in any provision of this Agreement is revised by rule, regulation or order of the SEC, such provision shall be deemed to incorporate the effect of such rule, regulation or order.

21. <u>Severability</u>. In the event any provision of this Agreement is determined to be void or unenforceable, such determination shall not affect the remainder of this Agreement, which shall continue to be in force.

22. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

23. <u>Binding Effect</u>. Each of the undersigned expressly warrants and represents that he has the full power and authority to sign this Agreement on behalf of the party indicated and that his signature will operate to bind the party indicated to the foregoing terms.

24. Third-Party Beneficiary. The Fund is an intended third-party beneficiary under this Agreement and is entitled to enforce this Agreement as if it were a party hereto.

25. Survival. Sections 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, and 24 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

26. <u>Captions</u>. The captions in this Agreement are included for convenience of reference only and in no way define or delimit any of the provisions hereto or otherwise affect their construction or effect.

27. <u>Change of Control</u>. The Sub-Adviser shall notify the Adviser and the Trust in writing at least 60 days in advance of any change of control, as defined in Section 2(a)(9) of the 1940 Act, as will enable the Trust to consider whether an assignment, as defined in Section 2(a)(4) of the 1940 Act, would occur.

28. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Agreement, together with all exhibits, attachments and appendices and any separate agreement between the parties relating to expense sharing, contains the entire understanding and agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof.

29. <u>Other Business</u>. Except as set forth above, nothing in this Agreement shall limit or restrict the right of any of the Sub-Adviser's members, directors, officers or employees who may also be a trustee, officer, partner or employee of the Trust to engage in any other business or to devote his or her time and attention in part to the management or other aspects of any business, whether of a similar or a dissimilar nature, nor limit or restrict the Sub-Adviser's right to engage in any other business or to render services of any kind to any other corporation, firm, individual or association.

(the rest of this page intentionally left blank)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their officers designated below as of the date and year first above written.

# Simplify EQLS LLC

By: /s/ Paul Kim Name: Paul Kim Title: Chief Executive Officer

### Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC

By: /s/ Mackenzie Fulk Name: Mackenzie Fulk Title: President

[Signature Page to Sub-Advisory Agreement]

Exhibit A

Fund	Ticker	Annual Sub-Advisory Fee as a Percentage of Average Fund Net Assets
Simplify Wolf US Equity 150/50 ETF	WUSA	0%

TO: Simplify EQLS LLC 222 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor New York, NY 10018

Dear Sirs:

Simplify Exchange Traded Funds (the "Trust") herewith confirms our agreement with you.

The Trust has been organized to engage in the business of an open-end management investment company. The Trust currently offers several series of shares to investors.

You have been selected to act as the sole investment manager of the series of the Trust set forth on the Exhibit A to this Agreement, as amended from time to time to establish additional series (each, a "Fund" and together the "Funds") and to provide certain other services, as more fully set forth below, and you are willing to act as such investment manager and to perform such services under the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth. Accordingly, the Trust agrees with you as follows.

### 1. <u>ADVISORY SERVICES</u>

Subject to the supervision of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Trust, you will provide or arrange to be provided to the Funds such investment advice as you in your discretion deem advisable and will furnish or arrange to be furnished a continuous investment program for each of the Funds consistent with each Fund's investment objective and policies. You will determine or arrange for others to determine the securities to be purchased for each Fund, the portfolio securities to be held or sold by each Fund and the portion of each Fund's assets to be held uninvested, subject always to the Fund's investment objective, policies and restrictions, as each of the same shall be from time to time in effect, and subject further to such policies and instructions as the Board may from time to time establish. You will furnish such reports, evaluations, information or analyses to the Trust as the Board may request from time to time or as you may deem to be desirable. You also will advise and assist the officers of the Trust in taking such steps as are necessary or appropriate to carry out the decisions of the Board and the appropriate committees of the Board regarding the conduct of the business of the Trust. You may delegate any of the responsibilities, rights or duties described above to one or more persons, provided you notify the Trust and agree that such delegation does not relieve you from any liability hereunder.

The Adviser shall provide at least sixty (60) days prior written notice to the Trust of any change in the ownership or management of the Adviser, or any event or action that may constitute a change in control. The Adviser shall provide prompt notice of any change in the portfolio manager(s) responsible for the day-to-day management of the Funds.

The Adviser shall be subject to: (1) the restrictions of the Trust's Declaration of Trust as amended from time to time; (2) the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Act") and the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended; (3) the statements relating to the Funds' investment objectives, investment strategies and investment restrictions as set forth in the registration statement of the Trust under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended; and (4) any applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The Adviser shall be registered as an investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") prior to the effectiveness of this Agreement and shall maintain such registration throughout the duration of this Agreement.

#### 2. ALLOCATION OF CHARGES AND EXPENSES

You will pay all operating expenses of the Funds, including the compensation and expenses of any employees of the Funds and of any other persons rendering any services to the Funds; clerical and shareholder service staff salaries; office space and other office expenses; fees and expenses incurred by each Fund in connection with membership in investment company organizations; legal, auditing and accounting expenses; expenses of registering

shares under federal and state securities laws, including expenses incurred by each Fund in connection with the organization and initial registration of shares of the Fund; insurance expenses; any sub-advisory fees, fees and expenses of the custodian, transfer agent, dividend disbursing agent, shareholder service agent, plan agent, administrator, accounting and pricing services agent and underwriter of the Funds; expenses, including clerical expenses, of issue, sale, redemption or repurchase of shares of the Funds; the cost of preparing and distributing reports and notices to shareholders, the cost of printing or preparing prospectuses and statements of additional information for delivery to shareholders; the cost of printing or preparing stock certificates or any other documents, statements or reports to shareholders; expenses of shareholders' meetings and proxy solicitations; advertising, promotion and other expenses incurred directly or indirectly in connection with the sale or distribution of a Fund's shares, excluding expenses which a Fund is authorized to pay pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act; and all other operating expenses not specifically assumed by a Fund.

Each Fund will pay all interest expenses, taxes, brokerage expenses, Rule 12b-1 fees (if any), acquired fund fees and expenses, expenses incidental to a meeting of the Fund's shareholders and the management fee payable to you under this Agreement.

You may obtain reimbursement from the Funds, at such time or times as you may determine in your sole discretion, for any of the expenses advanced by you which a Fund is obligated to pay, and such reimbursement shall not be considered to be part of your compensation pursuant to this Agreement.

### 3. <u>COMPENSATION OF THE MANAGER</u>

For all of the services to be rendered as provided in this Agreement, as of the last business day of each month, each Fund will pay you a fee based on the average value of the daily net assets of the Fund and paid at an annual rate as set forth on Exhibit A.

The average value of the daily net assets of a Fund shall be determined pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust or a resolution of the Board, if required. If, pursuant to such provisions, the determination of net asset value of a Fund is suspended for any particular business day, then for the purposes of this paragraph, the value of the net assets of the Fund as last determined shall be determined, on that day. If the determination of the net asset value of a Fund has been suspended for a period including such month, your compensation payable at the end of such month shall be computed on the basis of the value of the net assets of a Fund as last determined (whether during or prior to such month).

# 4. EXECUTION OF PURCHASE AND SALE ORDERS

In connection with purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the account of the Funds, it is understood that you will arrange for the placing of all orders for the purchase and sale of portfolio securities for the account with brokers or dealers selected by you, subject to review of this selection by the Board from time to time. You will be responsible for the negotiation and the allocation of principal business and portfolio brokerage. In the selection of such brokers or dealers and the placing of such orders, you are directed at all times to seek for the Funds the best qualitative execution, taking into account such factors as price (including the applicable brokerage commission or dealer spread), the execution capability, financial responsibility and responsiveness of the broker or dealer and the brokerage and research services provided by the broker or dealer.

You should generally seek favorable prices and commission rates that are reasonable in relation to the benefits received. In seeking best qualitative execution, you are authorized to select brokers or dealers who also provide brokerage and research services to the Funds and/or the other accounts over which you exercise investment discretion. You are authorized to pay a broker or dealer who provides such brokerage and research services a commission for executing the Funds' portfolio transaction which is in excess of the amount of commission another broker or dealer would have charged for effecting that transaction if you determine in good faith that the amount of the commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided by the executing broker or dealer. The determination may be viewed in terms of either a particular transaction or your overall responsibilities with respect to the Funds and to accounts over which you exercise investment discretion. The Funds and you understand and acknowledge that, although the information may be useful to the Funds and you, it is not possible to place a dollar value on such information. The Board shall periodically review the commissions paid by the Funds to determine if the commissions paid over representative periods of time were reasonable in relation to the benefits to the Funds.

A broker's or dealer's sale or promotion of Fund shares shall not be a factor considered by your personnel responsible for selecting brokers to effect securities transactions on behalf of the Funds. You and your personnel shall not enter into any written or oral agreement or arrangement to compensate a broker or dealer for any promotion or sale of Fund shares by directing to such broker or dealer (i) a Fund's portfolio securities transactions or (ii) any remuneration, including but not limited to, any commission, mark-up, mark down or other fee received or to be received from the Fund's portfolio transactions through such broker or dealer. However, you may place Fund portfolio transactions with brokers or dealers that sell or promote shares of a Fund provided the Board has adopted policies and procedures under Rule 12b-1(h) under the Act and such transactions are conducted in compliance with those policies and procedures.

Subject to the provisions of the Act, and other applicable law, you, any of your affiliates or any affiliates of your affiliates may retain compensation in connection with effecting the Funds' portfolio transactions, including transactions effected through others. If any occasion should arise in which you give any advice to your clients concerning the shares of the Funds, you will act solely as investment counsel for such client and not in any way on behalf of the Funds.

### 5. <u>PROXY VOTING</u>

You will vote all proxies solicited by or with respect to the issuers of securities in which assets of the Funds may be invested from time to time. Such proxies will be voted in a manner that you deem, in good faith, to be in the best interest of the Funds and in accordance with your proxy voting policy. You agree to provide a copy of your proxy voting policy, and any amendments thereto, to the Trust prior to the execution of this Agreement.

#### 6. <u>CODE OF ETHICS</u>

You have adopted a written code of ethics complying with the requirements of Rule 17j-1 under the Act and will provide the Trust with a copy of the code and evidence of its adoption. Within 45 days of the last calendar quarter of each year while this Agreement is in effect, you will provide to the Board a written report that describes any issues arising under the code of ethics since the last report to the Board, including, but not limited to, information about material violations of the code and sanctions imposed in response to the material violations; and which certifies that you have adopted procedures reasonably necessary to prevent access persons (as that term is defined in Rule 17j-1) from violating the code.

### 7. <u>SERVICES NOT EXCLUSIVE/USE OF NAME</u>

Your services to the Funds pursuant to this Agreement are not to be deemed to be exclusive, and it is understood that you may render investment advice, management and other services to others, including other registered investment companies, provided, however, that such other services and activities do not, during the term of this Agreement, interfere in a material manner, with your ability to meet all of your obligations with respect to rendering services to the Fund.

The Trust and you acknowledge that all rights to the name "Simplify" or any variation thereof in the Fund's name belong to you or your affiliate, and that the Trust is being granted a limited license to use such words in the name of the Fund. In the event you cease to be the adviser to the Fund, the Trust's right to the use of the name "Simplify" shall automatically cease on the ninetieth day following the termination of this Agreement. The right to the name may also be withdrawn by you during the term of this Agreement upon ninety (90) days' written notice by you to the Trust. Nothing contained herein shall impair or diminish in any respect, your right to use the name "Simplify" in the name of, or in connection with, any other business enterprises with which you are or may become associated. There is no charge to the Trust for the right to use this name.

### 8. <u>LIMITATION OF LIABILITY OF MANAGER</u>

You may rely on information reasonably believed by you to be accurate and reliable. Except as may otherwise be required by the Act or the rules thereunder, neither you nor your directors, officers, employees, shareholders, members, agents, control persons or affiliates of any thereof shall be subject to any liability for, or any damages, expenses or losses incurred by the Trust in connection with, any error of judgment, mistake of law, any act or omission connected with or arising out of any services rendered under, or payments made pursuant to, this Agreement or any other matter to which this Agreement relates, except by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on the part of any such persons in the performance of your duties under this Agreement, or by reason of reckless disregard by any of such persons of your obligations and duties under this Agreement.

Any person, even though also a director, officer, employee, shareholder, member or agent of you, who may be or become a trustee, officer, employee or agent of the Trust, shall be deemed, when rendering services to the Trust or acting on any business of the Trust (other than services or business in connection with your duties hereunder), to be rendering such services to or acting solely for the Trust and not as a director, officer, employee, shareholder, member, or agent of you, or one under your control or direction, even though paid by you.

### 9. INSURANCE COVERAGE

At all times during the term of this Agreement, you will maintain a Fidelity Bond as required under the Act and at least \$1,000,000 in Errors & Omissions coverage. Upon request, you will provide the Trust with proof of coverage issued by a reputable insurance company.

# 10. DURATION AND TERMINATION OF THIS AGREEMENT

The term of this Agreement with respect to a Fund shall begin on the date this Agreement, or any amendment thereto, is executed as set forth in Exhibit A (the "Effective Date") and shall continue in effect with respect to a Fund for a period of two years from the Effective Date for such Fund. This Agreement shall continue in effect from year to year thereafter, subject to termination as hereinafter provided, if such continuance is approved at least annually by (a) a majority of the outstanding voting securities of such Fund or by vote of the Board, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval, and (b) by vote of a majority of the Trustees of the Trust who are not parties to this Agreement or "interested persons" of any party to this Agreement, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval.

This Agreement may, on sixty (60) days written notice, be terminated with respect to a Fund, at any time without the payment of any penalty, by the Board, by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund, or by you. This Agreement shall automatically terminate in the event of its assignment.

### 11. <u>RETENTION OF SUB-ADVISER</u>

Subject to the Trust's obtaining the initial and periodic approvals required under Section 15 of the Act or pursuant to an exemptive order held by the Adviser, the Adviser may retain one or more sub-advisers, at the Adviser's own cost and expense, for the purpose of managing the investments of the assets of one or more Fund. Retention of one or more sub-advisers shall in no way reduce the responsibilities or obligations of the Adviser under this Agreement and the Adviser shall, subject to Section <u>13</u> of this Agreement, be responsible to the Trust for all acts or omissions of any sub-adviser in connection with the performance of the Adviser's duties hereunder.

### 12. <u>AMENDMENT OF THIS AGREEMENT</u>

No provision of this Agreement may be changed, waived, discharged or terminated orally, and no amendment of this Agreement shall be effective until approved by the Board, including a majority of the Trustees who are not interested persons of you or of the Trust, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval, and (if required under interpretations of the Act by the SEC or its staff) by vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund to which the amendment relates.

### 13. <u>LIMITATION OF LIABILITY TO TRUST PROPERTY</u>

It is expressly agreed that the obligations of the Trust hereunder shall not be binding upon any of Trustees, officers, employees, agents or nominees of the Trust, or any shareholders of any series of the Trust, personally, but bind only the trust property of the Trust (and only the property of the Fund), as provided in the Agreement and Declaration of Trust. The execution and delivery of this Agreement have been authorized by the Trustees and shareholders of the Funds and signed by officers of the Trust, acting as such, and neither such authorization by such Trustees and shareholders nor such execution and delivery by such officers shall be deemed to have been made by any of them individually or to impose any liability on any of them personally, but shall bind only the trust property of the Trust (and only the property of Fund) as provided in its Agreement and Declaration of Trust. A copy of the Certificate of Trust is on file with the Secretary of State of Delaware.

### 14. <u>SEVERABILITY</u>

In the event any provision of this Agreement is determined to be void or unenforceable, such determination shall not affect the remainder of this Agreement, which shall continue to be in force.

### 15. <u>BOOKS AND RECORDS</u>

In compliance with the requirements of Rule 31a-3 under the Act, you agree that all records which you maintain for the Trust are the property of the Trust and you agree to surrender promptly to the Trust such records upon the Trust's request. You further agree to preserve for the periods prescribed by Rule 31a-2 under the Act all records which you maintain for the Trust that are required to be maintained by Rule 31a-1 under the Act.

### 16. <u>QUESTIONS OF INTERPRETATION</u>

(a) This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Delaware.

(b) For the purpose of this Agreement, the terms "assignment," "majority of the outstanding voting securities," "control" and "interested person" shall have their respective meanings as defined in the Act and rules and regulations thereunder, subject, however, to such exemptions as may be granted by the SEC under the Act; and the term "brokerage and research services" shall have the meaning given in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

(c) Any question of interpretation of any term or provision of this Agreement having a counterpart in or otherwise derived from a term or provision of the Act shall be resolved by reference to such term or provision of the Act and to interpretation thereof, if any, by the United States courts or in the absence of any controlling decision of any such court, by the SEC or its staff. In addition, where the effect of a requirement of the Act, reflected in any provision of this Agreement, is revised by rule, regulation, order or interpretation of the SEC or its staff, such provision shall be deemed to incorporate the effect of such rule, regulation, order or interpretation.

### 17. <u>NOTICES</u>

Any notices under this Agreement shall be in writing, addressed and delivered or mailed postage paid to the other party at such address as such other party may designate for the receipt of such notice. Until further notice to the other party, it is agreed that the address of the Trust is 222 Broadway, 22nd Floor, New York, NY United States 10038.

### 18. <u>CONFIDENTIALITY</u>

You agree to treat all records and other information relating to the Trust and the securities holdings of the Funds as confidential and shall not disclose any such records or information to any other person unless (i) the Board has approved the disclosure or (ii) such disclosure is compelled by law. In addition, you, and your officers, directors and employees are prohibited from receiving compensation or other consideration, for themselves or on behalf of the Fund, as a result of disclosing the Fund's portfolio holdings. You agree that, consistent with your Code of Ethics, neither you nor your officers, directors or employees may engage in personal securities transactions based on nonpublic information about the Fund's portfolio holdings.



### 19. <u>COUNTERPARTS</u>

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

# 20. <u>BINDING EFFECT</u>

Each of the undersigned expressly warrants and represents that he has the full power and authority to sign this Agreement on behalf of the party indicated, and that his signature will operate to bind the party indicated to the foregoing terms.

### 21. <u>CAPTIONS</u>

The captions in this Agreement are included for convenience of reference only and in no way define or delimit any of the provisions hereof or otherwise affect their construction or effect.

If you are in agreement with the foregoing, please sign the form of acceptance on the accompanying counterpart of this letter and return such counterpart to the Trust, whereupon this letter shall become a binding contract upon the date thereof.

Yours very truly,

#### Simplify Exchange Traded Funds

By: <u>/s/ Paul Kim</u> Name: Paul Kim Title: President and Trustee

**ACCEPTANCE:** 

The foregoing Agreement is hereby accepted.

# Simplify EQLS LLC

By: <u>/s/ Paul Kim</u> Name: Paul Kim Title: Chief Executive Officer

# Exhibit A

Fund	Ticker	Percentage of Average Fund Daily Net Assets	Effective Date
Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF	WUSA	0.75%	Sept 18, 2024

### THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT TO ETF DISTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

This thirteenth amendment ("Amendment") to the ETF Distribution Agreement (the "Agreement") novated as of September 30, 2021, by and between Simplify Exchange Traded Funds ("Trust") and Foreside Financial Services, LLC ("Foreside") is entered into with effect as of September 12th, 2024 (the "Effective Date").

WHEREAS, Trust and Foreside ("Parties") desire to amend Exhibit A of the Agreement to reflect an updated Funds list; and

WHEREAS, Section 8(b) of the Agreement requires that all amendments and modifications to the Agreement be in writing and executed by the Parties.

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

- 1. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in Agreement.
- 2. Exhibit A of the Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by Exhibit A attached hereto.
- 3. Except as expressly amended hereby, all the provisions of the Agreement shall remain unamended and in full force and effect to the same extent as if fully set forth herein.
- 4. This Amendment shall be governed by, and the provisions of this Amendment shall be construed and interpreted under and in accordance with, the laws of the State of Delaware.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Amendment to be executed in their names and on their behalf by and through their duly authorized officers, as of the Effective Date.

### SIMPLIFY EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS

FORESIDE FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC

By: /s/ Paul Kim Paul Kim, President By: /s/ Teresa Cowan Teresa Cowan, President

1	Simplify US Equity PLUS Convexity ETF
2	Simplify US Equity PLUS Downside Convexity ETF
3	Simplify US Equity PLUS Upside Convexity ETF
4	Simplify Volt RoboCar Disruption and Tech ETF
5	Simplify U.S. Equity PLUS GBTC ETF
6	Simplify Volatility Premium ETF
7	Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF
8	Simplify Intermediate Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF
9	Simplify Health Care ETF
10	Simplify Hedged Equity ETF
11	Simplify Macro Strategy ETF
12	Simplify High Yield PLUS Credit Hedge ETF
13	Simplify Aggregate Bond ETF
14	Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF
15	Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income ETF
16	Simplify Short Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF
17	Simplify Enhanced Income ETF
18	Simplify Treasury Option Income ETF
19	Simplify Propel Opportunities ETF
20	Simplify Conservative Allocation ETF
21	Simplify Moderate Allocation ETF
22	Simplify Growth Allocation ETF
23	Simplify Income Allocation ETF
24	Simplify Commodities Strategy No K-1 ETF
25	Simplify Market Neutral Equity Long/Short ETF
26	Simplify Multi-QIS Alternative ETF
27	Simplify Opportunistic Income ETF
28	Simplify MBS ETF
29	Simplify US Equity PLUS QIS ETF
30	Simplify Tara India Opportunities ETF
31	Simplify Next Intangible Core Index ETF
32	Simplify Next Intangible Value Index ETF
33	Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF
34	Simplify National Muni Bond ETF
35	Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF

### AMENDMENT TO CUSTODY AGREEMENT

This Amendment ("Amendment") is made with effect as of September 23, 2024 ("Effective Date"), by and between Simplify Exchange Traded Funds (the "Trust"), on behalf of its series listed on Appendix I to the Agreement (as defined below) and THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON ("BNY").

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- A. BNY and the Trust entered into a Custody Agreement dated as of July 14, 2020, as amended to date, (the "Agreement") relating to BNY's provision of services to the Trust and its series.
- B. The parties desire to amend the Agreement as set forth herein.

#### TERMS:

The parties hereby agree that:

- 1. Appendix I to the Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with Appendix I attached hereto.
- 2. <u>Miscellaneous</u>.
  - (a) As hereby amended and supplemented, the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
  - (b) The Agreement, as amended hereby, constitutes the complete understanding and agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter thereof and supersedes all prior communications with respect thereto.
- 3. <u>Signatures; Counterparts</u>. The parties expressly agree that this Amendment may be executed in one or more counterparts and expressly agree that such execution may occur by manual signature on a physically delivered copy of this Amendment, by a manual signature on a copy of this Amendment transmitted by facsimile transmission, by a manual signature on a copy of this Amendment transmitted as an imaged document attached to an email, or by "Electronic Signature", which is hereby defined to mean inserting an image, representation or symbol of a signature into an electronic copy of this Amendment by electronic, digital or other technological methods. Each counterpart executed in accordance with the foregoing shall be deemed an original, with all such counterparts together constituting one and the same instrument. The exchange of executed counterparts of this Amendment or of executed signature pages to counterparts of this Amendment, in either case by facsimile transmission or as an imaged document attached to an email transmission, shall constitute effective execution and delivery of this Amendment and may be used for all purposes in lieu of a manually executed and physically delivered copy of this Amendment.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, each of the parties hereto has caused this Amendment to be executed as of the Effective Date by its duly authorized representative indicated below. An authorized representative, if executing this Amendment by Electronic Signature, affirms authorization to execute this Amendment by Electronic Signature and that the Electronic Signature represents an intent to enter into this Amendment and an agreement with its terms.

# SIMPLIFY EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS

By:	/s/ Fiona Ho
Name:	Fiona Ho

Title: Treasurer

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON

By:	
Name:	
Title:	

# Appendix I (Amended and Restated with effect as of September 23, 2024)

<u>Series</u>

1       Simplify US Equity PLUS Convexity ETF         2       Simplify US Equity PLUS Upside Convexity ETF         4       Simplify US Equity PLUS US Upside Convexity ETF         5       Simplify Us Raivey PLUS GBTC ETF         6       Simplify Volt RoboCar Disruption and Tech ETF         7       Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF         8       Simplify Intermediate Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF         9       Simplify Hedged Equity FTF         10       Simplify Macros Strategy ETF         12       Simplify Macros Strategy ETF         13       Simplify Macros Strategy ETF         14       Simplify Macros Strategy ETF         15       Simplify Batein Strategy ETF         16       Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF         17       Simplify Batein Strategy PLUS Income ETF         18       Simplify Batein Strategy PLUS Income ETF         19       Simplify Batein Strategy PLUS Income ETF         10       Simplify Fondel Opportunities ETF         20       Simplify Conservative Allocation ETF         21       Simplify Conservative Allocation ETF         22       Simplify Growth Allocation ETF         23       Simplify Macro Strategy No K-1 ETF         24       Simplify Macro Allocation ETF		
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34 Simplify National Muni Bond ETF	32	Simplify Next Intangible Value Index ETF
	33	Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF
35 Simplify Wolfe US Equity 50/150 ETF	34	Simplify National Muni Bond ETF
	35	Simplify Wolfe US Equity 50/150 ETF

### AMENDMENT TO FUND ADMINISTRATION AND ACCOUNTING AGREEMENT

This Amendment ("Amendment") is made with effect as of September 23, 2024 ("Effective Date"), by and between SIMPLIFY EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS (the "Trust)", on behalf of each of its series listed on Exhibit A to the Agreement (as defined below) and THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON ("BNY").

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- A. BNY and each Trust entered into a Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement dated as of July 14, 2020, as amended to date, (the "Agreement") relating to BNY's provision of services to the Trust and its series (each a "Series").
- B. The parties desire to amend the Agreement as set forth herein.

#### TERMS:

The parties hereby agree that:

- 1. Exhibit A to the Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with Exhibit A attached hereto.
- Miscellaneous.
  - (a) As hereby amended and supplemented, the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
  - (b) The Agreement, as amended hereby, constitutes the complete understanding and agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter thereof and supersedes all prior communications with respect thereto.
- 3. <u>Signatures; Counterparts</u>. The parties expressly agree that this Amendment may be executed in one or more counterparts and expressly agree that such execution may occur by manual signature on a physically delivered copy of this Amendment, by a manual signature on a copy of this Amendment transmitted by facsimile transmission, by a manual signature on a copy of this Amendment transmitted as an imaged document attached to an email, or by "Electronic Signature", which is hereby defined to mean inserting an image, representation or symbol of a signature into an electronic copy of this Amendment by electronic, digital or other technological methods. Each counterpart executed in accordance with the foregoing shall be deemed an original, with all such counterparts together constituting one and the same instrument. The exchange of executed counterparts of this Amendment or of executed signature pages to counterparts of this Amendment, in either case by facsimile transmission or as an imaged document attached to an email transmission, shall constitute effective execution and delivery of this Amendment and may be used for all purposes in lieu of a manually executed and physically delivered copy of this Amendment.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, each of the parties hereto has caused this Amendment to be executed as of the Effective Date by its duly authorized representative indicated below. An authorized representative, if executing this Amendment by Electronic Signature, affirms authorization to execute this Amendment by Electronic Signature and that the Electronic Signature represents an intent to enter into this Amendment and an agreement with its terms.

SIMPLIFY EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS, ON BEHALF OF EACH SERIES LISTED ON EXHIBIT A

By: /s/ Fiona Ho

Name:	Fiona Ho
Title:	Treasurer

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON

By:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title:

# EXHIBIT A (Amended and Restated with effect as of September 23, 2024)

<u>Series</u>

1       Simplify US Equity PLUS Convexity ETF         2       Simplify US Equity PLUS Obviside Convexity ETF         3       Simplify US Equity PLUS Obviside Convexity ETF         4       Simplify US Equity PLUS GBTC ETF         5       Simplify US. Equity PLUS GBTC ETF         6       Simplify Internet Rate Hedge ETF         7       Simplify Internediate Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF         9       Simplify Health Care ETF         10       Simplify Medged Equity ETF         11       Simplify Mero Strategy ETF         12       Simplify Marco Strategy ETF         13       Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF         14       Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF         15       Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF         16       Simplify Stobe Income ETF         17       Simplify Stabe Income ETF         18       Simplify Stabe Income ETF         19       Simplify Moderate Allocation ETF         20       Simplify Oportunities ETF         21       Simplify Commodities Strategy No K-1 ETF         22       Simplify Oneare Allocation ETF         23       Simplify Commodities Strategy No K-1 ETF         24       Simplify Multi-QIS Alternative ETF         25       Simplify Multi		
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4       Simplify Volt RoboCar Disruption and Tech ETF         5       Simplify U.S. Equity PLUS GBTC ETF         6       Simplify Intermediate Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF         7       Simplify Health Care ETF         9       Simplify Health Care ETF         10       Simplify Health Care ETF         11       Simplify Health Care ETF         12       Simplify Health Care ETF         13       Simplify Night Yield PLUS Credit Hedge ETF         13       Simplify Mind PLUS Credit Hedge ETF         14       Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF         15       Simplify Biteoin Strategy PLUS Income ETF         16       Simplify Enhanced Income ETF         17       Simplify Stable Income ETF         18       Simplify Notate Allocation ETF         20       Simplify Opportunities ETF         21       Simplify Gonservative Allocation ETF         22       Simplify Gonservative Allocation ETF         23       Simplify Income Allocation ETF         24       Simplify Market Neutral Equity Long/Short ETF         25       Simplify Moderate Allocation ETF         26       Simplify Mult-QIS Alternative ETF         27       Simplify Mult-QIS Alternative ETF         28       Simplify Market Ne	2	Simplify US Equity PLUS Downside Convexity ETF
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#### AMENDMENT TO TRANSFER AGENCY AND SERVICE AGREEMENT

This Amendment ("Amendment") is made with effect as of the September 23, 2024 ("Effective Date"), by and between SIMPLIFY EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS (the "Trust"), on behalf of each of its series listed on Appendix A to the Agreement (as defined below) and THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON ("BNY").

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- A. BNY and the Trust entered into a Transfer Agency and Service Agreement dated as of July 14, 2020, as amended to date, (the "Agreement") relating to BNY's provision of services to the Trust and its series.
- B. The parties desire to amend the Agreement as set forth herein.

#### TERMS:

The parties hereby agree that:

- 1. Appendix A to the Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with Appendix A attached hereto.
- 2. <u>Miscellaneous</u>.
  - (a) As hereby amended and supplemented, the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
  - (b) The Agreement, as amended hereby, constitutes the complete understanding and agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter thereof and supersedes all prior communications with respect thereto.
- 3. <u>Signatures; Counterparts</u>. The parties expressly agree that this Amendment may be executed in one or more counterparts and expressly agree that such execution may occur by manual signature on a physically delivered copy of this Amendment, by a manual signature on a copy of this Amendment transmitted by facsimile transmission, by a manual signature on a copy of this Amendment transmitted as an imaged document attached to an email, or by "Electronic Signature", which is hereby defined to mean inserting an image, representation or symbol of a signature into an electronic copy of this Amendment by electronic, digital or other technological methods. Each counterpart executed in accordance with the foregoing shall be deemed an original, with all such counterparts together constituting one and the same instrument. The exchange of executed counterparts of this Amendment or of executed signature pages to counterparts of this Amendment, in either case by facsimile transmission or as an imaged document attached to an email transmission, shall constitute effective execution and delivery of this Amendment and may be used for all purposes in lieu of a manually executed and physically delivered copy of this Amendment.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, each of the parties hereto has caused this Amendment to be executed as of the Effective Date by its duly authorized representative indicated below. An authorized representative, if executing this Amendment by Electronic Signature, affirms authorization to execute this Amendment by Electronic Signature and that the Electronic Signature represents an intent to enter into this Amendment and an agreement with its terms.

SIMPLIFY EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS, ON BEHALF OF EACH SERIES LISTED ON APPENDIX A

By: /s/ Fiona Ho

Name: Fiona Ho Title: Treasurer

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON

By:

Name:

Title:

# APPENDIX A (Amended and Restated with effect as of September 23, 2024)

<u>Series</u>

1       Simplify US Equity PLUS Convexity ETF         2       Simplify US Equity PLUS US bysid Convexity ETF         4       Simplify US Equity PLUS Obsection excity ETF         5       Simplify US Equity PLUS GBGT CFTF         6       Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF         8       Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF         9       Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF         9       Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF         10       Simplify Hedged Equity ETF         11       Simplify Marcs Trategy ETF         12       Simplify Marcs Trategy ETF         13       Simplify Aggregate Bond ETF         14       Simplify Short Tem Trasury Futures Strategy ETF         15       Simplify Short Tem Trasury Futures Strategy ETF         16       Simplify Short Tem Trasury Futures Strategy ETF         17       Simplify Short Tem Trasury Futures Strategy ETF         18       Simplify Short Tem Trasury Futures Strategy ETF         17       Simplify Market Income ETF         18       Simplify Note Tem Trasury Futures Strategy ETF         19       Simplify Modernet Allocation ETF         21       Simplify Modernet Allocation ETF         22       Simplify Modernet Allocation ETF         23       Simplify Connorduites Strategy No K-1 ETF </th <th>-</th> <th></th>	-	
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ATLANTA CINCINNATI COLUMBUS LOS ANGELES WASHINGTON, D.C.

DAYTON

NEW YORK

CLEVELAND

CHICAGO

September 20, 2024

Simplify Exchange Traded Funds 222 Broadway, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor New York, New York 10038

### Dear Board Members:

This letter is in response to your request for our opinion in connection with the filing of Post-Effective Amendment No. 121 to the Registration Statement, File Nos. 333-238475 and 811-23570 (the "Registration Statement"), of Simplify Exchange Traded Funds (the "Trust").

We have examined a copy of the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust, the Trust's By-Laws, the Trust's record of the various actions by the Trustees thereof, and all such agreements, certificates of public officials, certificates of officers and representatives of the Trust and others, and such other documents, papers, statutes and authorities as we deem necessary to form the basis of the opinion hereinafter expressed. We have assumed the genuineness of the signatures and the conformity to original documents of the copies of such documents supplied to us as copies thereof.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that, after the Post-Effective Amendment No. 121 is effective for purposes of applicable federal and state securities laws, the shares of each fund listed on the attached Exhibit A (the "Funds"), if issued in accordance with the then current Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information of the applicable Fund, will be legally issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

The opinions expressed herein are limited to matters of Delaware statutory trust law and United States Federal law as such laws exist today; we express no opinion as to the effect of any applicable law of any other jurisdiction. We assume no obligation to update or supplement our opinion to reflect any facts or circumstances that may hereafter come to our attention, or changes in law that may hereafter occur.

We hereby give you our permission to file this opinion with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to Post-Effective Amendment No. 121 to the Registration Statement and we consent to all references to us in Post-Effective Amendment No. 121. This opinion may not be filed with any subsequent amendment, or incorporated by reference into a subsequent amendment, without our prior written consent. This opinion is prepared for the Trust and its shareholders, and may not be relied upon by any other person or organization without our prior written approval.

Very truly yours,

/s/ THOMPSON HINE LLP

Thompson Hine LLP

PBS/JMS

THOMPSON HINE LLP Attorneys at Law 41 South High Street Suite 1700 Columbus, Ohio 43215-6101 www.ThompsonHine.com Phone: 614.469.3200 Fax: 614.469.3361



EXHIBIT A

1	Simplify Aggregate Bond ETF
2	Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income ETF
3	Simplify Commodities Strategy No K-1 ETF
5 4	Simplify Conservative Allocation ETF
5	Simplify Enhanced Income ETF
6	Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF
7	Simplify Growth Allocation ETF
8	Simplify Blowin Allocation ETT Simplify Health Care ETF
9	Simplify Hedged Equity ETF
10	Simplify High Yield PLUS Credit Hedge ETF
10	Simplify Income Allocation ETF
11	Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF
12	Simplify Interest Rate Heage ETF Simplify Intermediate Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF
13	Simplify Macro Strategy ETF
14	Simplify Malaged Futures Strategy ETF
15	Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF Simplify Market Neutral Equity Long/Short ETF
10	Simplify MBS ETF
	Simplify MdS ETF Simplify Moderate Allocation ETF
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19	Simplify Multi-QIS Alternative ETF
20	Simplify National Muni Bond ETF
21	Simplify Next Intangible Core Index ETF
22	Simplify Next Intangible Value Index ETF
23	Simplify Opportunistic Income ETF
24	Simplify Propel Opportunities ETF
25	Simplify Short Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF
26	Simplify Treasury Option Income ETF
27	Simplify Tara India Opportunities ETF
28	Simplify US Equity Plus Complexity ETF
29	Simplify US Equity Plus Downside Convexity ETF
30	Simplify US Equity Plus GBTC ETF
31	Simplify US Equity PLUS QIS ETF
32	Simplify US Equity Plus Upside Convexity ETF
33	Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF
34	Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF
35	Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF
36	Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF
37	Simplify Volatility Premium ETF
38	Simplify Volt TSLA Revolution ETF

#### RULE 12b-1 DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICE PLAN

1. <u>The Trust</u>. Simplify Exchange Traded Funds (the "Trust") is an open-end management investment company registered as such under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), and is authorized to issue separate series (each such series is referred to herein as a "Fund" and collectively the "Funds").

2. <u>The Plan</u>. The Trust desires to adopt a Rule 12b-1 Distribution and Service Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act with respect to the shares of beneficial interest ("Shares") of the Funds which are identified on Exhibit A hereof, as it may be amended from time to time to add or remove a Fund or Funds, and the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the "Board of Trustees") has determined that there is a reasonable likelihood that adoption of this Distribution and Service Plan (the "Plan") will benefit each such Fund (the "Designated Fund") and its holders of Shares. Accordingly, each Designated Fund hereby adopts this Plan in accordance with Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act on the following terms and conditions (capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein have the meanings assigned thereto in the Funds' registration statement under the 1940 Act and under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, as such registration statement is amended by any amendments thereto at the time in effect).

3. <u>The Distributor</u>. The Trust has entered into a written Distribution Agreement with Foreside Financial Services, LLC (the "Distributor"), pursuant to which the Distributor will act as the exclusive distributor with respect to the creation and distribution of Creation Unit size aggregations of Shares as described in the Funds' registration statement ("Creation Units").

#### 4. Payments.

(a) The Trust may pay a monthly fee not to exceed 0.25% per annum of each Fund's average daily net assets to reimburse the Distributor for actual amounts expended to finance any activity primarily intended to result in the sale of Creation Units of each Fund or the provision of investor services, including but not limited to (i) delivering copies of the Trust's then-current prospectus to prospective purchasers of such Creation Units; (ii) marketing and promotional services including advertising; (iii) facilitating communications with beneficial owners of shares of the Fund; and (iv) such other services and obligations as are set forth in the Distribution Agreement. Such payments shall be made within ten (10) days of the end of each calendar month. The determination of daily net assets shall be made at the close of business each day throughout the month and computed in the manner specified in the then current Prospectus for the determination of the net asset value of Creation Units.

(b) Distribution expenses incurred in any one year in excess of 0.25% of each Fund's average daily net assets may be reimbursed in subsequent years subject to the annual 0.25% limit and subject further to the approval of the Board of Trustees including a majority of the Trustees who are not "interested persons" of the Trust (as defined in the 1940 Act) and who have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of this Plan or in any agreement related to this Plan (the "Independent Trustees").

(c) The Distributor may use all or any portion of the amount received pursuant to this Plan to compensate securities dealers or other persons that are Authorized Participants for providing distribution assistance, including broker-dealer and shareholder support and educational and promotional services, pursuant to agreements with the Distributor, or to pay any of the expenses associated with other activities authorized under Section 4(a) hereof.

5. <u>Effective Date</u>. This Plan shall become effective upon approval by a vote of both a majority of the Board of Trustees and a majority of the Independent Trustees, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on this Plan.

6. <u>Term</u>. This Plan shall, unless terminated as hereinafter provided, remain in effect with respect to the Designated Fund for one year from its effective date and shall continue thereafter, provided that its continuance is specifically approved at least annually by a vote of both a majority of the Trustees and a majority of the Independent Trustees, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on this Plan.

7. <u>Amendment</u>. This Plan may be amended at any time by the Board of Trustees, provided that (a) any amendment to increase materially the amount to be spent for the services provided for in Section 4 hereof shall be effective only upon approval by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities (as such term is defined in the 1940 Act) of the Designated Fund, and (b) any material amendment of this Plan shall be effective only upon approval by a vote of both a majority of the Board of Trustees and a majority of the Independent Trustees, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such amendment.

8. <u>Termination</u>. This Plan may be terminated at any time, without payment of any penalty, by vote of a majority of the Independent Trustees, or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities (as such term is defined in the 1940 Act) of the Designated Fund. In the event of termination or non-continuance of this Plan, the Trust may reimburse any expense which it incurred prior to such termination or non-continuance, provided that such reimbursement is specifically approved by both a majority of the Board of Trustees and a majority of the Independent Trustees.

9. Assignment. This plan will not be terminated by an assignment; however, an assignment will terminate any agreement under the plan involving any such assignment.

10. <u>Reports</u>. While this Plan is in effect, the Distributor shall provide to the Trustees, and the Trustees shall review, at least quarterly, a written report of the amounts expended pursuant to the Plan and the purposes for which such expenditures were made.

11. <u>Records</u>. The Trust shall preserve copies of this Plan, each agreement related hereto and each report referred to in Section 10 hereof for a period of at least six years from the date of the Plan, agreement and report, the first two years in an easily accessible place.

12. <u>Independent Trustees</u>. While this Plan is in effect, the selection and nomination of Independent Trustees shall be committed to the discretion of the Trustees who are not "interested persons" of the Trust (as defined in the 1940 Act).

13. <u>Severability</u>. If any provision of the Plan shall be held or made invalid by a court decision, statute, rule or otherwise, the remainder of the Plan shall not be affected thereby.

# EXHIBIT A (as of August 23, 2024)

1       Simplify US Equity Plus Complexity ETF         2       Simplify US Equity Plus Downside Convexity ETF         3       Simplify US Equity Plus Upside Convexity ETF         4       Simplify Volt Robocar and Tech Disruption ETF	
3       Simplify US Equity Plus Upside Convexity ETF         4       Simplify Volt Robocar and Tech Disruption ETF	
4 Simplify Volt Robocar and Tech Disruption ETF	
5 Simplify Volt Cloud and Cybersecurity Disruption ETF	
6 Simplify Nasdaq 100 PLUS Downside Convexity ETF	
7 Simplify Nasdaq 100 PLUS Convexity ETF	
8 Simplify Volatility Premium ETF	
9 Simplify Interest Rate Hedge ETF	
10 Simplify Commodity Strategy ETF	
11 Simplify Gold Strategy ETF	
12 Simplify US Equity Plus GBTC ETF	
13 Simplify High Yield PLUS Credit Hedge ETF	
14 Simplify Tail Risk Strategy ETF	
15 Simplify Intermediate Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF	
16 Simplify Health Care ETF	
17 Simplify Hedged Equity ETF	
18 Simplify Developed Ex-US PLUS Downside Convexity ETF	
19 Simplify US Small Cap PLUS Downside Convexity ETF	
20 Simplify Emerging Markets Equity PLUS Downside Convexity ETF	
21 Simplify Aggregate Bond PLUS Credit Hedge ETF	
22 Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF	
23 Simplify Macro Strategy ETF	
24 Simplify Volt Web3 ETF	
25 Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income ETF	
26 Simplify Short Term Treasury Futures Strategy ETF	
27 Simplify Enhanced Income ETF	
28 Simplify Stable Income ETF	
29 Simplify Propel Opportunities ETF	
30 Simplify Conservative Allocation ETF	

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31	Simplify Moderate Allocation ETF
32	Simplify Growth Allocation ETF
33	Simplify Income Allocation ETF
34	Simplify Commodities Strategy No K-1 ETF
35	Simplify Market Neutral Equity Long/Short ETF
36	Simplify Multi-QIS Alternative ETF
37	Simplify Opportunistic Income ETF
38	Simplify MBS ETF
39	Simplify US Equity PLUS QIS ETF
40	Simplify Boosted US Equity Active ETF
41	Simplify Boosted US Quality Active ETF
42	Simplify Boosted US Value Active ETF
43	Simplify Opportunistic Equity ETF
44	Simplify Tara India Opportunities ETF
45	Simplify Next Intangible Core Index ETF
46	Simplify Next Intangible Value Index ETF
47	Simplify Gamma Emerging Market Bond ETF
48	Simplify National Muni Bond ETF
49	Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF
50	Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF
51	Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral SHIELD ETF
52	Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF

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Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC

**Code of Ethics** 

March 30, 2024

THIS CODE OF ETHICS IS THE PROPERTY OF WOLFE RESEARCH ADVISORS, LLC AND MUST BE RETURNED TO WOLFE RESEARCH ADVISORS, LLC SHOULD AN EMPLOYEE'S ASSOCIATION TERMINATE FOR ANY REASON. THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND SHOULD NOT BE PROVIDED TO THIRD PARTIES WITHOUT THE EXPRESS PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

The Code of Ethics Rule<sup>1</sup> of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the "Advisers Act"), requires investment advisers registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") to adopt a written code of ethics. This Code of Ethics (the "Code") sets forth standards of conduct expected for any partner, officer, director (or other person occupying a similar status or performing similar functions), investment adviser representative, or employee of Wolfe Research Advisors, LLC ("WRA" or the "Firm") or any other person who provides investment advice on behalf of the Firm and is subject to the Firm's supervision and control (each an "Employee" and collectively, "Employees"). Temporary staff, consultants and interns will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Chief Compliance Officer or designee (the "CCO") to determine whether or not they will be deemed Employees for purposes of this Code.

The Code reflects the Firm's and each Employee's fiduciary duty to the Firm's clients ("Clients"), which include (i) pension plans, institutional investors, other investment advisers, and (ii) subscribers to research reports prepared by the Firm or any of its affiliated entities ("Research Reports"). The Code also addresses certain possible conflicts of interest and includes policies that apply only to certain Employees who are deemed "Access Persons" or "Covered Associates" as defined in this Code. The Code should be read in conjunction with the Firm's Supervisory Procedures and Compliance Manual (the "Manual").

The following standards of business conduct will govern the interpretation and administration of this Code:

- The interests of the Firm's Clients must be placed first at all times;
- Employees should not take inappropriate advantage of their positions; and
- Employees must comply with all applicable laws.

The Code is designed to cover a variety of circumstances and conduct. However, no policy or procedure can anticipate every possible situation. Consequently, Employees of the Firm are expected not only to abide by the letter of the Code, but also its spirit, by upholding the fundamental ideals of the Firm which include integrity, honesty and trust.

The Firm may modify any or all of the policies and procedures set forth in the Code and current policies will be located on STAR Compliance. The CCO may delegate the day-to-day management of certain compliance duties to another qualified Employee or third party. As such, any reference herein to the duties of the CCO shall include any such designee.

The Code should be kept by each Employee for future reference and its guidelines should be made an active part of the Employee's normal course of business. In the event that an Employee has any questions regarding his or her responsibilities under the Code, he or she must contact the CCO.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rule 204A-1 of the Advisers Act.

# 2 FIDUCIARY DUTY TO CLIENTS

As an SEC-registered investment adviser, the Firm is considered to be a fiduciary. Although WRA may be subject to applicable fiduciary standards under the Advisers Act or other applicable state law, WRA is expressly not serving as:

- a fiduciary of plan assets as those terms are defined under Section 3(21) and Section 401(b) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"); or
- an investment manager as that term is defined in Section 3(38) of ERISA.

Furthermore, WRA is not responsible for the selection of the specific investment options to be made available under a Client's pension plan(s) (if any) and/or to be offered to participants under any such plan(s).

It is the Firm's policy that Employees conduct themselves and perform their assigned duties in a manner consistent with the following fiduciary duties.

# 2.1 Duty to Put Clients' Interests First

It is the Firm's policy that the interests of the Firm or Employees do not come before the best interests of the Firm's Clients.

# 2.2 Duty to be Fair

It is the Firm's policy to treat each similarly-situated Client and prospective Client fairly and that Research Reports are disseminated fairly to all Clients. To that end, Employees should not communicate the content of an upcoming Research Report to one Client or group of Clients ahead of other Clients who have subscribed to the same Research Report.

# 2.3 Duty of Care

It is the Firm's policy to perform its duties in a prudent manner and consistent with the following:

- Recommendations/opinions should have a reasonable and adequate basis and be supported by thorough, diligent and appropriate research and investigation;
- Recommendations/opinions should be based solely on the merits of the security or securities being recommended or covered and not biased by outside pressures such as the relationship the Firm or any Employee or any of the Firm's affiliates have or wish to have with the issuer of the security; and
- Facts are clearly distinguished from opinions and output provided to a Client (e.g., a Research Report) is clear and complete.

Employees are responsible for performing their duties in a manner consistent with the above.

## **3** OVERSIGHT OF THE CODE OF ETHICS

## 3.1 Acknowledgement of the Code

Each Employee must be informed of the Code upon hire and annually thereafter informed of any changes during the Annual Compliance Meeting,



# 3.2 Reporting Violations

All Employees must promptly report any violations of the Code and federal securities laws to the CCO. Issues can be reported to the CCO in person, or by telephone, email, or written letter. Reports of potential issues may be made anonymously and will be thoroughly investigated by the CCO, who will report directly to the President or the Managing Member (the "**MM**") of the Firm on the matter. Any problems identified during the review will be addressed in ways that reflect our fiduciary duty to our Clients.

An Employee's identification of a material compliance issue will be viewed favorably by the Firm. Retaliation against any Employee who reports a violation of the Code in good faith is strictly prohibited and will be cause for corrective action, up to and including dismissal. If an Employee believes that he or she has been retaliated against, he or she should notify the CCO or the President directly.

For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Code prohibits Employees from reporting potential violations of federal law or regulation to any governmental agency or entity, including but not limited to the Department of Justice, the SEC, or any federal or state agency's inspector general, or from making other disclosures that are protected under the whistleblower provisions of federal or state law or regulation. Employees do not need prior authorization from their supervisor, the CCO, or any other person or entity affiliated with the Firm to make any such reports or disclosures and do not need to notify WRA that they have made such reports or disclosures. Additionally, nothing in this Code prohibits Employees from recovering an award pursuant to a whistleblower program of a government agency or entity.

## 3.3 Sanctions for Failure to Comply with the Code of Ethics

If it is determined that an Employee has committed a violation of the Code, the Firm may impose sanctions and/or take other action as deemed appropriate. These actions may include, among other things, disgorgement of profits, criminal or civil penalties, a letter of caution or warning, suspension or termination of employment, and/or notification to the SEC or other appropriate government agency or entity of the violations.

# 3.4 CCO's Preclearance Requests

In all circumstances requiring preclearance under the Code, the President or other designee will provide preclearance to the CCO.

# 4 GIFTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## 4.1 Introduction

It is the Firm's policy that all Employees act in good faith and in the best interests of the Firm. To this end, Employees must not put themselves or the Firm in a position that would create even the appearance of a conflict of interest. If you have any doubts or questions about the appropriateness of any interests or activities, you should contact the CCO. Any interest or activity that might constitute a conflict of interest under this Code must be fully disclosed to the CCO so that a determination may be made as to whether such interest or activity should be disposed of, discontinued or limited.

## 4.2 Gifts and Entertainment Policy

Giving, receiving or soliciting gifts in a business setting may create an appearance of impropriety or may raise a potential conflict of interest. The Firm has adopted the policies set forth below to guide Employees in this area.

The Firm's "Gifts and Entertainment Policy" distinguishes between a "Gift" and "Entertainment." Gifts are items (or services) of value that a third party provides to an Employee (or an Employee to a third party) where the giver is not present in the enjoyment of the gift. Entertainment, on the other hand, contemplates that the giver participates and is present in the enjoyment of the item. Entertainment is only appropriate when used to foster and promote business relationships for the Firm. Solicitation of Gifts and/or Entertainment is unprofessional and is strictly prohibited.

# 4.2.1 Value of Gifts and Entertainment

Employees must not accept or provide any gifts or favors that might influence the decisions they or the recipient must make in business transactions involving the Firm, or that others might reasonably believe would influence those decisions. Modest gifts and favors, which would not be regarded by others as improper, may be accepted or given on an occasional basis. Entertainment that satisfies these requirements and conforms to generally accepted business practices also is permissible. In order to provide guidance on this policy, Employees may not give or receive a Gift with a value in excess of \$100 per individual per year to or from anyone with whom the Firm has, or is likely to have, business dealings (e.g., a Client, prospective Client, candidate for employment, supplier, vendor or potential supplier or vendor). Employees may not give or accept an invitation that involves Entertainment that is excessive or not usual or customary. Logo items with *de minimus* value (less than \$20) such as hats, pens, etc. are exempt from the gift policy. Where there is a law or rule that applies to the conduct of a particular business or the acceptance of gifts of even nominal value, the law or rule must be followed. If an Employee is unable to judge the value of a Gift or believes that the Entertainment may be excessive, he or she should contact the CCO for guidance.

## 4.2.2 Reporting of Gifts and Entertainment

Each Employee must notify in writing the CCO promptly upon receiving or prior to giving a Gift or invitation for Entertainment. The written notification must include a detailed description of the events surrounding the activity, the amount given or received, the circumstances under which the activity took place and reasons for accepting or giving gifts or gratuities. Under no circumstances should either cash or cash equivalent gifts/gratuities be either provided or received. Gifts of a perishable nature that are shared amongst co-workers, such as holiday gift baskets and lunches brought to the Firm's offices by service providers, do not need to be reported. The CCO is responsible for recording the information on the Gift Log. This gift and entertainment reporting requirement is for the purpose of helping the Firm monitor the activities of its Employees. However, the reporting of a gift or entertainment does not relieve any Employee from the obligations and policies set forth in this Section or anywhere else in this Code. If covered persons have any questions or concerns about the appropriateness of any gift, they should consult their designated supervisory principal and/or the CCO/Compliance.

# 5 ANTI-BRIBERY POLICY AND PROCEDURES

## 5.1 Firm's Anti-Bribery Policy

It is the Firm's "Anti-Bribery Policy" that no Employee may offer payments, or anything else of value, to a government official that will assist the Firm in obtaining or retaining business or securing any improper business advantage, including making, promising or offering bribes to maintain existing business relationships or operations. Anyone at the Firm found to be violating the Firm's Anti-Bribery Policy will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include termination. The Firm requires all Employees to report any suspicious activity that may violate this policy to the CCO. An Employee's failure to report known or suspected violations may itself lead to disciplinary action.

## 5.1.1 Foreign Corrupt Practices Act

The U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act ("FCPA") prohibits individuals and companies from corruptly making or authorizing an offer, payment or promise to pay anything of value to a foreign official<sup>2</sup> for the purpose of influencing an official act or decision in order to obtain or retain business. The FCPA applies to all foreign officials and all employees of state-owned enterprises.

Under the FCPA, both the Firm and its individual Employees can be criminally liable for payments made to agents or intermediaries "knowing" that some portion of those payments will be passed on to (or offered to) a foreign official. The knowledge element required is not limited to actual knowledge, but includes "consciously avoiding" the high probability that a third party representing the Firm will make or offer improper payments to a foreign official.

# 5.1.2 FCPA Red Flags

Investment advisers that engage foreign agents are expected to be attuned to any "red flags" in connection with the transaction, which may include:

- The foreign country's reputation for corruption;
- Requests by a foreign agent for offshore or other unusual payment methods;
- Refusal of a foreign agent to certify that it will not make payments that would be unlawful under the FCPA;
- An apparent lack of qualifications;
- Non-existent or non-transparent accounting standards; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A "foreign official" includes: any officer or employee of or person acting in an official capacity for or on behalf of a foreign government or any department, agency, or instrumentality thereof, or of a public international organization; any employee or official of any court system, government regulatory or financial bodies, state-owned or controlled enterprises, and sovereign wealth funds; and foreign political parties and candidates for office.



• Whether the foreign agent comes recommended or "required" by a government official.

Sanctions for violating the FCPA may include fines and jail terms.

## 5.1.3 Preclearance Requirement

Any payment or anything else of value given to a foreign official must be pre-approved by the CCO.

# 6 POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND PAY TO PLAY

## 6.1 Introduction

In light of scandals involving public pension plans and the practice of making campaign contributions to elected officials in order to influence the awarding of lucrative contracts for the management of public pension plan assets and similar government investment accounts, (so-called "pay to play") the SEC adopted Rule 206(4)-5 under the Advisers Act (the "**Pay to Play Rule**"). While the Pay to Play Rule does not prohibit the Firm from providing advisory services to government Clients, it does prohibit the Firm from receiving compensation for such advisory services if certain political contributions (above a *de minimis* amount) have been made by the Firm, or certain of its executives and employees to such government Clients, within the prior two years.

The Rule also makes it unlawful for the Firm and certain of its Employees to make direct or indirect payment to any person to solicit government Clients for investment advisory services on the Firm's behalf unless the "solicitor" is subject to prohibitions against participating in pay to play practices and subject to oversight by the SEC or a registered national securities association.

While the Firm does not, as a general matter, seek out government Clients for investment advisory business, it may provide its Research Reports to certain public pension funds which qualify as government Clients under the Pay to Play Rule. The Firm also has an arrangement with its broker-dealer affiliate, WR Securities, LLC ("**WRS**") and its registered representatives, whereby such registered representatives will solicit certain government entities to become subscribers to the Research Reports. Accordingly, the Firm has adopted the following procedures to comply with the Pay to Play Rule.

# 6.2 Prohibited Conduct

*Covered Associates* (as defined below) and a Covered Associate's spouse, domestic partner, minor children and other immediate family members living in the Covered Associate's household may not make any *Political Contribution* (as defined below) to any of the following unless such Political Contribution has first been approved in writing by the CCO:

- candidates running for U.S. state or local political office;
- candidates running for U.S. federal office who currently hold a U.S. state or local political office;
- state or local political parties;



- political action committees ("PAC")<sup>3</sup>; and
- an official of a government entity (including any official of a state, city, county or other political subdivision and any instrumentality thereof).

This prohibition includes "in-kind" contributions, e.g., contributions of Firm property, services or other assets, including the Covered Associate's work time spent on political activities and the solicitation of Political Contributions.

The solicitation of a Political Contribution includes communicating, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of obtaining a Political Contribution and would include asking, directing, or suggesting that a Political Contribution be made. For example, use of an individual's name on fundraising literature for a candidate would be soliciting Political Contributions for that candidate. Similarly, even forwarding a solicitation to friends or family on behalf of a candidate or political party would be soliciting Political Contributions for that candidate or political party.

Please note, nothing in this Policy is meant to discourage Covered Associates from participating in the political process by expressing support for political candidates<sup>4</sup> or voting. Covered Associates may support candidates in other ways, such as volunteering their time, so long as such volunteering occurs during non-work hours or on vacation time. Additionally, to avoid potentially problematic in-kind contributions, Covered Associates are prohibited from using Firm resources, including telephones, copiers, personnel, or other facilities to conduct political activities.

# 6.3 Preclearance of Political Contributions

Covered Associates may obtain pre-approval for Political Contributions from the CCO by completing a "**Political Contributions Preclearance Form**" which can be found within STAR Compliance. Under no circumstances may a Covered Associate engage in any of the foregoing prohibited contributions indirectly, such as by funneling payments through third parties including, for example, attorneys, family members, friends or companies affiliated with the Firm as a means of circumventing the Pay to Play Rule.<sup>5</sup>

As a matter of policy, the CCO expects to approve a contribution by a Covered Associate per election of up to \$350 in the case of a contribution to a candidate for whom such Covered Associate is entitled to vote and up to \$150 in the case of a contribution to a candidate for whom such Covered Associate is <u>not</u> entitled to vote, provided that the CCO concludes that such contribution is not made with the purpose of influencing anyone to become a subscriber to a Research Report and is not likely to have the effect of influencing someone to subscribe. Under both exceptions, primary and general elections would be considered separate elections.

As a matter of policy, the CCO expects to approve a contribution by a Covered Associate to a PAC or a state or local political party if the contribution is less than \$350 or \$150, as applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A political action committee is generally an organization whose purpose is to raise and distribute campaign funds to candidates seeking political office. PACs are formed by corporations, labor unions, membership organizations or trade associations or other organizations to solicit campaign contributions from individuals and channel the resulting funds to candidates for elective offices.

<sup>4</sup> Please note, the Policy does not restrict contributions to incumbent federal officeholders and candidates for federal office who do not hold a state or local office while running for federal office.

<sup>5</sup> The Pay to Play Rule contains a "catch-all" provision that prohibits indirect acts, which if done directly would violate the Rule.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the CCO will not approve any contribution that would result in serious adverse consequences to the Firm under the Pay to Play Rule.

Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the Firm being barred from receiving compensation for supplying Research Reports to the relevant government entity for a two-year period.

# 6.4 Exception for Certain Returned Contributions

The prohibition of the Rule (on receiving compensation for providing advisory services to a government entity for two years after a Covered Associate has made a contribution to an official of such government entity) will not apply in certain instances where the triggering contribution is returned. In the event the CCO discovers that a Covered Associate has made a contribution in violation of these procedures, the CCO will make a determination as to whether it will require the Covered Associate to seek to obtain a return of the contribution. In the event the CCO determines that it is necessary to require the Covered Associate to seek to obtain a return of the contribution. In the event the date of the contribution and 60 days after discovering the contribution, take all available steps to cause the contributing Covered Associate to seek to obtain a return of such contribution and will take such other remedial or preventive measures that it determines are appropriate under the circumstances. The Firm's reliance on this exception for returned contributions is limited to no more than three times per a 12-month period and no more than once for each Covered Associate, regardless of the time period.

# 6.5 Payments to Third Parties to Solicit Advisory Business from Government Entities

The Firm does not presently pay any third parties to solicit government entities to become subscribers to Research Reports. If it should enter into any third party solicitation agreement or arrangement in the future, the CCO will review such arrangement to ensure compliance with the Pay to Play Rule.

A Covered Associate and the Firm may not compensate a third party placement agent or "finder" to solicit a government entity to become a subscriber to a Research Report, unless the third party is a registered broker-dealer or SEC-registered investment adviser subject to Rule 206(4). In this regard, the Firm may pay WRS or any of its registered representatives, directly or indirectly, to solicit Government Entities as subscribers of Research Reports.

## 6.6 Definitions

For purposes of these Pay to Play procedures, the following definitions shall apply:

- "Covered Associate" means: the following:
  - the managing member of the Firm
  - the President of the Firm
  - any Director, Managing Director or Group heads of the Firm in charge of a principal business unit, division or function (such as sales, legal, administration or finance)
  - o any other officer of the Firm who performs a policy-making function
  - o any other person who performs policy-making functions for the Firm

- any other individual with a similar status or function
- any employee of the Firm who solicits a Government Entity for the Firm to be a subscriber to a Research Report (at the present time the Firm has no such employees who actively solicit subscribers-all such solicitation activity is done by registered representatives of WRS) and any person who supervises, directly or indirectly, such an employee
- any PAC controlled by the Firm or any Covered Associate.
- "Political Contribution" means a gift, subscription, loan, advance, deposit of money, or **anything of value** made for the purpose of influencing an election. Political Contributions include not only monetary donations but also the provision of goods and services provided to a campaign, or on behalf of a campaign, without charge. This includes payments for debts incurred in such an election or campaign, as well as transition or inaugural expenses. The use of the Firm's office or Firm equipment/supplies for a campaign purposes is considered a contribution. The use of an Employee's home for campaign purposes may also be considered a contribution.

### 6.7 Firm's Pay to Play Policy

The Firm will not make Political Contributions or otherwise endorse or support political parties or candidates (including through intermediary organizations such as PACs or campaign funds) with the intent of directly or indirectly influencing any investment management relationship.

# 7 EMPLOYEE INVESTMENT POLICY

### 7.1 General Policy

The Firm requires that the personal investment transactions of its Employees be carried out in a manner that will not create a perceived or actual conflict of interest between the Firm and its Clients. To this end, the Firm has adopted certain procedures, including trading restrictions and reporting requirements, as detailed below.

## 7.2 Definitions

# 7.2.1 Access Person

Access Person means (i) every director of the Firm; (ii) every officer of the Firm; (iii) every employee who makes or participates in making an investment recommendation in a Research Report or participates in creating Model Portfolios, and (iv) any person who has access to a Research Report or Model Portfolio prior to dissemination to a Client.

- Investment recommendation includes (i) anything a reasonable person would view as a "call to action" (buy, sell, hold), (ii) fair value estimates, (iii) analyst's ratings for stock, and (iv) usage of terms such as underperform/outperform/overvalued or "consider buy/sell/hold."
- It is presumed that all analysts participating in the creation of Research Reports or Model Portfolios are Access Persons unless notified by the CCO otherwise.
- At the discretion of the CCO, other employees, consultants, independent contractors, or interns whose duties may expose them to Research Reports prior to dissemination to Clients may be considered Access Persons.

This policy applies to all "Covered Accounts" of Access Persons, including accounts maintained by or for:

- The Access Person;
- The Access Person's spouse or domestic partner (except a spouse or partner with a valid separation/divorce decree);
- The Access Person's minor children;
- The Access Person's immediate family members<sup>6</sup> sharing the same household;
- Any persons to whom the Access Person provides primary financial support and either (i) whose financial affairs are managed by the Access Person or (ii) for whom the Access Person holds discretionary authority over financial accounts; and
- Any accounts for entities in which the Access Person has a 25% or greater beneficial interest or exercises effective control.

It is the Access Person's responsibility to ensure family members and persons to whom the Access Person provides primary financial support are aware of this policy and adhere to it.

#### 7.2.2 Definition of Reportable Security

"**Reportable Securities**" include a wide variety of investments including: stocks, bonds, closed-end funds, ETFs, hedge funds, REITs, private placements, options, futures, currencies, warrants, commodities and other derivative products. A Reportable Security does **not** include:

- Transactions and holdings in direct obligations of the U.S. government, its States and Municipalities;
- Money market instruments defined as bankers' acceptances, bank certificates of deposit, commercial paper, repurchase agreements and other high quality short-term debt instruments;
- Shares issued by money market funds;
- Shares issued by open-end funds provided that such funds are not advised by the Firm or an affiliate and such fund's advisor or principal underwriter is not controlled or under common control with the Firm. An open-end mutual fund is a fund that effects all daily purchases and sales at a single price at the end of the day; and
- Units of a unit investment trust if the unit investment trust is invested exclusively in one or more open-end funds provided that such funds are not advised by the Firm or an affiliate and such fund's adviser or principal underwriter is not controlled or under common control with the Firm.

<sup>6</sup> Immediate family member means any child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, spouse sibling, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-inlaw, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law or sister-in-law.



## 7.2.3 Definition of Non-Discretionary Managed Account

A "**Non-Discretionary Managed Account**" is an account over which the Access Person has no direct or indirect influence or control. This includes accounts for which an Access Person has granted full investment discretion to an outside broker-dealer, bank, investment manager, or adviser. For an Access Person to claim this status, sufficient documentation must be provided to the CCO to illustrate the investment relationship. A Non-Discretionary Managed Account is not a Covered Account and is not subject to the preclearance or quarterly reporting requirements below.

#### 7.3 Reporting of Access Person Holdings and Transactions

Access Persons are required to periodically report their personal securities transactions and holdings to the CCO in Covered Accounts which hold Reportable Securities.

Access Persons, with the assistance of the CCO, must determine if trading accounts are deemed Covered Accounts and hold Reportable Securities. Covered Accounts which are capable of holding Reportable Securities are subject to ongoing monitoring via the Firm's compliance system portal.

#### 7.3.1 Initial Holdings Report

Each new Access Person must complete via the Firm's compliance platform, STAR Compliance, an Initial Holdings Report.

### 7.3.2 Annual Holdings Report

Each Access Person must complete via STAR Compliance an Annual Holdings Report annually.

#### 7.3.3 Brokerage Statements in lieu of Report

In lieu of a Quarterly Transaction Report, an Access Person may provide the CCO with copies of the monthly or quarterly brokerage account statements relating to each Covered Account. Such brokerage statements must be submitted within 30 days of the end of the calendar quarter. This is only required if a broker feed to STAR Compliance cannot be established.

## 7.4 Pre-Clearance for IPOs and Limited Offerings

Access Persons must obtain written pre-approval from the CCO *prior to* participating in an initial public offering ("IPO") or investing in a Limited Offering, using the "**Private Investments**" form which can be found within STAR Compliance. Limited Offerings include investments in private placements, hedge funds, private investment partnerships, interests in oil and gas ventures, real estate syndications, participations in tax shelters, and shares issued prior to a public distribution.



Prior to making the initial investment in the Limited Offering, the Access Person must arrange for the CCO to review and obtain any private placement memoranda, subscription agreements or other like documents pertaining to the investment. Where confirmations and statements or other like documents are not available from the issuer, the Access Person must promptly inform the CCO of any changes in the investment and provide the CCO with a written yearly update.

## 7.5 The Restricted List

The CCO may place certain securities on a "**Restricted List**." Access Persons are prohibited from personally purchasing or selling securities that appear on the Restricted List. A security may be placed on the Restricted List for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to:

- The Firm is in possession of material, nonpublic information ("MNPI") about an issuer;
- An Employee is in a position, such as a member of an issuer's board of directors, that may be likely to cause the Firm or such Employee to receive MNPI;
- The Firm has executed a non-disclosure agreement or other agreement with a specific issuer that restricts trading in that issuer's securities;
- An Access Person's trading in the security may present the appearance of a conflict of interest or an actual conflict of interest;
- Securities found on any WRA affiliate's Restricted List;
- A client relationship that involves a senior officer or director of an issuer, may present the appearance of a conflict of interest or an actual conflict of interest; and
- The CCO has determined it is necessary to do so.

The CCO is responsible for maintaining the Restricted List and securities will remain on the Restricted List until such time as the CCO deems their removal appropriate.

It is the responsibility of Access Persons not to execute transactions in any security on the Restricted List. Access Persons are responsible for preclearing transactions through the Firm's Compliance platform prior to making a transaction in any of the Access Persons' Covered Accounts.

## 7.6 Review and Retention of Reports

The CCO shall review the holdings reports, transaction reports, and the preclearance forms periodically to determine whether any violations of the Firm's policies or applicable securities laws have occurred. If there are any discrepancies between holdings reports, transaction reports or preclearance forms, the CCO shall contact the responsible Access Person in an attempt to resolve the discrepancy. If the Firm determines that an Access Person has violated the Code, such Access Person may be subject to disciplinary action and/or restrictions on further trading.

# 7.6.1 Escalation of Violations and Sanctions

Upon discovering a material violation of the procedures contained in this Code, the CCO will notify the President or MM and the Firm may impose sanctions as it deems appropriate.

### 7.6.2 Confidentiality

The CCO and any other designated compliance personnel receiving reports of an Access Person's holdings and transactions under this Code will keep such reports confidential, except to the extent that the Firm is required to disclose the contents of such reports to regulators.

### 8 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYEE INVESTMENTS

## 8.1 Broker-Dealer Registered Representatives

All Employees who are registered representatives of WRS are required to comply with the requirements of this Code and those of WRS (please refer to the WSPs for a complete discussion of those requirements).

#### 8.2 Research Analyst Prohibition

Research analysts are all registered representatives of WRS and as such are subject to restrictions set forth in the Manual as to their ability to hold in Covered Accounts any securities that they cover in Research Reports. They are also subject to the requirement to pre-clear all securities trades for their personal securities accounts. Accordingly, provided all research analysts maintain such registrations with WRS and are subject to such prohibitions on effecting transactions in securities covered in Research Reports, this Code does not contain additional restrictions on trading by research analysts. The CCO will periodically confirm that all research analysts are appropriately registered with WRS and covered by its compliance policies and securities transactions' trading restrictions.

# 9 OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

It is the Firm's policy that its Access Persons not engage in outside activities that present a real or perceived conflict of interest.

In that regard, Access Persons must obtain written approval from the CCO before engaging in any outside activity:

- that involves a Client;
- that involves the Access Person having discretion to invest and/or participate in investment decisions, or related investment matters, whether compensated for the activity or not; or
- that involves the Access Person being affiliated with another for profit business as a director, officer, advisory board member, general partner, owner, consultant, holder of 5% or more of the business' equity interests, or any similar position or role.

For the avoidance of doubt,

• *Outside activity* is any activity that is not part of an Access Person's assigned duties with the Firm.

• Involvement in a social, religious, educational, charitable, civic, or fraternal organization that does not involve the Access Person being involved in the organization's investment matters does *not* require written approval from CCO (unless such entity is a Client of the Firm).

In addition, no Access Person shall serve on a board of directors of a publicly traded company without prior authorization from the CCO.

Access Persons must annually certify whether they have or do not have any outside business activity, whether or not for compensation, and provide a list of any and all outside activities using the "Outside Business Activity" form which can be found within the compliance platform, STAR Compliance.

## 10 INSIDER TRADING

### 10.1 Introduction

Insider trading is prohibited primarily by Section 10(b) and Rule 10b-5 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"). In addition, Section 204A of the Advisers Act requires investment advisers to adopt, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to prevent the misuse of MNPI by the Firm or any of its Employees or affiliates.

The law of insider trading is unsettled and continuously developing. An individual legitimately may be uncertain about the application of the rules contained in this Code in a particular circumstance. Often, asking a single question of the CCO can avoid disciplinary action or complex legal problems. Covered persons must notify the CCO immediately if they have any reason to believe that a violation of this Code has occurred or is about to occur.

The term "insider trading" generally means one or more of the following activities:

- Trading while in possession of MNPI, that has been obtained from an Insider (defined below) in breach of either a duty of trust or confidence;
- Trading while in possession of MNPI received from a **Temporary Insider** (defined below), where the information (i) was disclosed in violation of the Temporary Insider's duty to keep the information confidential or (ii) was misappropriated by the Temporary Insider;
- Recommending the purchase or sale of securities while in possession of MNPI; or
- Communicating MNPI to others.

## 10.2 Penalties for Insider Trading

Trading securities while in possession of MNPI or improperly communicating that information to others may expose an Employee to stringent penalties including fines and jail terms. The SEC can also recover profits gained or losses avoided through insider trading, impose a penalty of up to three times the illicit profits, and issue an order permanently barring the Employee from the securities business. An Employee can also be sued by Clients seeking to recover damages for insider trading. In addition, any violation of the Code's Insider Trading Policy can be expected to result in serious sanctions by the Firm, up to and including termination of employment.

#### 10.3 Definitions

#### 10.3.1 Material Information

Information is material if there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Client would consider the information important in making an investment decision. This may include earnings information, merger and acquisition information, significant changes in assets, and significant new products or discoveries.

#### 10.3.2 Nonpublic Information

Information is considered nonpublic if it has not been broadly disseminated to Clients in the marketplace. Direct evidence of dissemination is the best indication that information is "public," for example, if the information has been made available to the public through publications of general circulation (e.g., *The Wall Street Journal*) or in a public disclosure document filed with the SEC (e.g., a Form 8K).

Before it can be considered public, a sufficient period of time must elapse for the information to permeate the public channels. There is no set time period between the information's release and the time it is considered to be fully disseminated into the marketplace. The speed of dissemination depends on how the information was communicated.

#### 10.3.3 Insider and Temporary Insider

The term "**Insider**" is construed by the courts to refer to an individual or entity that, by virtue of a fiduciary relationship with an issuer of securities, has knowledge of, or access to, MNPI. This may include an officer, director or employee of a company, as well as any controlling shareholder. In addition, a person can be a "**Temporary Insider**" if he or she enters into a special confidential relationship in the conduct of a company's affairs and, as a result, is given access to such information. Temporary insiders include, among others, the Firm's attorneys, accountants, consultants, financial advisors, and lending officers, and the employees of these organizations.

#### 10.3.4 Tipper / Tippee Liability

An Employee who does not trade securities but learns of MNPI from a corporate insider (or someone who has breached a duty of trust or confidence to the source of the information), and then shares the information with someone else (the "**Tipper**") who trades in securities, can be liable for the trading done by the person to whom the Employee passed the information (the "**Tippee**"). Thus, the Tipper is subject to liability for insider trading if the Tippee trades, even if the Tipper does not. Therefore it is important never to pass on MNPI to anyone who may trade while aware of that information or who may pass it on to others that may trade. The Tippee may be subject to liability for insider trading if the Tippee breached a duty of trust or confidence.

## 10.4 Breach of Duty

Insider trading liability is premised on a breach of fiduciary duty, or similar relationship of trust or confidence. In addition to an insider, the prohibition against insider trading can apply to a person even if that person has no employment with, or connection to, the issuer of the securities that are traded.

# 10.5 Firm's Insider Trading Policy

The Firm's "**Insider Trading Policy**" applies to every Employee and extends to activities outside the scope of his or her duties at the Firm. The Firm forbids any Employee from engaging in any activities that would be considered illegal insider trading. Any questions regarding this Insider Trading Policy should be referred to the CCO.

### 10.6 Insider Trading Policy Restrictions

The following Insider Trading Policy restrictions are established for every Employee that may have, or was in possession of, MNPI. Such an Employee may not:

- Buy or sell any security (or related security) for his or her own or any related account or any account in which an Employee may have any direct or indirect interest or otherwise act upon any MNPI in the Employee's possession obtained from any source.
- Buy or sell any security or related security for any account or otherwise act upon any material proprietary information that an Employee may have or obtain from any source.
- Recommend the purchase or sale of any security to any person based upon MNPI.

## 10.7 Procedures Designed to Detect and Prevent Insider Trading

Before trading on their own behalf or for others, each Employee should ask himself or herself the following questions regarding information in his or her possession:

- Is the information material? Is the information nonpublic? If, after consideration of the above, an Employee believes that the information is material and nonpublic, or if an Employee has questions as to whether the information is material and nonpublic, he or she should take the following steps:
  - Report the information and proposed trade immediately to the CCO;
  - Do not purchase or sell the securities either on behalf of himself or herself or on behalf of others; and
  - Do not communicate the information inside or outside of the Firm, other than to the CCO.
- After the CCO has reviewed the issue, the Employee will be instructed either to continue the prohibitions against trading and communication because the CCO has determined that the information is MNPI, or he or she will be allowed to trade the security and communicate the information.

Additionally, Employees are required to disclose the existence and location of all personal trading accounts and to arrange for copies of all brokerage statements to be sent from the outside financial institution to the Firm's CCO. Such statements must always remain current and will be reviewed by the CCO.

# 10.8 Compliance Responsibilities

The CCO will review the Firm's Insider Trading Policy during the annual compliance training meeting to ensure that all Employees are properly trained and aware of the required reporting procedures. Upon learning of a potential violation of the Insider Trading Policy, the CCO will promptly prepare a confidential written report to be discussed with the Firm's senior management. The report will describe who violated the policy, how it is believed to have been violated, and provide recommendations for further action.

## 11. Protecting the Confidentiality of Client Information

# 11.1 General Policy

In the course of the Firm's investment advisory activities, the Firm gains access to non-public information about its Clients. Such information may include an entity's status as a Client, financial and account information, the allocation of assets in a Client portfolio, the composition of investments in any Client portfolio, information relating to services performed for or transactions entered into on behalf of Clients, advice provided by the Firm to Clients, and data or analyses derived from such non-public personal information (collectively referred to as "**Confidential Client Information**"). All Confidential Client Information, whether relating to the Firm's current or former Clients, is subject to the Code's policies and procedures. Any doubts about the confidentiality of information must be resolved in favor of confidentiality.

# 11.2 Non-Disclosure of Confidential Client Information

All information regarding the Firm's Clients is confidential. Information may only be disclosed when the disclosure is consistent with the Firm's policy and the Client's direction. The Firm does not share Confidential Client Information with any third parties, except as disclosed in our <u>Privacy Policy</u> and in the following circumstances:

- As necessary to provide service that the Client requested or authorized;
- As required by regulatory authorities or law enforcement officials who have jurisdiction over the Firm, or as otherwise required by any applicable law. In the event the Firm is compelled to disclose Confidential Client Information, the Firm shall provide prompt notice to the Clients affected, so that the Clients may seek a protective order or other appropriate remedy. If no protective order or other appropriate remedy is obtained, the Firm shall disclose only such information, and only in such detail, as is legally required;
- To the extent reasonably necessary to prevent fraud, unauthorized transactions or liability.



## 11.3 Responsibilities of Employees

All Employees are prohibited, either during or after the termination of their employment with the Firm, from disclosing Confidential Client Information to any person or entity outside the Firm, including family members, except under the circumstances described above. An Employee is permitted to disclose Confidential Client Information only to such other Employees who need to have access to such information to deliver the Firm's services to the Client.

Employees are also prohibited from making unauthorized copies of any documents or files containing Confidential Client Information and, upon termination of their employment with the Firm, must return all originals and copies of Confidential Client Information to the Firm.

Any covered person who violates the confidentiality and non-disclosure policy described above will be subject to disciplinary action, including possible termination of employment, whether or not he or she benefited from the disclosed information, or if terminated, subject to potential civil or criminal action.



CHICAGO CLEVELAND DAYTON NEW YORK

September 20, 2024

Via EDGAR filing

Securities & Exchange Commission Public Filing Desk 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549

# Re: Simplify Exchange Traded Funds, File Nos. 333-238475 and 811-23570

Dear Sir/Madam:

On behalf of Simplify Exchange Traded Funds, a registered investment company (the "Trust"), we hereby submit, via electronic filing, Post-Effective Amendment No. 121 (the "Amendment") to the Trust's Registration Statement under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). The Amendment is filed pursuant to Rule 485(b) promulgated under the Securities Act. The main purpose for this filing is to incorporate comments from the staff of the Securities & Exchange Commission and provide other updating information to complete the Registration Statement for the Simplify Wolfe Alpha Capture ETF, Simplify Wolfe US Equity 150/50 ETF, Simplify Market Neutral SHIELD ETF and Simplify Wolfe Market Neutral Quality ETF. We believe this Amendment does not contain any disclosure that would render it ineligible to become effective pursuant to Rule 485(b).

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (202) 973-2732.

Very truly yours,

<u>/s/ Megan W. Clement</u> Megan W. Clement

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