



**The Securities and Exchange Commission adopted amendments to Part 2 of Form ADV effective October 2010. The newly revised Part 2 consists of Part 2A (the “Brochure”), Part 2B (the “Brochure Supplement) and Appendix 1 (the “Wrap Fee Program Brochure”). This Brochure, dated March 29, 2019, contains a summary of material changes that have occurred since our last annual update.**

**For your convenience, we have included all three Brochures in this document.**

- **Part 2A begins on page 2 of this document**
- **Part 2B begins on page 25 of this document**
- **Appendix 1 begins on page 30 of this document**

# Item 1. Cover Page

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## **CIM, LLC**

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This brochure provides information about the qualification and business practices of CIM, LLC (d/b/a Curran Wealth Management and d/b/a Curran Investment Management). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 518-391-4200, or by email at [info@curranllc.com](mailto:info@curranllc.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about CIM, LLC (d/b/a Curran Wealth Management and d/b/a Curran Investment Management) is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

March 29, 2019

# Item 2. Material Changes

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## Annual Update

CIM, LLC (d/b/a Curran Wealth Management and d/b/a Curran Investment Management), is providing this information as part of our annual updating amendment which contains any material changes from our last annual update. This section discusses only material changes since the last annual update which most recently occurred on March 28, 2018.

## Material Changes since the Last Update

The Securities and Exchange Commission adopted amendments to Part 2 of Form ADV effective October 2010. The newly revised Part 2 consists of Part 2A (the "Brochure") and Part 2B (the "Brochure Supplement"). Each update of the Brochure must now include a summary of all material changes since the last annual update.

Effective 1/1/2019, Kevin T. Curran was named President of Curran Investment Management. Kevin is also the Chief Investment Officer and Portfolio Manager.

In addition we have added Interactive Brokers (IB), headquartered in Greenwich, Connecticut, as an additional custodian for clients to use. Whereas the management fees for clients' accounts held at the existing custodians, Fidelity and Schwab, are debited quarterly in advance based on the quarter end value, clients' accounts held at IB are debited quarterly in arrears based on the daily valuation.

Finally, there have been some changes to our management fee structure. These are summarized as:

Portfolio management accounts now require a minimum balance of \$250,000. The fee charged on the account assets has decreased; it's 0.75% on the first \$5,000,000, and 0.5% on amounts over \$5,000,000. The minimum annual fee has increased to \$2,500, which will apply to all accounts with less than \$333,333 in assets.

Institutional account fees now vary depending on which strategy is invested in. The fees range from 0.5% to 0.75% on the first \$10,000,000 in assets, and from 0.45% to 0.65% on amounts above \$10,000,000. The minimum annual fee now ranges from \$15,000 to \$22,500, also depending on which strategy the assets are invested in. The minimum account size remains at \$3,000,000.

Wrap-fee accounts now have decreased their management fee; for equity-only accounts it's 2.0% on the first \$500,000, 1.0% on the next \$4,500,000, and 0.75% on any amounts over \$5,000,000, and for balanced accounts it's 1.75% on the first \$500,000, 0.75% on the next \$4,500,000, and 0.5% on any amounts over \$5,000,000. The minimum annual fee has increased to \$2,500, which will apply to all accounts with assets less than \$125,000 (equity accounts), or \$143,000 (balanced accounts).

## Full Brochure Availability

The Firm Brochure for CIM, LLC is available by contacting [info@curranllc.com](mailto:info@curranllc.com).

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# Item 4. Advisory Business

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## Firm Description

CIM, LLC provides investment supervisory services to a variety of clients with varying financial advisory needs. Types of clients include but are not limited to individuals, families, qualified investors, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, business entities and corporations. Founder Thomas J. Curran started the firm as a wholly owned enterprise in the fall of 2004. Prior to that, he ran the firm from the summer of 2000 until the fall of 2004 as part of Wachovia Securities and before then as part of First Albany Corporation from the summer of 1998.

## Principal Owners

Founder, Chief Executive and Portfolio Manager Thomas J. Curran owns 100% of the firm.

## Types of Advisory Services

### PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT:

CIM, LLC provides investment supervisory services through its Portfolio Management service ("Portfolio Management"). CIM, LLC will manage Portfolio Management client accounts on either a discretionary or non-discretionary basis, depending on each client's particular needs and circumstances, consistent with the methods described in the *Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risks of Loss* section below. Account supervision is guided by the stated objectives of the client (i.e. maximum capital appreciation, growth, income, or growth and income). CIM, LLC will create a portfolio consisting of one or more of the following: individual equities, bonds, warrants, commercial paper, CDs, corporate debt securities, municipal securities, mutual funds, ETFs, money market accounts, option contracts, and other investments.

On occasion CIM, LLC will recommend no-load variable annuities to a client based on their financial needs and income requirements. In these instances CIM, LLC receives no commissions or fees from the issuer as a result of the client purchasing a variable annuity. In the event a client selects CIM, LLC to manage the underlying investments in the variable annuity, the client will receive an invoice for an asset-based fee and pay for the investment services and asset management from funds outside the annuity.

### FINANCIAL PLANNING SERVICES

CIM, LLC also provides advice in the form of financial planning services. Clients receive a written financial plan, providing the client with detailed recommendations and an investment strategy designed to achieve their stated financial goals and objectives. In general, the financial plan may address any or all of the following areas of concern:

Personal: Family records, budgeting, personal liability, estate information and financial goals.

*Tax and Cash Flow:* Income tax and spending analysis and planning for past, current and future years. CIM, LLC will illustrate the impact of various investments on a client's current income tax and future tax liability.

*Death and Disability:* Cash needs at death, income needs of surviving dependents, estate planning and disability income analysis.

*Retirement:* Analysis of current strategies and investment plans to help the client achieve his or her retirement goals.

*Investments:* Analysis of investment alternatives and their effect on a client's portfolio.

*Real Estate:* Analysis of how clients' residential real estate holdings, primarily their residence, may be best utilized as a part of their comprehensive financial planning needs, and whether it is in the clients' best interests to retain or sell their property.

*Accommodation accounts:* the firm may have a small number of accounts that we hold as accommodation accounts. We may help these clients trade upon their request, but provide no reporting to them, charge them no fees, nor do we provide any discretionary or non-discretionary adviser related services. We do not have any fiduciary responsibilities or obligations with the holders of these accommodation accounts.

### **Tailored Relationships**

CIM, LLC's standard services are tailored to our clients' investment objectives. Clients may impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities. Such restrictions must be submitted to CIM, LLC in writing.

### **Wrap Fee Programs**

CIM, LLC offers a proprietary CIM, LLC Wrap-Fee program. Clients pay one comprehensive wrap fee to CIM, LLC, from which CIM, LLC collects its management fee after paying all associated transaction fees and commissions. Further detail is outlined in Appendix I Wrap Fee Program Brochure. CIM, LLC's management of Wrap Fee accounts is indistinguishable from its management of Portfolio Management accounts.

### **Client Assets**

Total assets under management as of 12/31/2018	\$338,000,000
Discretionary AUM	\$322,000,000
Non-discretionary AUM	\$ 16,000,000

## **Item 5. Fees and Compensation**

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## Description

### PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT:

The annual fee for Portfolio Management will be charged as a percentage of assets under management, typically ranging from 0.5% to 1.00%, depending on the size and nature of the client's account. CIM, LLC will quote an exact percentage to each client prior to execution of the advisory agreement. All fees are negotiable at CIM, LLC's sole discretion.

#### Non-Institutional Fee Schedule

0.75% on the first \$5,000,000

0.5% on any amount over \$5,000,000

Minimum account size: \$250,000

Minimum annual fee: \$2,500. In the event that a client's account falls below \$333,333, the account will be charged this minimum annual fee. In such circumstances, this annual fee will exceed the 0.75% annual fee percentage charged to other client accounts and may be higher than the fee that would be charged by other investment advisers or investment professionals for managing accounts that size.

#### Institutional Fee Schedule

0.5 - 0.75% on the first \$10 million in assets, dependent on the strategy invested in

0.45 - 0.65% on the next \$10 million in assets, dependent on the strategy invested in

Minimum account size: \$3,000,000

Minimum annual fee: \$15,000 - \$22,500, depending on the strategy invested in.

Trades are executed at negotiated institutional commission rates. In the event that a client's account falls below \$3,000,000, the account will be charged this minimum annual fee. In such circumstances, this annual fee may exceed the annual fee percentage charged to other client accounts and may be higher than the fee that would be charged by other investment advisers or investment professionals for managing accounts that size. All minimum account size requirements may be negotiable under certain circumstances.

For more information on our wrap fee schedule, please see our Wrap Fee Program Brochure, Appendix 1 of this Brochure.

## Fee Billing

Consistent with the written agreement between CIM, LLC and each client, the management fee is calculated and payable either in advance or in arrears, depending on which custodian holds a client's account. Currently, for accounts where Fidelity or Schwab is the custodian, the fee is



payable quarterly in advance<sup>1</sup>, based on the market value of all assets in the account on the last trading day of the prior calendar quarter. For accounts where Interactive Brokers is the custodian, the fee is payable quarterly in arrears, which is accrued daily based on the end of day market value of all assets at the end of each day of the prior calendar quarter. The fee will be debited directly from the client's account, in advance or in arrears as applicable, at the beginning of each calendar quarter. Notwithstanding the fact that the management fee may be payable quarterly in advance, the fee may be adjusted (and refunds given and/or new fees assessed, as appropriate) quarterly in arrears at the beginning of the quarter following any net additions or net withdrawals in a client's account. A pro-rata refund of the fee paid will be made, or an additional pro-rata fee will be charged, at such time only if the addition to or withdrawal from the account would result in an increase or a decrease in the market value of 10% or more from the previous market close. No fee adjustment will be made during any period for appreciation or depreciation in the value of the assets in the client's account. The management agreement continues in effect until terminated by either party upon 30 days prior written notice to either party, CIM, LLC or the client. Upon termination of the agreement, CIM, LLC will calculate the actual days the account was under management since the most recent quarter end and if warranted will return a credit to the account for the days during the quarter that the account was not managed by CIM, LLC. Note that agreements terminated within 30 days of the close of the calendar quarter will not receive a credit because they will not fulfill the 30 days prior notice.

**Negotiability of Fees and Account Minimums:** At CIM, LLC's sole discretion, its fees and account minimums may be negotiable. CIM, LLC may, in its sole discretion, "household" or group together multiple accounts with respect to one client relationship for purposes of calculating the blended fee rate. CIM, LLC will, however, generally only household accounts that participate in the same CIM, LLC advisory program. For example, if a client has more than one Program account such Program accounts would be grouped together for the purposes of determining the applicable blended fee.

## Other Fees

Clients should note that CIM, LLC's Portfolio Management service is not a "wrap-fee" arrangement similar to the Program. This means that clients participating in CIM, LLC's Portfolio Management service will be responsible for paying separately any and all brokerage, custodial, and transactional fees and expenses charged by broker-dealers, transfer agents, banks, and/or custodians who provide services or products to these clients. Additional information may be found in the Brokerage Practices section later in this document. Clients have the option to purchase products and our portfolio management service through other brokers or agents of their choosing that are not affiliated with CIM, LLC.

**Mutual Fund Fees and Expenses:** All fees paid to CIM, LLC for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged shareholders of the mutual funds that

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<sup>1</sup> The exception to this are donor-advised fund "Giving Accounts" established by clients with Fidelity Charitable, for which we have been nominated and approved as the CIAP investment adviser of record, and the fee CIM, LLC collects is debited in arrears according to the terms of the agreement between CIM, LLC and Fidelity Charitable.

may be held in a client account. These fees are not covered by CIM, LLC's fees, and are separately borne by the client as a fund shareholder. These fees and expenses are described in each fund's prospectus. These fees will generally include a management fee, other fund expenses, and a possible distribution fee. If the fund also imposes sales charges, a client may pay an initial or deferred sales charge. A client could invest in a mutual fund directly, without the services of CIM, LLC. In that case, the client would not receive the services provided by CIM, LLC which are designed, among other things, to assist the client in determining which mutual fund or funds are most appropriate to each client's financial condition and objectives. Accordingly, the client should review both the fees charged by the funds and the fees charged by CIM, LLC to fully understand the total amount of fees to be paid by the client and to thereby evaluate the advisory services being provided.

#### FINANCIAL PLANNING:

CIM, LLC charges fees to financial planning clients in one or both of the following ways, as negotiated with the client:

- a) Fixed Fee: CIM, LLC may charge a fixed fee, typically ranging from \$500 to \$10,000, depending on the nature and complexity of each client's circumstances. Up to 50% of this fee may be due upon signing the advisory agreement, with the balance due as earned and billed to the client; and/or
- b) Hourly Fee: CIM, LLC may charge on an hourly basis, ranging from \$100 to \$250 per hour, depending on the nature and complexity of each client's circumstances, the billable rate of the CIM, LLC personnel involved in the financial planning engagement. An estimate for total hours may be determined at the start of the advisory relationship. Up to 50% of the estimated fee may be due upon signing the advisory agreement, with the balance (based on actual hours) due as earned and billed to the client.

#### Additional Compensation

Certain associated employees of CIM, LLC are registered representatives of CIMAS, a registered broker-dealer and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). CIMAS is affiliated with CIM, LLC by common control and ownership. As such, these individuals, in their separate capacities as registered representatives, will be able to effect securities transactions and may receive separate, yet customary compensation from third parties (including 12b-1 Fees with regard to investment company transactions) for effecting securities transactions. CIM, LLC may use CIMAS to execute transactions for client accounts (upon client direction). CIM, LLC clients should evaluate this broker independently before opening an account. Certain of CIM, LLC's employees are also state-licensed insurance sales agents. During the course of financial planning an insurance policy such as life or long term care may prove suitable, recommended and sold to a client resulting in separate, yet customary compensation.

Receipt of this compensation may present a conflict of interest and it may give CIM, LLC and the Advisor an incentive to recommend an investment or insurance product based on the compensation received. CIM, LLC addresses this conflict by disclosing it to clients and as a result offers investment options such as wrap portfolio accounts to avoid the appearance of a

conflict of interest. CIM, LLC clients will receive notification of commissions. In addition clients have the option to purchase investment or insurance products that CIM, LLC recommends through other agents and brokers not affiliated with CIM, LLC.

## Item 6. Performance-Based Fees & Side-by-Side Management

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CIM, LLC has entered into performance fee (that is, fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a client) arrangements with certain "qualified clients" (as defined below). Performance fees are charged only to "qualified" clients in accordance with Rule 205-3 under the IA Act. These performance fees may be individually negotiated and therefore will generally vary from client to client. Such performance fees are charged in addition to an individually negotiated annual fee based on the amount of assets under CIM, LLC's management.

A qualified client is (i) a natural person who or a company (other than a company that is required to be registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, but is not so registered) that immediately after entering into the performance fee agreement with CIM, LLC will have at least \$1,000,000 under CIM, LLC's management, or (ii) a natural person who or a company (other than a company that is required to be registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, but is not so registered) that has a net worth (together, in the case of a natural person, with assets held jointly with a spouse) in excess of \$2,000,000 not including their primary residence or (iii) a qualified purchaser as defined in Section 2(a)(51)(A) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the Company Act) (e.g., natural persons or family-owned companies owning at least \$5 million in investments; trusts managed solely for qualified purchasers; or persons owning and investing on a discretionary basis for their own accounts or the accounts of other qualified purchasers at least \$25 million in investments); provided that if the client is a private investment company (a company that would be defined as an investment company under section 3(a) of the Company Act, but for the exception provided from that definition by section 3(c)(1) of the Company Act), an investment company registered under the Company Act, or a business development company, as defined in section 202(a)(22) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, each equity owner of the client must be a qualified client by meeting the conditions set forth in (i), (ii) or (iii) above. Any performance fee will be calculated and paid in arrears at the end of each fiscal year (or, if an earlier date, upon the date on which the client's relationship with CIM, LLC terminates).

A performance fee arrangement may create a financial incentive for CIM, LLC to make investments that involve more risk or that are more speculative than would be the case in the absence of the performance fee. Moreover, as a result of a performance fee arrangement, CIM, LLC may receive increased compensation with regard to unrealized appreciation as well as realized gains in the Account. Because CIM, LLC manages both accounts that are charged a

performance-based fee and accounts that are charged other types of fees, as described above, this creates a conflict of interest. Supervised persons have an incentive to favor accounts for which CIM, LLC receives a performance-based fee. Performance fees may be higher than fees charged to other CIM, LLC clients who have not entered into performance fee arrangements with CIM, LLC and may be higher than the advisory fee arrangements normally charged in the industry. Other investment advisers may offer the same advisory services at lesser rates. Performance of accounts with similar strategies are compared to ensure that accounts that are not paying performance fees have similar performance to those accounts paying performance fees.

To help mitigate inherent conflicts of interest in performance based fees, CIM, LLC adheres to GIPS, Global Investment Performance Standards. GIPS are the ethical standards to be used by investment managers that help to ensure fair representation and full disclosure of investment performance results. GIPS were created by the CFA Institute and governed by the GIPS executive committee.

## Item 7. Types of Clients

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### Description

Clients at CIM, LLC include both high net worth and institutional accounts. Types of clients are, but not limited to individuals, families, qualified investors, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, business entities and corporations.

### Account Minimums

Minimum account size for wrap-fee accounts and for portfolio management accounts is \$250,000. For wrap fee equity and balanced accounts falling below \$125,000 and \$143,000 respectively the minimum annual fee is \$2,500. Minimum account size for institutional accounts is \$3,000,000 with a minimum annual fee ranging from \$15,000 - \$22,500, depending on the strategy invested in.

## Item 8. Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss

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### Methods of Analysis

CIM, LLC's investment discipline is based on a bottom up fundamental approach to security selection. CIM, LLC evaluates a series of criteria to identify companies in a proprietary investment universe from which CIM, LLC believes its selected investments will best offer clients opportunities for long-term growth.

CIM, LLC looks for companies that meet the following criteria:

1. Consistent earnings growth at rates higher than 10%;
2. Resilience to the economic cycle;
3. Return on equity of more than 15% and retention of most, if not all, of their earnings;
4. Strong balance sheet;
5. Superior management; and
6. Low debt to equity ratio.

CIM, LLC utilizes several data resources in gathering historical information, as well as annual and quarterly reports. Using quantitative and fundamental analysis, a sustainable growth rate is determined. Securities are continuously monitored and evaluated relative to market and industry conditions. CIM, LLC utilizes a number of sources of financial information in the firm's analysis of securities including financial newspapers and magazines, research materials and reports, corporate rating services, annual reports, prospectuses, SEC filings and company press releases. Research services are received in various forms, which may include written reports, or information obtained on the World Wide Web. CIM, LLC may decide to sell one of its holdings due to a fundamental change in the direction of a company, disappointing earnings over a significant period of time or deterioration of a company's balance sheet.

CIM, LLC will allocate the client's assets among various investments taking into consideration the overall objectives of the client. Mutual funds will be selected on the basis of any or all of the following criteria: the fund's performance history; the industry sector in which the fund invests; the track record of the fund's manager; the fund's investment objectives; the fund's management style and philosophy; and the fund's management fee structure. Portfolio weighting between funds and market sectors will be determined by each client's individual needs and circumstances. From time to time, assets in the Account may be held in cash and/or cash equivalents temporarily pending investment, as a defensive strategy or due to circumstances beyond CIM, LLC's control. CIM, LLC's investment philosophy emphasizes quality investments in companies with strong balance sheets, retained earnings, free cash flow and a low portfolio turnover approach. CIM, LLC is generally a long-term investor committed to identifying superior companies its clients can own for long periods of time.

CIM, LLC's balanced accounts are invested to provide clients with long-term growth and a steady source of income. Fixed income also serves to reduce the overall portfolio volatility. CIM, LLC adheres to strict maturity limitations and quality ratings on fixed income investments. Clients have the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments which will be made on their behalf. Clients retain individual ownership of all securities. CIM, LLC may use money market mutual funds to sweep unused cash balances until they can be appropriately invested.

## Investment Strategies

CIM, LLC offers several investment strategies. CIM, LLC offers investment strategies in US domestic equities of all market capitalization sizes, small, mid and large cap equities, and an International Portfolio consisting of mid – large cap equities primarily from developed countries, ex-USA. The Core Equity strategy primarily consists of investments in large cap equities, which CIM, LLC considers to be companies with market capitalizations greater than \$5 billion. Size overlap exists among the various investment strategies. In our Midcap strategy investments are made in companies with market capitalization between \$2.5 billion and \$14 billion. At CIM, LLC we consider Smallcap companies to be those with \$2.5 billion or less in market capitalization and this segment of the market is our focus for investments in our Smallcap strategy. The AllCap strategy invests primarily in companies selected from a combination of CIM, LLC's universe of publicly traded companies and the top quintile for relative strength in the Russell 3000 index. In addition CIM, LLC offers a Balanced strategy combining both investments in Core Equity along with investments in fixed-income and investment vehicles such as mutual funds and ETFs. CIM, LLC also offers investors a Growth & Income strategy for investment which emphasizes both the growth in earnings as well as the growth in the dividend. It complements the more growth oriented investment style of the firm's Core Equity strategy. CIM, LLC is independently verified by a third-party every year to assess whether it has complied with all the composite [investment strategy] construction requirements of the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS) on a firm-wide basis, and also whether the firm's policies and procedures are designed to calculate and present their performance in compliance with the GIPS standards. CIM, LLC has been verified since June 1998.

## Risk of Loss

Although CIM, LLC makes every effort to preserve each client's capital and achieve real growth of wealth, investing in the stock markets involves risk of loss that each client should be prepared to bear. Equity risk of loss consists of both market and security risk. Equities generally fluctuate in value more than fixed-income and may decline significantly over short time periods. The value of equity shares may fluctuate due to changes in the overall stock market or result from company or industry specific factors that specifically affect a company. Fixed-income investments are exposed to different risk factors, credit and interest rate risk. Credit risk is the possibility that the company will default, failing to make interest or principal payments. Interest rate risk stems from rising interest rates resulting in lower prices. This relationship is more pronounced in bonds with longer maturities. Mortgage backed securities can suffer from both falling and rising rates because falling rates can result in mortgage prepayment leaving the investor to reinvest principal in a lower rate environment and rising rates leading to greater volatility in the price.

When appropriate to the needs of the client, CIM, LLC may recommend the use of trading (securities sold within 30 days), short sales, margin transactions or option writing. Because these investment strategies involve certain additional degrees of risk, they will only be recommended when consistent with the client's stated tolerance for risk. At CIM, LLC we deconstruct client risk into two separate categories, the client's ability and willingness to take risk. A client's ability to take risk may be influenced by such factors as total assets and

investment time horizon. A client's willingness to take risk is determined by the client's personal tolerance and ability to accept market volatility as well as the loss of principal.

## Item 9. Disciplinary Information

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Neither CIM, LLC nor any of its management personnel has been involved in a disciplinary proceeding. In addition, they have not been involved in any legal proceeding that might reasonably be considered material to a client's evaluation of CIM, LLC's advisory business or the integrity of its management.

## Item 10. Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

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### Broker-dealer or Registered Representative

CIM, LLC is not engaged in any business other than that of investment advice and financial planning. It should be noted that CIM, LLC however, is affiliated through both ownership and control with CIMAS, LLC (hereinafter "CIMAS"), a broker-dealer and member of FINRA. Moreover, certain of CIM, LLC's employees are registered representatives of CIMAS. These CIM, LLC employees, in their separate capacities as registered representatives, will be able to effect securities transactions and may receive separate, yet customary compensation for effecting any securities transactions. CIM, LLC uses Fidelity Institutional Services, Charles Schwab Advisor Services, and Interactive Brokers to execute transactions for client accounts (upon client direction). Certain of CIM, LLC's employees are also state-licensed insurance sales agents. During the course of financial planning an insurance policy such as life or long term care may prove suitable, recommended and sold to a client resulting in separate, yet customary compensation.

While these individuals endeavor at all times to put the interest of CIM, LLC's advisory clients first as part of CIM, LLC's fiduciary duty, clients should be aware that the receipt of additional compensation itself creates a conflict of interest, and may affect the judgment of these individuals when making advisory/investment recommendations. The conflict is addressed through supervision. The CCO, chief compliance officer, has the responsibility to review all advisor recommended transactions for suitability and the client's investment objectives. CIM, LLC's advisory clients also receive full disclosure of these affiliated relationships and no CIM, LLC client is obligated to purchase any recommended insurance product or execute any such recommended transaction via CIMAS.

### Tax Planning and Return Preparation

It should also be noted that CIM, LLC is affiliated through both ownership and control with Hippo Tax Services, LLC (“HippoTax”). HippoTax is a separate limited liability company registered with the State of New York, wholly owned by Thomas J. Curran, which provides tax return preparation and filing as well as tax planning services. CIM, LLC may recommend HippoTax to advisory clients in need of its tax services. Tax services provided by HippoTax are separate and distinct from the advisory services of CIM, LLC, and are provided for separate and typical compensation. While neither CIM, LLC nor its employees directly receive any compensation from HippoTax’s business activities, the common ownership and control of CIM, LLC and HippoTax create a conflict of interest. However, this is disclosed to CIM, LLC clients and no CIM, LLC client is obligated to use HippoTax for any tax services.

## Item 11. Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading

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### **Code of Ethics**

As a matter of policy and practice, and consistent with industry best practices, the CFA Institute, and SEC Rule 204A-1 under the Advisers Act, CIM, LLC has adopted a written Code of Ethics. Among other things, the Code governs the relationships between CIM, LLC’s personnel and other members of the profession, CIM, LLC’s clients, prospective clients and the investing public. Our Code of Ethics requires high standards of business conduct; requires compliance with federal securities laws; reporting and recordkeeping of personal securities transactions and holdings by employees; reviews to detect and prevent possible insider trading, conflicts of interest and potential regulatory violations; sanctions; and the delivery and acknowledgement of the Code of Ethics by each employee. CIM, LLC will provide a copy of our Code of Ethics to clients or prospective clients on request.

### **Recommend Securities with Material Financial Interest**

Often times CIM, LLC recommends securities from its proprietary strategies to non-discretionary clients where appropriate based on the client’s investment objectives and risk tolerance. Participating CIM, LLC employees in the firm’s 401(k) retirement plan have exposure and a material financial interest in the holdings of CIM, LLC’s investment strategies.

### **Invest in Same Securities Recommended to Clients**

Individuals associated with CIM, LLC may buy or sell securities identical to, or different from those recommended to clients for their personal accounts. In addition, any related person(s) may have an interest or position in a certain security(ies) which may also be recommended to a client. It is the policy of CIM, LLC that no person employed by CIM, LLC may purchase or sell any security immediately prior to a transaction(s) being implemented for an advisory account, and therefore, prevents such employees from benefiting from transactions placed on behalf of



advisory accounts. Trading in employee accounts is monitored on an on-going basis by the Chief Compliance Officer ("CCO") for potential violations of this policy.

## Personal Trading Policies

As these situations represent a conflict of interest, CIM, LLC has established the following policies and procedures in order to ensure that CIM, LLC satisfies its fiduciary responsibilities:

- a) Portfolios of associated persons of CIM, LLC who are participants in the discretionary Program are traded with client orders; and
- b) Associated persons of CIM, LLC shall not buy or sell securities for their personal portfolio(s) where their decision is substantially derived, in whole or in part, by reason of his or her employment unless the information is also available to the investing public on reasonable inquiry. No person of CIM, LLC shall prefer his or her own interest to that of an advisory client; and
- c) CIM, LLC maintains a list of all securities holdings for itself and anyone associated with its advisory practice with access to advisory recommendations. These lists are updated as advisory recommendations change and the holdings are reviewed on a regular basis by CIM, LLC's CCO; and
- d) CIM, LLC emphasizes the unrestricted right of the client to decline to implement any advice rendered (except where CIM, LLC has been given discretionary authority over the account by the client); and
- e) CIM, LLC requires that all individuals must act in accordance with all applicable federal and state regulations governing registered investment advisory practices; and
- f) Any individual not in observance of the above may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

# Item 12. Brokerage Practices

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## Selecting Brokerage Firms

CIM, LLC WRAP-FEE PROGRAM:

CIM, LLC utilizes Fidelity Institutional Wealth Services (Fidelity), Charles Schwab Advisor Services (Schwab), or Interactive Brokers (IB) for Program account securities transactions. Execution, clearance and settlement of such securities transactions will then be provided by Fidelity, Schwab, or IB. Fidelity, Schwab, or IB will also provide custodial, recordkeeping and other operational services to Program clients. CIM, LLC considers Fidelity, Schwab, and IB to be nationally recognized financial institutions providing best execution, reasonable commission rates and satisfactory custodial services such as the timely delivery of quality, illustrative quarterly statements. Clients are free to maintain their accounts through any financial service

provider so long as the designated broker-dealer is acceptable to CIM, LLC. Most clients elect to maintain accounts with Fidelity, Schwab, or IB.

CIM, LLC may seek, but shall be under no obligation, to execute block trades where possible and when advantageous to clients. This blocking of trades permits the trading of aggregate blocks of securities composed of assets from multiple client accounts so long as an average price is distributed equally and on a prorated basis between all accounts included in any such block. Block trading allows CIM, LLC to execute equity trades in a timelier, equitable manner and may reduce overall commission charges absorbed by CIM, LLC. Trades can only be entered for accounts held by one custodian at a time. Where there are client accounts at more than one custodian (Fidelity, Schwab, IB...) containing the same security being traded in a block, our trader will alternate which custodian's accounts are traded first. The next day that such trades occur, a different custodian's accounts will be traded first, and so on, in an effort to eliminate the potential for disparity in the trading prices among markets or trades favoring one group of clients over another. Trades for associated persons of CIM, LLC may be included in these block trades if the employee's account is a discretionary account. Adjustments to this pro-rata allocation may be made to avoid having odd amounts of shares held in any client account, or to avoid deviations from pre-determined minimum/maximum holdings limits (established for any account). Participants in the Program are directed to CIM, LLC's Wrap-Fee Brochure, Appendix 1 for additional information regarding the Program.

#### FINANCIAL PLANNING:

Certain associated persons of CIM, LLC are separately registered as representatives of CIMAS, a registered broker-dealer, member of FINRA and an affiliate of CIM, LLC through both ownership and control. In general, CIM, LLC may recommend the use of CIMAS to clients for implementation of financial planning recommendations, provided that this recommendation is consistent with CIM, LLC's fiduciary duty to the client. Any commissions or other compensation received from the implementation of financial planning recommendations is separate and distinct from CIM, LLC's and CIMAS advisory fee to implement any recommended transactions. No financial planning client is obligated to use CIMAS. Clients should be aware that best execution and lower commissions may not necessarily be achieved if recommended transactions are placed through these individuals, in their separate capacities as registered representatives or insurance agents/brokers.

#### **Directed Brokerage**

##### PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT:

A Portfolio Management client must direct CIM, LLC as to the broker-dealer (the "designated broker") to be used for that client's account(s), which broker-dealer must be acceptable to CIM, LLC. The client has the sole responsibility for negotiating commission rates and other transaction costs with such designated broker. Accordingly, the commission rates charged to one of CIM, LLC's clients may be more or less than the commission rates charged to another client for the same transaction. Particular clients may even forego benefits that CIM, LLC may be able to obtain for clients with the same designated broker through, for example, negotiating discounts on block trades. Such clients may, therefore, incur higher brokerage commissions.

CIM, LLC is not required to affect any securities transactions through a designated broker if CIM, LLC reasonably believes that to do so may result in a breach of its fiduciary duty. Clients should be aware that best execution and lower commissions may not necessarily be achieved if recommended transactions are placed through a broker directed by the client, in their separate capacities as registered representatives or insurance agents/brokers.

For clients in need of brokerage or custodial services, and depending on client circumstances and needs, CIM, LLC recommends Fidelity, Schwab and, or IB, all three are globally recognized service providers. The factors considered by CIM, LLC when recommending Fidelity, Schwab and, or IB to its clients are their ability to provide professional services, CIM, LLC's experience with them, their reputation, and their quality of execution services and costs of such services, among other factors. Clients who select Fidelity, Schwab, or IB as their designated broker may, however, pay higher commissions than those obtainable from other brokers. In the event that CIM, LLC's fiduciary duty requires CIM, LLC to execute a securities transaction on behalf of a client with a broker dealer other than the designated broker, CIM, LLC will use the foregoing criteria (e.g., the broker's ability to provide professional services, CIM, LLC's experience with the broker, the broker's reputation, the broker's quality of execution services and costs of such services) to select the executing broker-dealer.

### **Research and Soft Dollars**

CIM, LLC does not have any formal soft dollar arrangements and presently receives no soft dollar benefits.

### **Order Aggregation**

CIM, LLC may seek, but shall be under no obligation, to execute block trades where possible and when advantageous to clients. This blocking of trades permits the trading of aggregate blocks of securities composed of assets from multiple client accounts so long as transaction costs are shared equally and on a prorated basis between all accounts included in any such block. Block trading allows CIM, LLC to execute equity trades in a timelier, equitable manner and may reduce overall commission charges. Trades can only be entered for accounts held by one custodian at a time. Where there are client accounts at more than one custodian (Fidelity, Schwab, IB...) containing the same security being traded in a block, our trader will alternate which custodian's accounts are traded first. The next day that such trades occur, a different custodian's accounts will be traded first, and so on, in an effort to eliminate the potential for disparity in the trading prices among markets or trades favoring one group of clients over another. Trades for associated persons of CIM, LLC may be included in these block trades if the employee's account is a discretionary account. Adjustments to this pro-rata allocation may be made to avoid having odd amounts of shares held in any client account, or to avoid deviations from pre-determined minimum/maximum holdings limits (established for any account). CIM, LLC may aggregate orders providing that the following conditions are met:

a) CIM, LLC's policies for the aggregation of transactions are hereby fully disclosed in this Form ADV and are also separately disclosed to each client and to the broker-dealer(s) through which such transactions will be placed; and

b) CIM, LLC will not aggregate transactions unless it believes that aggregation is consistent with its fiduciary duty to its clients and is consistent with the terms of CIM, LLC's advisory agreement with each client for which trades are being aggregated; and

c) No advisory client will be favored over any other client; each discretionary client that participates in an aggregated order will participate at the average share price for all CIM, LLC's transactions in a given security on a given business day, with transaction costs shared pro-rata based on each discretionary client's participation in the transaction; and

d) CIM, LLC will prepare, before entering an aggregated order, a written or electronic statement (hereinafter "Allocation Statement") specifying the participating client accounts and how it intends to allocate the order among those clients; and

e) If the aggregated order is filled in its entirety, it will be allocated among clients in accordance with the Allocation Statement; if the order is partially filled, it will be allocated prorata based on the Allocation Statement; and

f) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the order may be allocated on a basis different from that specified in the Allocation Statement if all client accounts receive fair and equitable treatment and the reason for different allocation is explained in writing and is approved by CIM, LLC's CCO no later than one hour after the opening of the markets on the trading day following the day the order was executed; and

g) CIM, LLC's books and records will separately reflect, for each client account, the orders of which are aggregated, the securities held by, and bought and sold for that account; and

h) Funds and securities of clients whose orders are aggregated will be deposited with one or more banks or broker-dealers, and neither the clients' cash nor their securities will be held collectively any longer than is necessary to settle the purchase or sale in question on a delivery versus payment basis; cash or securities held collectively for clients will be delivered out to the custodian bank or broker-dealer as soon as practicable following the settlement; and

i) CIM, LLC will receive no additional compensation or remuneration of any kind as a result of the proposed aggregation; and

j) Individual advice and treatment will be accorded to each advisory client.

## Item 13. Review of Accounts

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### Periodic Reviews

CIM, LLC WRAP-FEE PROGRAM/PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT:

While the underlying securities within the Wrap Program and Portfolio Management accounts are continuously monitored, these accounts will be formally reviewed at least quarterly by the

CIM, LLC relationship manager assigned to the account. The number of accounts covered by each relationship manager varies based on the type of account. The CIM, LLC relationship managers will be supervised by the Investment Committee of CIM, LLC. The review will be conducted to determine if the current investment holdings of the account are consistent with the client's investment objectives.

#### FINANCIAL PLANNING:

These accounts will be reviewed as contracted for at the inception of the advisory agreement to be no less than annually.

### Review Triggers

While continuously monitoring client positions, certain automatic review procedures are triggered given market volatility and security fluctuation. An automatic review triggered by shifts in asset classes within a client portfolio will be dictated by the client's risk tolerance and specified in the client's Investment Policy Statement ("IPS"). On a security by security basis a review will be triggered by any one position increasing in asset size to 7.5% of the account's total assets. A review will also be triggered when a position size declines to 2.5% of the account's total assets. More frequent reviews may be triggered by material changes in variables such as the client's individual circumstances, drift or variance from the model portfolio weighting or the market, political or economic environment.

### Regular Reports

#### CIM, LLC WRAP-FEE PROGRAM/PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT:

Program and Portfolio Management participants receive monthly and/or quarterly custodial statements and confirmations of transactions from their respective broker-dealer(s) and/or custodian(s). CIM, LLC also provides written quarterly performance reports to its clients, illustrating the performance of each account versus an appropriate benchmark.

#### FINANCIAL PLANNING:

These clients will receive written reports as contracted for at the inception of the advisory relationship to be no less than quarterly. Clients receive written monthly account statements, transaction statements as well as quarterly performance reports from CIM, LLC.

## Item 14. Client Referrals and Other Compensation

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In the past CIM, LLC entered into an agreement with a third-party marketing firm for their solicitation of certain prospective clients for CIM, LLC. CIM, LLC compensated this entity for referring advisory clients to us. Currently CIM, LLC does not maintain any such 3<sup>rd</sup> party

solicitation arrangements. Should we enter into an agreement again in the future referral fees will be paid by CIM, LLC as a percentage of the annual management fees earned on referred accounts and will not represent any additional expenses to those client accounts.

## Item 15. Custody

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### Custody

Fidelity, Schwab, and IB provide custodial, recordkeeping, and other operational services for CIM, LLC accounts and its Wrap Program. CIM, LLC recommends using Fidelity, Schwab, or IB custodial services to our Portfolio Management, Wrap Program and Financial Planning clients.

CIM, LLC is deemed to have custody of clients' funds or securities when clients have standing authorizations with their custodian to move money from a client's account to a third-party ("SLOA") and under that SLOA, authorize us to designate the amount or timing of transfers with the custodian. The SEC has set forth a set of rules intended to protect client assets in such situations, which we follow.

Client assets are housed in nationally recognized banks or brokerage firms, otherwise known as custodians. CIM, LLC does not take possession of client funds or securities, nevertheless CIM, LLC is deemed to have custody of some client assets through either the direct debiting of management fees from client custodial accounts or due to arrangements under which CIM, LLC is authorized by written instruction from a client to withdraw client funds or securities maintained with a qualified custodian and to then transmit those to a third party authorized by the client. For more information on the fees and billing, see the *Fees and Compensation* section of this Brochure.

### Account Statements

On at least a quarterly basis, the custodian is required to send to the client a statement showing all transactions within the account during the reporting period. Because the custodian does not calculate the amount of the fee to be deducted, CIM, LLC urges the client to compare the statement the client receives from the qualified custodian with the statement the client receives from CIM, LLC to verify the accuracy of the calculation, among other things. Clients should contact us directly if they believe that there may be an error in their statement. For more information on the reports we provide to clients, see the *Review of Accounts* section of this Brochure.

## Item 16. Investment Discretion

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### Discretionary Authority for Trading

For discretionary clients, CIM, LLC is granted written authority to determine which securities and the amounts of securities that are bought or sold for such clients' accounts. Any limitations on this discretionary authority shall be included in the written agreement between each client and

CIM, LLC. Clients may change/amend these limitations as required. Such amendments shall be submitted in writing.

## Item 17. Voting Client Securities

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### Proxy Voting

CIM, LLC manages assets for a variety of clients. The firm's policy is to vote proxies on a given issue the same for all of its clients for whom CIM, LLC votes proxies. Unless the power is revoked by a given client, CIM, LLC is generally granted the power to vote proxies solicited for discretionary client accounts. Non-discretionary clients and clients charged a performance fee generally retain all authority and responsibility to vote any and all proxies solicited for their respective accounts, although they, too, may grant CIM, LLC authority to vote their proxies. Where CIM, LLC has discretion to vote proxies on behalf of its clients, it will vote those proxies in the best interests of its clients and in accordance with CIM, LLC's established policies and procedures, as outlined below. Clients may obtain a copy of CIM, LLC's complete proxy voting policies and procedures by contacting the Chief Compliance Officer at CIM, LLC's offices directly. Clients may also submit a written request for information on how proxies for that client's shares were voted. If any client requests a copy of CIM, LLC's complete proxy policies and procedures or how CIM, LLC voted proxies for his/her account(s), CIM, LLC will promptly provide such information to the client. Clients may contact CIM, LLC in advance of the proxy voting deadline with instructions on how to vote a specific solicitation. CIM, LLC's principles for voting proxies are as follows:

1. CIM, LLC's investment philosophy is to purchase the securities of high quality companies for the portfolios of its clients. One of the main criteria that CIM, LLC's Investment Committee (as defined below) looks for in a company is excellence in management and a deep-rooted culture that consistently delivers superior results for their shareholders. Therefore, CIM, LLC tends to vote in alignment with management's recommendation, if there is no conflict with shareholder value. If CIM, LLC did not have confidence in the management of a company, it would not purchase or retain shares of that company's security in any of its portfolios.
2. On occasion, CIM, LLC may be authorized to vote client proxies for securities which are unsupervised, held in a non-discretionary account, or which are no longer held as part of an investment strategy. It is presumed that these clients have chosen to purchase or retain these securities due to their confidence in the management of the companies that issue said securities, regardless of whether CIM, LLC shares that opinion. Therefore, CIM, LLC will likewise vote these shares in alignment with management's recommendation.
3. CIM, LLC will identify any conflicts that exist between CIM, LLC's interests and those of its clients by reviewing whether CIM, LLC or any of its affiliated persons has a financial, business or personal relationship with the issuer. CIM, LLC will vote proxies in a manner consistent with its clients' best interests.

4. Absent any special circumstance, the foregoing guidelines are followed when voting proxies.

Clients who do not authorize CIM, LLC to vote proxies receive them through the mail. They are forwarded by mail from the respective custodian, Fidelity, Schwab, or IB. Clients are welcome to contact CIM, LLC by phone, email or mail to inquire about a particular solicitation.

## Item 18. Financial Information

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CIM, LLC has never been the subject of a bankruptcy petition and CIM, LLC is not aware of any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet its contractual commitments to clients. While there is a risk in the withdrawal of capital, CIM, LLC -over the course of the firm's history - has weathered extremely challenging markets in the past to include the bursting of the internet bubble, which began in March of 2000, as well as the recent financial crisis of 2008 - 2009.

CIM, LLC has a Business Continuity Plan ("BCP") in place, which is reviewed and tested annually. CIM, LLC's BCP sets forth the firm's response in the event of either an internal or external Significant Business Disruption ("SBD"), detailing the methods by which it can most quickly safeguard employees' lives and firm property, make a financial and operational assessment, quickly recover and resume operations, protect all of the firm's books and records, and allow our customers to transact business.



# CIM, LLC

30 S. Pearl St. 9<sup>th</sup> Flr

Albany, NY 12207

518-391-4200

518-391-4242

[curranllc.com](http://curranllc.com)

## Thomas Joseph Curran

30 S. Pearl St. 9<sup>th</sup> Flr

Albany, NY 12207

518-391-4200

## Kevin Thomas Curran

1500 Walnut St. Ste. 800

Philadelphia, PA 19102

518-391-4200

This brochure supplement provides information about Thomas Joseph Curran and Kevin Thomas Curran that supplements CIM, LLC's (d/b/a Curran Wealth Management and d/b/a Curran Investment Management) brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact us at 518-391-4200 or [info@curranllc.com](mailto:info@curranllc.com), if you did not receive CIM, LLC's brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Thomas Joseph Curran and Kevin Thomas Curran is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

March 29, 2019

# Thomas Joseph Curran

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## Name, Age (Year of Birth)

Thomas J. Curran, 73 (1945)

## Formal Education

Graduated from Temple University in 1967 with a B.A. in Political Science

Graduated from University of Pennsylvania in 1969 with a M.B.A. in Business Administration

## Business Background

Chief Compliance Officer, CIM, LLC, d/b/a Curran Wealth Management and d/b/a Curran Investment Management, from December 2006 to present.

Chief Compliance Officer, CIMAS, LLC d/b/a Curran Advisory Services from December 2006 to present.

Chief Executive Officer and Portfolio Manager, CIM, LLC from August 2013 to Present

Chief Executive Officer, CIMAS, LLC from August 2013 to Present

Chief Investment Officer, CIM, LLC from October 2004 to August 2013.

President, CIM, LLC from October 2004 to Present.

President, CIMAS, LLC from October 2004 to May 2018.

Chief Investment Officer, CIMAS, LLC from October 2004 to present.

Director-Investments of Curran Investment Management of Wachovia Securities, LLC from August 2000 to November 2004.

Managing Director/Investments for First Albany Corporation from September 1973 to August 2000.

## Disciplinary Information

Mr. Curran does not have any disciplinary history.

## Other Business Activities

Mr. Curran is a registered Securities Principal of CIMAS, LLC and licensed to sell insurance policies during the course of financial planning. Mr. Curran is able to effect securities transactions and may receive separate, yet customary compensation for effecting any securities

transactions or selling any insurance policies. While CIM, LLC endeavors at all times to put the interest of CIM, LLC's advisory clients first as part of CIM, LLC's fiduciary duty, clients should be aware that the receipt of additional compensation itself creates a conflict of interest, and may affect the judgment of the individuals making advisory/investment recommendations. To check this conflict Mr. Curran receives no compensation from effecting any securities transactions.

Mr. Curran is also the sole owner of Hippo Tax Services, LLC ("HippoTax"). HippoTax provides tax return preparation and filing, as well as tax planning services. CIM, LLC may recommend HippoTax to advisory clients in need of its tax services. Tax services provided by HippoTax are separate and distinct from the advisory services of CIM, LLC, and are provided for separate and typical compensation. Common ownership of CIM, LLC and HippoTax is fully disclosed to CIM, LLC clients and no CIM, LLC client is obligated to use HippoTax for any tax services.

### **Additional Compensation**

Mr. Curran receives no additional compensation, other than that mentioned above.

### **Supervision**

Mr. Curran's correspondence is reviewed by Kevin T. Curran, a registered Securities Principal of CIMAS, LLC. Regarding investment decisions he serves on the firm's investment committee with Kevin T. Curran. The committee meets frequently to discuss market conditions, analyze and evaluate both current and prospective investments as well as make investment trades such as selling one security and purchasing another. All communications relative to the investment management are maintained in a folder. Investment decisions are made jointly requiring the consent of each party. It needs to be noted that as Chief Executive Officer of the firm, Thomas J. Curran does not have a direct supervisor.

# Kevin Thomas Curran

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## Name, Age (Year of Birth)

Kevin T. Curran, 44 (1974)

## Formal Education

Graduated from Lafayette College in 1996 with an A.B. in Government and Law.

Graduated from NYU Stern School of Business in 2001 with a M.B.A. in Finance.

## Business Background

President, Curran Investment Management from January 2019 – Present.

President, CIMAS, LLC from May 2018 – Present.

Chief Investment Officer and Portfolio Manager, CIM, LLC from August 2013 - Present

Vice President, Director of Research, CIM, LLC from October 2004 to August 2013.

Investment Associate of Curran Investment Management of Wachovia Securities, LLC from October 2002 to November 2004.

## Description of Professional Designations

Mr. Curran earned his Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation in 2005.

The Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter is a professional designation established in 1962 and awarded by CFA Institute. To earn the CFA charter, candidates must pass three sequential, six-hour examinations over a minimum duration of 2.5 years. The three levels of the CFA Program test a wide range of investment topics, including ethical and professional standards, fixed-income analysis, alternative and derivative investments, and portfolio management and wealth planning. In addition, CFA charter holder's must have at least four years of acceptable professional experience in the investment decision-making process and must commit to abide by, and annually reaffirm, their adherence to the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct

## Disciplinary Information

Mr. Curran does not have any disciplinary history.

## Other Business Activities

Mr. Curran is a registered Securities Principal of CIMAS, LLC. Mr. Curran is able to effect securities transactions and may receive separate, yet customary compensation for effecting any securities transactions. While CIM, LLC endeavors at all times to put the interest of CIM, LLC's advisory clients first as part of CIM, LLC's fiduciary duty, clients should be aware that the receipt of additional compensation itself creates a conflict of interest, and may affect the judgment of the individuals making advisory/investment recommendations. To directly address this conflict, Mr. Curran does not receive any compensation from CIMAS, LLC.

## Additional Compensation

Mr. Curran does not receive any additional compensation.

## Supervision

Mr. Curran's correspondence is reviewed by either, Thomas J. Curran, Chief Executive Officer, or Teri King, a registered Securities Principal of CIMAS, LLC. Regarding investment decisions Mr. Curran serves on the firm's investment committee with Thomas J. Curran. The committee meets frequently to discuss market conditions, analyze and evaluate both current and prospective investments as well as make investment trades such as selling one security and purchasing another. All communications relative to the investment management are maintained in a folder. Investment decisions are made jointly requiring the consent of each party.

# CIM, LLC

**30 S. Pearl St. 9<sup>th</sup> Flr**

**Albany, NY 12207**

**518-391-4200**

**518-391-4242**

**curranllc.com**

The wrap fee program brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of CIM, LLC (d/b/a Curran Wealth Management and d/b/a Curran Investment Management). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 518-391-4200 or [info@curranllc.com](mailto:info@curranllc.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about CIM, LLC (d/b/a Curran Wealth Management and d/b/a Curran Investment Management) is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

March 29, 2019

# Material Changes

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## Annual Update

CIM, LLC (d/b/a Curran Wealth Management and d/b/a Curran Investment Management) is providing this information as part of our annual updating amendment of the wrap fee program brochure which contains any material changes from our last annual update. This section discusses only material changes since the last annual update which most recently occurred on March 28, 2018.

## Material Changes since the Last Update

The Securities and Exchange Commission adopted amendments to Part 2 of Form ADV effective October 2010. The newly revised Part 2 consists of Part 2A (the "Brochure") which includes Appendix 1 Wrap Fee Program Brochure and Part 2B (the "Brochure Supplement"). Each update of the Wrap Fee Program Brochure must now include a summary of all material changes since the last annual update.

Since the last annual update, CIM, LLC we has added Interactive Brokers (IB), headquartered in Greenwich, Connecticut, as an additional custodian for clients to use. Whereas the management fees for clients' accounts held at the existing custodians, Fidelity and Schwab, are debited quarterly in advance based on the quarter end value, clients' accounts held at IB are debited quarterly in arrears based on the daily valuation.

In addition, there have been some changes to our wrap-fee structure. These are summarized as:

Wrap-fee accounts now have decreased their management fee; for equity-only accounts it's 2.0% on the first \$500,000, 1.0% on the next \$4,500,000, and 0.75% on any amounts over \$5,000,000, and for balanced accounts it's 1.75% on the first \$500,000, 0.75% on the next \$4,500,000, and 0.5% on any amounts over \$5,000,000. The minimum annual fee has increased to \$2,500, which will apply to all accounts with assets less than \$125,000 (equity accounts), or \$143,000 (balanced accounts).

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# Services, Fees and Compensation

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## Services Description

CIM, LLC is the sponsor and investment manager of the CIM, LLC Wrap-Fee Program (hereinafter the "Program"). A "wrap-fee" program is one that provides the client with advisory and brokerage execution services for one all-inclusive fee. Except as described in *Services, Fees and Compensation* section below, a Program client is not charged separate fees for the respective components of the total service. CIM, LLC actively solicits advisory clients for the Program. CIM, LLC is also responsible for the marketing of the Program. CIM, LLC provides investment supervisory services through the Program, defined as giving continuous advice to a client or making investments for a client based on the individual needs of the client. Through personal discussions in which goals and objectives based on a client's particular circumstances are established, CIM, LLC develops a client's personal investment policy and creates and manages a portfolio (refer to services detailed in the *Portfolio Management Selection and Evaluation* section below) based on that policy.

As investment manager CIM, LLC will manage Portfolio Management wrap-fee client accounts on either a discretionary or non-discretionary basis, depending on each client's particular needs and circumstances. CIM, LLC will allocate the client's assets among various investments taking into consideration the overall objectives of the client. Mutual funds will be selected on the basis of any or all of the following criteria: the fund's performance history; the industry sector in which the fund invests; the track record of the fund's manager; the fund's investment objectives; the fund's management style and philosophy; and the fund's management fee structure. Portfolio weighting between funds and market sectors will be determined by each client's individual needs and circumstances. From time to time, assets in the Account may be held in cash and/or cash equivalents temporarily pending investment, as a defensive strategy or due to circumstances beyond CIM, LLC's control. CIM, LLC's investment philosophy emphasizes quality investing. CIM, LLC is generally a long-term investor committed to identifying superior companies its clients can own for long periods of time. CIM, LLC's investment discipline is based on a fundamental bottom up approach to security selection. CIM, LLC employs a proprietary screening process to identify companies that CIM, LLC believes will offer its clients the best opportunities for long-term growth.

CIM, LLC looks for quality companies that meet the following criteria:

1. Consistent earnings growth at rates higher than 10%;
2. Resilience to the economic cycle;
3. Return on equity of more than 15% and retention of most, if not all, of their earnings;
4. Strong balance sheet;
5. Superior management; and

## 6. Low debt to equity ratio.

CIM, LLC utilizes several data resources in gathering historical information, as well as annual and quarterly reports. Using quantitative and fundamental analysis, a sustainable growth rate is determined. Securities are continuously monitored and evaluated relative to market and industry conditions. CIM, LLC utilizes a number of sources of financial information in the firm's analysis of securities including financial newspapers and magazines, research materials and reports, corporate rating services, annual reports, prospectuses, SEC filings and company press releases. Research services are received in various forms, which may include written reports, or information obtained on the World Wide Web.

CIM, LLC may decide to sell one of its holdings due to a fundamental change in the direction of a company, disappointing earnings over a significant period of time or deterioration of a company's balance sheet. CIM, LLC's balanced accounts are invested to provide clients with long-term growth and a steady source of income. Fixed income also serves to reduce the overall portfolio volatility. CIM, LLC adheres to strict maturity limitations and quality ratings on fixed income investments. Clients will have the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments which will be made on their behalf. Clients will retain individual ownership of all securities. CIM, LLC may use money market mutual funds to sweep unused cash balances until they can be appropriately invested. When appropriate to the needs of the client, CIM, LLC may recommend the use of trading (securities sold within 30 days), short sales, margin transactions or option writing. Because these investment strategies involve certain additional degrees of risk, they will only be recommended when consistent with the client's stated tolerance for risk.

## Program Cost

CIM, LLC charges an annual "wrap-fee" for participation in the Program. The wrap-fee will be charged as a percentage of assets under management, typically ranging from 1.00% to 2.00%, depending on the size and nature of the client's account. CIM, LLC will quote an exact percentage to each client prior to executing the advisory agreement. Fees are negotiable.

### Equity Accounts

2.0% on the first \$500,000

1.0% on the next \$4,500,000

0.75% on any amount over \$5 million

### Balanced Accounts (\*)

1.75% on the first \$500,000

0.75% on the next \$4,500,000

0.50% on any amount over \$5 million

**Minimum annual fee:** \$2,500. In the event that a client's account falls below approximately \$125,000 for equity accounts, and \$143,000 for balanced accounts, the account will be charged this minimum annual fee. In such circumstances, this minimum annual fee will exceed the respective 2.0% and 1.75% annual fee percentages charged to other client accounts and may be higher than the fee that would be charged by other investment advisers or investment professionals for managing accounts that size. (\*) Balanced account fee schedule applies to accounts with at least 20% of fixed income securities.

**Fee Payment:** Consistent with the written agreement between CIM, LLC and each client, the wrap fee is calculated and payable either in advance or in arrears, depending on which custodian holds a client's account. Currently, for accounts where Fidelity or Schwab is the custodian, the fee is payable quarterly in advance<sup>1</sup>, based on the market value of all assets in the account on the last trading day of the prior calendar quarter. For accounts where Interactive Brokers is the custodian, the fee is payable quarterly in arrears, which is accrued daily based on the end of day market value of all assets at the end of each day of the prior calendar quarter. Client fees will be debited directly from the client's account, in advance or in arrears as applicable, at the beginning of each calendar quarter.

Notwithstanding the fact that the wrap-fee may be payable quarterly in advance, the wrap-fee may be adjusted (and refunds given and/or new fees assessed, as appropriate) quarterly in arrears at the beginning of the quarter following any net additions or net withdrawals in a client's account. A pro-rata refund of the wrap-fee paid will be made, or an additional pro-rata wrap-fee will be charged, at such time only if the addition to or withdrawal from the account would result in an increase or a decrease in the market value of 10% or more from the previous market close. No wrap-fee adjustment will be made during any period for appreciation or depreciation in the value of the assets in the client's account. The management agreement continues in effect until terminated by either party upon 30 days prior written notice to either party, CIM, LLC or the client. Upon termination of the agreement, CIM, LLC will calculate the actual days the account was under management since the most recent quarter end and if warranted will return a credit to the account for the days during the quarter that the account was not managed by CIM, LLC. Note that agreements terminated within 30 days of the close of the calendar quarter will not receive a credit because they will not fulfill the 30 days prior notice.

**Included Fees:** The wrap-fee includes all advisory and brokerage costs (including transaction costs), quarterly performance reports, third party custodial fees and exchange fees. In determining whether to participate in the Program, the client should consider that, depending upon the level of the wrap-fee charged by CIM, LLC, the size of the account, the amount of portfolio activity in the client's account, the value of custodial and other services which are provided under the arrangement, and other factors, the wrap-fee may be more or less than the aggregate cost of such services if they were to be provided separately to the client by CIM, LLC and its affiliates or by other investment professionals. Therefore, CIM, LLC may have an incentive to recommend this program over other programs or services.

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<sup>1</sup> The exception to this are donor-advised fund "Giving Accounts" established by clients with Fidelity Charitable, for which we have been nominated and approved as the CIAP investment adviser of record, and the fee CIM, LLC collects is debited in arrears according to the terms of the agreement between CIM, LLC and Fidelity Charitable.

## **Additional Fees**

The wrap-fee does not cover certain incidental fees relating to the account, including, without limitation: account termination fees, account transfer (ACAT) fees, wire transfer fees, ATM/POS fees, transfer taxes or trustee fees. Accordingly, Program clients are responsible for paying these fees and expenses separately.

# Account Requirements and Types of Clients

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## **Program Requirements**

Minimum investment \$250,000, however, all minimum account size requirements may be negotiable under certain circumstances.

## **Types of Clients**

CIM, LLC welcomes all investors meeting our minimum investment threshold seeking a manager investing in quality investments, a historically low portfolio turnover and value consistency measured in years not quarters. Types of clients include but are not limited to individuals, families, qualified investors, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, business entities and corporations.

# Portfolio Management Selection and Evaluation

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## **Process for Selection and Review of Portfolio Managers**

CIM, LLC primarily manages its wrap fee assets internally. Spaulding Group, an independent firm specializing in GIPS verification examinations, subjects a representative sample of our accounts and their holdings to review and scrutiny during its onsite audit. The examination verifies CIM, LLC has complied with the GIPS standards on a firm-wide basis regarding composite construction requirements and that the firm's policies and procedures are designed to calculate and present performance in compliance with the GIPS standards. In determining whether to participate in the Program, the client should consider that, depending upon the level of the wrap-fee charged by CIM, LLC, the size of the account, the amount of portfolio activity in the client's account, the value of custodial and other services which are provided under the arrangement, and other factors, the wrap-fee may be more or less than the aggregate cost of such services if they were to be provided separately to the client by CIM, LLC and its affiliates or by other investment professionals. Therefore, CIM, LLC may have an incentive to recommend this program over other programs or services. CIM, LLC addresses this conflict of interest by

offering the client to participate in its wrap-fee strategy equivalent, Portfolio Management where the client pays a management fee plus commissions.

In limited instances CIM, LLC may use outside managers. Generally these managers fill a unique client need such as socially responsible investing or the strategy complement's the investment strategies at CIM, LLC. For instance CIM, LLC's investment strategies tend to emphasize growth companies which tend to have stronger sales and earnings growth than their peers and their growth rates tend to be independent of the market cycle. This is what some investors may have heard referred to as secular growth companies. A complementary strategy may emphasize companies' that trade at lower price/earnings multiples and book values than growth companies. This style of investing is often referred to as value investing. CIM, LLC selects managers with long performance histories consisting of several years, low portfolio turnover and a history of outperforming the strategy's benchmark return. CIM, LLC subjects outside managers to periodic review, no less than quarterly to assure that account holdings remain consistent with both the strategy's stated investment objectives and more importantly remain in line with our client's needs.

## Client Information Provided to Portfolio Manager

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CIM, LLC in its role as portfolio manager for the WRAP fee program has full access to all client information. Client information is withheld from outside managers to maintain client confidentiality.

## Client Contact with Portfolio Manager

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There are no restrictions placed on clients' ability to contact and consult with their portfolio managers.