

# Rockingstone Advisors LLC

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## **CODE OF ETHICS**

Rockingstone Advisors is adopting this Code of Ethics effective January 1, 2021. This Code establishes rules of conduct for all employees of Rockingstone Advisors and is designed to govern personal securities trading activities in the accounts of employees, immediate family/household accounts, and accounts in which an employee has a beneficial interest. The Code is designed to ensure that the high ethical standards long maintained by Rockingstone Advisors continue to be applied. It is regularly updated so the information is timely and valuable. Please refer to all sections of this document.

Thank you,



Brandt Sakakeeny  
Managing Partner and Chief Compliance Officer

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## Item 2: Introduction

This Code of Ethics (“Code”) has been adopted by Rockingstone Advisors and is designed to comply with Rule 204A-1 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Advisers Act”).

This Code establishes rules of conduct for all owners, officers and employees of Rockingstone Advisors and is designed to, among other things, govern personal securities trading activities, immediate family/household accounts and accounts in which an owner, officer or employee has a beneficial interest. The Code is based on the principle that Rockingstone Advisors and its owners, officers and employees owe a fiduciary duty to Rockingstone Advisors’ clients to conduct their affairs, including their personal securities transactions, in such a manner as to avoid (i) serving their own personal interests ahead of clients, (ii) taking inappropriate advantage of their position with the firm and (iii) any actual or potential conflicts of interest or any abuse of their position of trust and responsibility.

The Code is designed to ensure that the high ethical standards long maintained by Rockingstone Advisors continue to be applied. The purpose of the Code is to preclude activities which may lead to or give the appearance of conflicts of interest, insider trading and other forms of prohibited or unethical business conduct. The excellent name and reputation of our firm continues to be a direct reflection of the conduct of each employee.

Pursuant to Section 206 of the Advisers Act, both Rockingstone Advisors and its employees are prohibited from engaging in fraudulent, deceptive or manipulative conduct. Compliance with this section involves more than acting with honesty and good faith alone. It means that the Rockingstone Advisors has an affirmative duty of utmost good faith to act solely in the best interest of its clients.

Rockingstone Advisors and its employees are subject to the following specific fiduciary obligations when dealing with clients:

- The duty to have a reasonable, independent basis for the investment advice provided;
- The duty to obtain best execution for a client’s transactions where the Firm is in a position to direct brokerage transactions for the client;
- The duty to ensure that investment advice is suitable to meeting the client’s individual objectives, needs and circumstances; and
- A duty to be loyal to clients.

In meeting its fiduciary responsibilities to its clients, Rockingstone Advisors expects its owners, officers and employees to demonstrate the highest standards of ethical conduct for continued employment. Strict compliance with the provisions of the Code shall be considered a basic condition of employment with our firm. Rockingstone Advisors’ reputation for fair and honest dealing with its clients has taken considerable time to build. This standing could be seriously damaged as the result of even a single securities transaction being considered questionable in light of the fiduciary duty owed to our clients. Employees are urged to seek the advice of Brandt Sakakeeny, Managing Partner and Chief Compliance Officer, for any questions about the Code or the application of the Code to their individual

circumstances. Employees should also understand that a material breach of the provisions of the Code may constitute grounds for disciplinary action, including termination of employment with us.

The provisions of the Code are not all-inclusive; rather, they are intended as a guide for our employees in their conduct. In those situations where an employee may be uncertain as to the intent or purpose of the Code, he/she is advised to consult with Brandt Sakakeeny. Brandt Sakakeeny may grant exceptions to certain provisions contained in the Code only in those situations when it is clear beyond dispute that the interests of our clients will not be adversely affected or compromised. All questions arising in connection with personal securities trading should be resolved in favor of the client even at the expense of the interests of employees.

Brandt Sakakeeny will at least annually review the firm's actions to ensure compliance with this Code.

### **Item 3: Definitions**

For the purposes of this Code, the following definitions shall apply:

“Access person” means any supervised person who: has access to nonpublic information regarding any clients’ purchase or sale of securities, or nonpublic information regarding the portfolio holdings of any reportable fund; or is involved in making securities recommendations to clients, or show has access to such recommendations that are nonpublic.

“Account” means accounts of any owner, officer or employee and includes accounts of the immediate family members (any relative by blood or marriage living in the employee’s household), and any account in which he or she has a direct or indirect beneficial interest, such as trusts and custodial accounts or other accounts in which the employee has a beneficial interest or exercises investment discretion.

“Beneficial ownership” shall be interpreted in the same manner as it would be under Rule 16a-1(a)(2) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in determining whether a person is the beneficial owner of a security for purposes of Section 16 of such Act and the rules and regulations thereunder.

“Reportable fund” means a fund for which you serve as an investment adviser as defined in section 2(a)(20) of the Investment Company Act of 1940; or any fund whose investment adviser or principal underwriter controls you, is controlled by you, or is under common control with you.

“Reportable security” means any security as defined in Section 202(a)(18) of the Advisers Act, except that it does not include: (i) Direct obligations of the United States Government; (ii) Bankers’ acceptances, bank certificates of deposit, commercial paper and high quality short-term debt instruments, including repurchase agreements; (iii) shares issued by money market funds; (iv) shares issued by open-end funds other than reportable funds; and (iv) shares issued by unit investment trusts that are invested exclusively in one or more open-end funds, none of which are reportable funds.

“Supervised person” means directors, officers and partners of Rockingstone Advisors LLC (or other persons occupying a similar status or performing similar functions); employees of Rockingstone Advisors; and any other person who provides advice on behalf of Rockingstone Advisors LLC and is subject to Rockingstone Advisors’ supervision and control.

## **Item 4: Insider Trading**

Trading securities while in possession of material, nonpublic information, or improperly communicating that information to others may expose supervised persons and Rockingstone Advisors LLC to stringent penalties. Criminal sanctions may include a fine of up to \$1,000,000 and/or ten years imprisonment. The SEC can recover the profits gained or losses avoided through the illegal trading, impose a penalty of up to three times the illicit windfall, and/or issue an order permanently barring you from the securities industry. Finally, supervised persons and Rockingstone Advisors may be sued by investors seeking to recover damages for insider trading violations.

The rules contained in this Code apply to securities trading and information handling by owners, officers and supervised persons of Rockingstone Advisors and their immediate family members.

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, a single question can avoid disciplinary action or complex legal problems. You must notify Brandt Sakakeeny immediately if you have any reason to believe that a violation of this Code has occurred or is about to occur.

### **General Policy**

No supervised person may trade, either personally or on behalf of others (such as investment funds and private accounts managed by Rockingstone Advisors), while in the possession of material, nonpublic information, nor may any personnel of Rockingstone Advisors communicate material, nonpublic information to others in violation of the law.

#### ***1. What is Material Information?***

Information is material where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable investor would consider it important in making his or her investment decisions. Generally, this includes any information the disclosure of which will have a substantial effect on the price of a company’s securities. No simple test exists to determine when information is material; assessments of materiality involve a highly fact-specific inquiry. For this reason, you should direct any questions about whether information is material to Brandt Sakakeeny.

Material information often relates to a company’s results and operations, including, for example, dividend changes, earnings results, changes in previously released earnings estimates, significant merger

or acquisition proposals or agreements, major litigation, liquidation problems, and extraordinary management developments.

Material information also may relate to the market for a company's securities. Information about a significant order to purchase or sell securities may, in some contexts, be material. Prepublication information regarding reports in the financial press also may be material. For example, the United States Supreme Court upheld the criminal convictions of insider trading defendants who capitalized on prepublication information about The Wall Street Journal's "Heard on the Street" column.

You should also be aware of the SEC's position that the term "material nonpublic information" relates not only to issuers but also to Rockingstone Advisors' public newsletters and client securities holdings and transactions.

## ***2. What is Nonpublic Information?***

Information is "public" when it has been disseminated broadly to investors in the marketplace. For example, information is public after it has become available to the general public through the Internet, a public filing with the SEC or some other government agency, the Dow Jones "tape" or The Wall Street Journal or some other publication of general circulation, and after sufficient time has passed so that the information has been disseminated widely.

## ***3. Identifying Inside Information***

Before executing any trade for yourself or others, including investment funds or private accounts managed by Rockingstone Advisors ("Client Accounts"), you must determine whether you have access to material, nonpublic information. If you think that you might have access to material, nonpublic information, you should take the following steps:

- Report the information and proposed trade immediately to Brandt Sakakeeny
- Do not purchase or sell the securities on behalf of yourself or others, including investment funds or private accounts managed by the firm
- Do not communicate the information inside or outside the firm, other than to Brandt Sakakeeny.

After Brandt Sakakeeny has reviewed the issue, the firm will determine whether the information is material and nonpublic and, if so, will place the security on the firm's Restricted List, prohibiting any trading in the security.

You should consult with Brandt Sakakeeny before taking any action. This high degree of caution will protect you, our clients, and the firm.

## ***4. Contacts with Public Companies***

Contacts with public companies may represent an important part of our research efforts. The firm may make investment decisions on the basis of conclusions formed through such contacts and analysis of publicly available information. Difficult legal issues arise, however, when, in the course of these contacts, a supervised person of Rockingstone Advisors or other person subject to this Code becomes

aware of material, nonpublic information. This could happen, for example, if a company's Chief Financial Officer prematurely discloses quarterly results to an analyst, or an investor relations representative makes selective disclosure of adverse news to a handful of investors. In such situations, Rockingstone Advisors must make a judgment as to its further conduct. To protect yourself, your clients and the firm, you should contact Brandt Sakakeeny immediately if you believe that you may have received material, nonpublic information.

### **5. Tender Offers**

Tender offers represent a particular concern in the law of insider trading for two reasons: First, tender offer activity often produces extraordinary gyrations in the price of the target company's securities. Trading during this time period is more likely to attract regulatory attention (and produces a disproportionate percentage of insider trading cases). Second, the SEC has adopted a rule which expressly forbids trading and "tipping" while in the possession of material, nonpublic information regarding a tender offer received from the tender offeror, the target company or anyone acting on behalf of either. Supervised persons of Rockingstone Advisors LLC and others subject to this Code should exercise extreme caution any time they become aware of nonpublic information relating to a tender offer.

### **6. Restricted/Watch Lists**

Although Rockingstone Advisors does not typically receive confidential information from portfolio companies, the firm does receive material non-public information from its corporate advisory clients. For this reason, we maintain a restricted or watch list in certain securities.

Brandt Sakakeeny may place certain securities on a restricted list. Supervised persons are prohibited from personally, or on behalf of an advisory account, purchasing or selling securities during any period they are listed. Securities issued by companies about which a number of supervised persons are expected to regularly have material, nonpublic information should generally be placed on the restricted list. Brandt Sakakeeny shall take steps immediately to inform all supervised persons of the securities listed on the restricted list.

Brandt Sakakeeny may place certain securities on a "watch list." Securities issued by companies about which a limited number of supervised persons possess material, nonpublic information should generally be placed on the watch list. The list will be disclosed only to Brandt Sakakeeny and a limited number of other persons who are deemed necessary recipients of the list because of their roles in compliance.

## **Item 5: Personal Investment Activities**

### **General Policy**

Rockingstone Advisors has adopted the following principles governing personal investment activities by Rockingstone Advisors' owners, officer and supervised persons:

- The interests of client accounts will at all times be placed first;

- All personal securities transactions will be conducted in such manner as to avoid any actual or potential conflict of interest or any abuse of an individual's position of trust and responsibility; and
- Supervised persons must not take inappropriate advantage of their positions.

#### *Pre-Clearance Required for Participation in IPOs*

No owner, officer or supervised person shall acquire any beneficial ownership in any securities in an Initial Public Offering for his or her account, as defined herein without the prior written approval of Brandt Sakakeeny who has been provided with full details of the proposed transaction (including written certification that the investment opportunity did not arise by virtue of the supervised person's activities on behalf of a client) and, if approved, will be subject to continuous monitoring for possible future conflicts.

#### *Interested Transactions*

No supervised person shall recommend any securities transactions for a client without having disclosed his or her interest, if any, in such securities or the issuer thereof, including without limitation:

- any direct or indirect beneficial ownership of any securities of such issuer;
- any contemplated transaction by such person in such securities;
- any position with such issuer or its affiliates; and
- any present or proposed business relationship between such issuer or its affiliates and such person or any party in which such person has a significant interest.

## **Item 6: Gift Policy**

Giving, receiving or soliciting gifts in a business setting may create an appearance of impropriety or may raise a potential conflict of interest. Rockingstone Advisors has adopted the policies set forth below to guide supervised persons in this area.

### **General Policy**

Rockingstone Advisors' policy with respect to gifts and entertainment is as follows:

- Giving, receiving or soliciting gifts in a business may give rise to an appearance of impropriety or may raise a potential conflict of interest;
- Owners, officers or supervised persons should not accept or provide any gifts or favors that might influence the decisions you or the recipient must make in business transactions involving Rockingstone Advisors, 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;



- 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.

### ***Reporting Requirements***

Any supervised person who accepts, directly or indirectly, anything of value from any person or entity that does business with or on behalf of Rockingstone Advisors, including gifts and gratuities with value in excess of \$100 per year, must obtain consent from Brandt Sakakeeny before accepting such gift.

This reporting requirement does not apply to bona fide dining or bona fide entertainment if, during such dining or entertainment, you are accompanied by the person or representative of the entity that does business with Rockingstone Advisors.

This gift reporting requirement is for the purpose of helping Rockingstone Advisors LLC monitor the activities of its employees. However, the reporting of a gift does not relieve any supervised person from the obligations and policies set forth in this Section or anywhere else in this Code. If you have any questions or concerns about the appropriateness of any gift, please consult Brandt Sakakeeny.

## **Item 7: Confidential Client Information**

In the course of investment advisory activities of Rockingstone Advisors, the firm gains access to non-public information about its clients. Such information may include a person's status as a client, personal 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 Rockingstone Advisors 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 Rockingstone Advisors' 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.

### ***Non-Disclosure Of Confidential Client Information***

All information regarding Rockingstone Advisors' clients is confidential. Information may only be disclosed when the disclosure is consistent with the firm's policy and the client's direction. Rockingstone Advisors does not share Confidential Client Information with any third parties, except in the following circumstances:

- As necessary to provide service that the client requested or authorized, or to maintain and service the client's account. Rockingstone Advisors will require that any financial intermediary, agent or other service provider utilized by Rockingstone Advisors (such as broker-dealers or sub-advisers) comply with substantially similar standards for non-disclosure and protection of Confidential Client Information and use the information provided by Rockingstone Advisors only for the performance of the specific service requested by Rockingstone Advisors;

- As required by regulatory authorities or law enforcement officials who have jurisdiction over Rockingstone Advisors, or as otherwise required by any applicable law. In the event Rockingstone Advisors 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, Rockingstone Advisors 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.

### ***Employee Responsibilities***

All owners, officers and supervised persons are prohibited, either during or after the termination of their employment with Rockingstone Advisors, from disclosing Confidential Client Information to any person or entity outside the firm, including family members, except under the circumstances described above. A supervised person is permitted to disclose Confidential Client Information only to such other supervised persons who need to have access to such information to deliver the Rockingstone Advisors' services to the client.

Supervised persons are also prohibited from making unauthorized copies of any documents or files containing Confidential Client Information and, upon termination of their employment with Rockingstone Advisors, must return all such documents to Rockingstone Advisors.

Any supervised person who violates the non-disclosure policy described above will be subject to disciplinary action, including possible termination, whether or not he or she benefited from the disclosed information.

### ***Security Of Confidential Personal Information***

Rockingstone Advisors enforces the following policies and procedures to protect the security of Confidential Client Information:

- The Firm restricts access to Confidential Client Information to those supervised persons who need to know such information to provide Rockingstone Advisors' services to clients;
- Any supervised person who is authorized to have access to Confidential Client Information in connection with the performance of such person's duties and responsibilities is required to keep such information in a secure compartment, file or receptacle on a daily basis as of the close of each business day;
- All electronic or computer files containing any Confidential Client Information shall be password secured and firewall protected from access by unauthorized persons;
- Any conversations involving Confidential Client Information, if appropriate at all, must be conducted by supervised persons in private, and care must be taken to avoid any unauthorized persons overhearing or intercepting such conversations.

### ***Privacy Policy***

As a registered investment adviser, Rockingstone Advisors and all supervised persons must comply with SEC Regulation S-P, which requires investment advisers to adopt policies and procedures to protect the

'nonpublic personal information' of natural person clients. 'Nonpublic information,' under Regulation S-P, includes personally identifiable financial information and any list, description, or grouping that is derived from personally identifiable financial information. Personally identifiable financial information is defined to include information supplied by individual clients, information resulting from transactions, any information obtained in providing products or services. Pursuant to Regulation S-P Rockingstone Advisors has adopted policies and procedures to safeguard the information of natural person clients.

### ***Enforcement and Review of Confidentiality and Privacy Policies***

Brandt Sakakeeny is responsible for reviewing, maintaining and enforcing Rockingstone Advisors' confidentiality and privacy policies and is also responsible for conducting appropriate employee training to ensure adherence to these policies. Any exceptions to this policy requires the written approval of Brandt Sakakeeny.

## **Item 8: Principal and Employee Trading**

A supervised person may, directly or indirectly, acquire or dispose of beneficial ownership of a reportable security only if: A (i) such purchase or sale has been approved by a supervisory person designated by Rockingstone Advisors; (ii) the approved transaction is completed by the close of business on the second trading day after approval is received; and (iii) the designated supervisory person has not rescinded such approval prior to execution of the transaction, or B (i) such purchase or sale is made through a firm managed account, (ii) the managed account trades *pari passu* to client accounts; and (iii) securities transactions for the managed account are aggregated with other client accounts and allocated in a fair and equitable manner with other client accounts. Post-approval is not permitted.

The Chief Compliance Officer monitors all transactions by all access persons in order to ascertain any pattern of conduct which may evidence conflicts or potential conflicts with the principles and objectives of this Code, including a pattern of frontrunning.

Advance trade clearance in no way waives or absolves any supervised person of the obligation to abide by the provisions, principles and objectives of this Code.

### ***Reporting Requirements***

Every supervised person shall provide initial and annual holdings reports and quarterly transaction reports to Brandt Sakakeeny which must contain the information described below.

#### ***1. Quarterly Transaction Reports***

Every supervised person must, no later than ten (10) days after the end of each calendar quarter, file a quarterly transaction report containing the following information:

With respect to any transaction during the quarter in a reportable security in which the supervised persons had any direct or indirect beneficial ownership:

- The date of the transaction, the title and exchange ticker symbol or CUSIP number, the interest rate and maturity date (if applicable), the number of shares and the principal amount (if applicable) of each covered security;
- The nature of the transaction (i.e., purchase, sale or any other type of acquisition or disposition);
- The price of the reportable security at which the transaction was effected;
- The name of the broker, dealer or bank with or through whom the transaction was effected; and
- The date the report is submitted by the supervised person.

## ***2. Exempt Transactions***

A supervised person need not submit a report with respect to:

- Transactions effected for, securities held in, any account over which the person has no direct or indirect influence or control;
- Transactions effected pursuant to an automatic investment plan;
- A quarterly transaction report if the report would duplicate information contained in securities transaction confirmations or brokerage account statements that Rockingstone Advisors LLC holds in its records so long as the firm receives the confirmations or statements no later than 10 days after the end of the applicable calendar quarter; and
- Any transaction or holding report if Rockingstone Advisors has only one supervised person, so long as the firm maintains records of the information otherwise required to be reported.

## ***3. Monitoring and Review of Personal Securities Transactions***

Brandt Sakakeeny or a designee will monitor and review all reports required under the Code for compliance with Rockingstone Advisors' policies regarding personal securities transactions and applicable SEC rules and regulations. Brandt Sakakeeny may also initiate inquiries of supervised persons regarding personal securities trading. Supervised persons are required to cooperate with such inquiries and any monitoring or review procedures employed Rockingstone Advisors. Any transactions for any accounts of Brandt Sakakeeny will be reviewed and approved by the President or other designated supervisory person. Brandt Sakakeeny shall at least annually identify all supervised persons who are required to file reports pursuant to the Code and will inform such supervised persons of their reporting obligations.

## **Item 9: Initial Certification**

All supervised persons will be provided with a copy of the Code and must initially certify in writing to Brandt Sakakeeny that they have: (i) received a copy of the Code; (ii) read and understand all provisions of the Code; (iii) agreed to abide by the Code; and (iv) reported all account holdings as required by the Code.

## **Item 10: Acknowledgement of Amendments**

All supervised persons shall receive any amendments to the Code and must certify to Brandt Sakakeeny in writing that they have: (i) received a copy of the amendment; (ii) read and understood the amendment; (iii) and agreed to abide by the Code as amended.

## **Item 11: Annual Certification**

All supervised persons must annually certify in writing to Brandt Sakakeeny that they have: (i) read and understood all provisions of the Code; (ii) complied with all requirements of the Code; and (iii) submitted all holdings and transaction reports as required by the Code.

## **Item 12: Further Information**

Supervised persons should contact Brandt Sakakeeny regarding any inquiries pertaining to the Code or the policies established herein.

Brandt Sakakeeny shall maintain and cause to be maintained in a readily accessible place the following records:

- A copy of any Code of Ethics adopted by the Firm pursuant to Advisers Act Rule 204A-1 which is or has been in effect during the past five years;
- A record of any violation of Rockingstone Advisors' Code and any action that was taken as a result of such violation for a period of five years from the end of the fiscal year in which the violation occurred;
- A record of all written acknowledgements of receipt of the Code and amendments thereto for each person who is currently, or within the past five years was, a supervised person which shall be retained for five years after the individual ceases to be a supervised person of Rockingstone Advisors;
- A copy of each report made pursuant to Advisers Act Rule 204A-1, including any brokerage confirmations and account statements made in lieu of these reports;
- A list of all persons who are, or within the preceding five years have been, access persons;
- A record of any decision and reasons supporting such decision to approve a supervised persons' acquisition of securities in IPOs and limited offerings within the past five years after the end of the fiscal year in which such approval is granted.

All supervised persons shall promptly report to Brandt Sakakeeny or an alternate designee all apparent violations of the Code. Any retaliation for the reporting of a violation under this Code will constitute a

violation of the Code. Brandt Sakakeeny shall promptly report to regulators all apparent material violations of the Code.