

Form CRS

Brokerage Customers January 5, 2024

Introduction

Ashton Thomas Securities, LLC ("Ashton Thomas") is an investment advisor and broker-dealer, registered with the <u>Securities and Exchange Commission</u> and a member of <u>FINRA/SIPC</u>. We offer both brokerage and investment advisory services. There is a material difference in the cost and structure of these offerings. It is important for you to understand the differences. This document provides information regarding the firm's brokerage (commission) based offerings while a separate document provides information regarding the firm's advisory offerings. Free and simple tools are available to research firms and financial professionals at <u>Investor.gov/CRS</u>, which also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisers, and investing.

What Investment Services and advice can you provide me?

Ashton Thomas offers both commission-based services (brokerage) and fee-based services (advisory). The firm offers its brokerage services to retail investors, including buying and selling securities on both a solicited and unsolicited basis. You make the ultimate decision regarding the purchase or sale of investments. We do not monitor your account on a continuous basis or any set frequency unless you have entered into a separate written agreement with your Financial Professional and the agreement has been approved by the firm. The principal types of investments we engage in include stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and options. We do not offer proprietary products.

Additional Information:

Additional disclosure information can be found in Ashton Thomas' Regulation Best Interest Document

- Given my financial situation, should I choose an investment advisory service? Should I choose a brokerage service? Should I choose both types of services? Why or why not?
- How will you choose investments to recommend to me?
- What is your relevant experience, including your licenses, education and other qualifications? What do these qualifications mean?

What Fees will I pay?

All of the firm's brokerage offerings are subject to a low monthly fee except for our mutual fund only brokerage offering. You will pay a transaction-based fee (commission or sales charge) when you buy or sell securities in your account. Our firm and your representative will earn more as the volume of buy and sell transactions increases in your account and therefore have a perceived incentive to encourage you to trade often. You may encounter other fees and costs related to the investments in your account such as mutual fund 12b-1 fees and variable annuity related fee plus other fees such as annual IRA maintenance fees and paper surcharges,

Fees and costs will reduce the amount you earn from your investments over time. Please make sure you understand what fees and costs you are paying.

Additional Information:

You will pay fees and costs whether you make or lose money on your investments. Fees and costs will reduce any amount of money you make on your investments over time. Please make sure you understand what fees and costs you are paying.

Additional disclosure information can be found in the Ashton Thomas' Regulation Best Interest Document

 Help me understand how fees and these fees and costs might affect my investments. If I give you \$10,000 to invest, how much will go to fees and costs, and how much will be invested for me?

What are your legal obligations to me when acting as my broker? How else does your firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?

When we provide you with a recommendation, we must act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours. At the same time, how we make money may conflict with your interests. You should understand and ask us about these conflicts because they can affect the recommendations, we provide you with. Here are some examples to help you understand what this means.

Each time we provide a recommendation we are obligated to consider all relevant information and always act in your best interest. The nature of a brokerage relationship and the structure of the financial service industry create some conflicts of interest. You should understand these conflicts so that you can assess the potential to impact the advice we provide you.

Some examples of these conflicts are:

- Third-Party Payments: We are paid 12b-1 fees from mutual funds, as well as fees for cash sweep products held in your brokerage account. This means we have an incentive to recommend certain investments to you.
- **Revenue Sharing:** We receive a portion of the revenue the custodian receives from certain product sponsors for investing client assets in their products. This provides us an incentive to recommend certain investments to you.
- **Principal trading:** this is a term used to describe a transaction where we sell a security from our firm account and either markup the price when you are purchasing or mark down the price when you are selling. Principal trading only occurs with individual fixed-income securities.

You should review our Annual Disclosure Document for more detailed information about our conflicts of interest.

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

Additional disclosure information can be found in the Ashton Thomas' Regulation Best Interest Document

How do you financial professionals make money?

Our brokers are compensated based on a written agreement with the firm. Each broker is paid a percentage of the transaction fees generated from the buy and sell activity plus any service-related fees paid to the firm by mutual fund companies or other investment product companies. The percentage paid to the broker does not change based on the product purchased or held in your account.

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

Yes. Visit www.investor.gov/CRS for a free and simple search tool to research us and our financial professionals.

- As a financial professional, do you have any disciplinary history?
- For what type of conduct?

Additional Information

- Investors can find additional information about Ashton Thomas by visiting our website: www.ashtonthomaspw.com
- Investors can contact Terrence Britt our Chief Operating Officer with any questions that may arise or to request a copy of this client relationship summary.
 - o **585-424-1234**

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