



## **Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund**

**Class 1 shares**

**Class 2 shares**

## **Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund**

**Class 1 shares**

**Class 2 shares**

### **STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**May 1, 2025**

*Each a series of the Northern Lights Variable Trust*

This Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") is not a prospectus and should be read in conjunction with the Prospectus of the Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund and Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund (the "VIT Funds") dated May 1, 2025. The Funds' Prospectus is hereby incorporated by reference, which means it is legally part of this SAI. You can obtain copies of the Funds' Prospectus, annual or semi-annual report without charge by contacting the Funds' Transfer Agent, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, OH 45246 or by calling toll-free 1-877-779-7462. You may also obtain a Prospectus by visiting [www.donoghueforlinesfunds.com](http://www.donoghueforlinesfunds.com).

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## **PORTFOLIO HISTORY**

Each of the Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund (“Dividend Portfolio”) and the Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund (“Momentum Portfolio”), (each a “Portfolio,” together the “VIT Funds”) is a series of Northern Lights Variable Trust, a Delaware statutory trust organized on November 23, 2005 (the “Trust”). The Trust is registered as an open-end management investment company. The Trust is governed by its Board of Trustees (the “Board” or “Trustees”). The VIT Funds may issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest. All shares of the VIT Funds have equal rights and privileges. Each share of the Trust is entitled to one vote on all matters as to which shares are entitled to vote. In addition, each share of a Portfolio is entitled to participate equally with other shares (i) in dividends and distributions declared by the Portfolio and (ii) on liquidation to its proportionate share of the assets remaining after satisfaction of outstanding liabilities. Shares of each Portfolio are fully paid, non-assessable and fully transferable when issued and have no pre-emptive, conversion or exchange rights. Fractional shares have proportionately the same rights, including voting rights, as are provided for a full share.

Each Portfolio is a diversified series of the Trust. Each Portfolio’s investment objective, restrictions and policies are more fully described here and in the Prospectus. The Board may start other series and offer shares of a new portfolio under the Trust at any time.

Under the Trust’s Agreement and Declaration of Trust, each Trustee will continue in office until the termination of the Trust or his/her earlier death, incapacity, resignation or removal. Shareholders can remove a Trustee to the extent provided by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”) and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder. Vacancies may be filled by a majority of the remaining Trustees, except insofar as the 1940 Act may require the election by shareholders. As a result, normally no annual or regular meetings of shareholders will be held unless matters arise requiring a vote of shareholders under the Agreement and Declaration of Trust or the 1940 Act.

Donoghue Forlines LLC (the “Adviser”) serves as investment adviser to each Portfolio.

Each Portfolio is intended, in part, to be a funding vehicle for variable annuity contracts and flexible premium variable life insurance policies offered by the separate accounts of various insurance companies (each a “Participating Insurance Company”). Each Portfolio’s shares are offered on a continuous basis to insurance companies that offer variable annuity insurance contracts and variable life insurance policies (“Contracts”), certain qualified pension and retirement plans (“Qualified Plans”), separate accounts that are not registered as investment companies (“Unregistered Separate Accounts”) and to other persons permitted to hold shares of the Trust pursuant to Treasury Regulation 1.817-5.

Each Portfolio currently offers two classes of shares: Class 1 and Class 2 shares. Dividend Portfolio and Momentum Portfolio Class 2 shares are not currently available for sale. Each share class represents an interest in the same assets of the Portfolio, has the same rights and is identical in all material respects except that (i) each class of shares may be subject to different (or no) sales loads, (ii) each class of shares may bear different distribution fees; (iii) certain other class specific expenses will be borne solely by the class to which such expenses are attributable, including transfer agent fees attributable to a specific class of shares, printing and postage expenses related to preparing and distributing materials to current shareholders of a specific class, registration fees incurred by a specific class of shares, the expenses of administrative personnel and services required to support the shareholders of a specific class, litigation or other legal expenses relating to a class of shares, Trustees’ fees or expenses incurred as a result of issues relating to a specific class of shares and accounting fees and expenses relating to a specific class of shares and (iv) each class has exclusive voting rights with respect to matters relating to its own distribution arrangements. The Board may classify and reclassify the shares of the Portfolio into additional classes of shares at a future date.

The Trust has received an exemptive order from the SEC (“Exemptive Order”) that permits the VIT Funds of the Trust, including each Portfolio, to sell shares to separate accounts of unaffiliated insurance companies, and pension and retirement plans that qualify for special income tax treatment. These arrangements may present certain conflicts of interest due to differences in tax treatment and other considerations such that the interests of various variable contract owners participating in a Portfolio and the interests of pension and retirement plans investing in a portfolio may conflict. For example, violation of the federal tax laws by one insurance company separate account investing directly or indirectly in a portfolio could cause other variable insurance products funded by the separate account of another insurance company to lose their tax-deferred status unless remedial actions were taken. It is possible that a difference may arise among the interests of the holders of different types of contracts - for example, if applicable state insurance law or contract owner instructions prevent a Participating Insurance Company from continuing to invest in a portfolio following a change in the portfolio’s investment policies, or if different tax laws apply to flexible premium variable life insurance contracts and variable annuities. The Board and each Participating Insurance Company will attempt to monitor events to prevent such differences from arising. As a condition of the Exemptive Order, the Board will monitor events in order to identify any material irreconcilable conflicts which may arise (such as those arising from tax or other differences), and to determine what action, if any, should be taken in response to such conflicts. If such a conflict were to occur, one or more insurance companies’ separate accounts might be

required to withdraw their investments in one or more of the VIT Funds. This might force a portfolio to sell its securities at disadvantageous prices which could cause a decrease in the portfolio's Net Asset Value ("NAV").

For a description of the methods used to determine the share price and value of the VIT Funds' assets, see "Purchase and Redemption of Shares" in the VIT Funds' Prospectus and "Purchase, Redemption and Pricing of Shares" in this Statement of Additional Information.

## **INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS**

The Trust has adopted the following restrictions and policies relating to the investment of assets of the VIT Funds and their activities. These are fundamental policies and may not be changed without the approval of the holders of a "majority" of the outstanding shares of each Portfolio affected. Under the 1940 Act, the vote of such a "majority" means the vote of the holders of the lesser of (i) 67 percent of the shares represented at a meeting at which more than 50 percent of the outstanding shares are represented or (ii) more than 50 percent of the outstanding shares. A change in policy affecting only one Portfolio may be effected with the approval of the holders of a "majority" of the outstanding shares of such Portfolio.

### **Each Portfolio may not (except as noted):**

1. Purchase securities on margin or sell securities short, except that each Portfolio engaged in transactions in options, futures, and options on futures may make margin deposits in connection with those transactions, and except that each Portfolio may make short sales against the box and that effecting short sales against the box will not be deemed to constitute a purchase of securities on margin;
2. Purchase or sell commodities or commodity contracts (which, for the purpose of this restriction, shall not include foreign currency futures or forward currency contracts), except: (a) any Portfolio may engage in interest rate futures contracts, stock index futures, futures contracts based on other financial instruments, and options on such futures contracts; and (b) the Dividend Portfolio may engage in futures contracts on gold;
3. Borrow money or pledge, mortgage, or assign assets, except that a Portfolio may: (a) borrow from banks, but only if immediately after each borrowing and continuing thereafter it will have an asset coverage of at least 300 percent; (b) enter into reverse repurchase agreements, options, futures, options on futures contracts, foreign currency futures contracts and forward currency contracts as described in the Prospectus and in this Statement of Additional Information. (The deposit of assets in escrow in connection with the writing of covered put and call options and the purchase of securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis and collateral arrangements with respect to initial or variation margin deposits for future contracts, and options on futures contracts and foreign currency futures and forward currency contracts will not be deemed to be pledges of a Portfolio's assets);
4. Underwrite securities of other issuers;
5. With respect to 75 percent of its total assets, invest more than 5 percent of its assets in the securities of one issuer if thereafter the Portfolio in question would have more than 5 percent of its assets in the securities of any issuer; this restriction does not apply to U.S. Government securities (as defined in the Prospectus);
6. Invest in securities of a company for the purpose of exercising control or management;
7. Write, purchase or sell puts, calls or any combination thereof, except that each Portfolio may write listed covered or secured calls and puts and enter into closing purchase transactions with respect to such calls and puts if, after writing any such call or put, not more than 25 percent of the assets of each Portfolio are subject to covered or secured calls and puts, and except that each Portfolio may purchase calls and puts with a value of up to 5 percent of such Portfolio's net assets;
8. Participate on a joint, or on a joint and several basis, in any trading account in securities;
9. Invest in the securities of issuers in any one industry if thereafter more than 25 percent of the assets of the Portfolio in question would be invested in securities of issuers in that industry; investing in cash items (including time and demand deposits such as certificates of deposit of domestic banks), U.S. Government securities, or repurchase agreements as to these securities, shall not be considered investments in an industry;
10. Purchase or sell real estate, except that it may purchase marketable securities which are issued by companies which invest in real estate interests therein;
11. Lend any of its assets except to purchase or hold money market instruments permitted by its investment objective and policies; or
12. Issue senior securities. This limitation is not applicable to activities that may be deemed to involve the issuance or sale of a senior security by a Portfolio, provided that the Portfolio's engagement in such activities is consistent with or permitted by the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff.

In order to limit the risks associated with entry into repurchase agreements, the Trustees have adopted certain criteria (which are not fundamental policies) to be followed by the VIT Funds. These criteria provide for entering into repurchase agreement transactions (a) only with banks or broker-dealers meeting certain guidelines for creditworthiness, (b) that are fully collateralized as defined therein, (c) on an approved standard form of agreement and (d) that meet limits on investments in the repurchase agreements of any one bank, broker or dealer.

With respect to interpretations of the SEC or its staff described in fundamental restriction number 12 above, the SEC and its staff have identified various securities trading practices and derivative instruments used by mutual funds that give rise to potential senior security issues under Section 18(f) of the 1940 Act, which prohibits mutual funds from issuing senior securities. Under the 1940 Act, a mutual fund may borrow from a bank, provided that immediately after any such borrowing there is an asset coverage of at least 300 percent for all borrowings; or from a bank or other persons for temporary purposes only, provided that such temporary borrowings are in an amount not exceeding 5% of the fund's total assets at the time when the borrowing is made. However, rather than rigidly deeming all such practices outside of bank borrowing as impermissible forms of issuing a "senior security" under Section 18(f), the SEC and its staff through interpretive releases, including Investment Company Act Release No. 10666 (April 18, 1979), and no-action letters has developed an evolving series of methods by which a fund may address senior security issues. In particular, the common theme in this line of guidance has been to use methods of "covering" fund obligations that might otherwise create a senior security-type obligation by holding sufficient liquid assets that permit a fund to meet potential trading and derivative-related obligations. Thus, a potential Section 18(f) senior security limitation is not applicable to activities that might be deemed to involve a form of the issuance or sale of a senior security by a fund, provided that the fund's engagement in such activities is consistent with or permitted by Section 18 of the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff.

**THE FOLLOWING IS AN ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS OF THE PORTFOLIOS. THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTION IS DESIGNATED AS NON-FUNDAMENTAL AND MAY BE CHANGED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF SHAREHOLDERS.**

80% Investment Policy. Dividend Portfolio and Momentum Portfolio each have adopted a policy to invest at least 80% of its assets (defined as net assets plus the amount of any borrowing for investment purposes) in index instruments, as defined in the then-current Prospectus. Shareholders of Momentum Portfolio and Dividend Portfolio will be provided with at least 60 days prior notice of any change in the Momentum Portfolio and Dividend Portfolio's policy. The notice will be provided in a separate written document containing the following, or similar, statement, in boldface type: "Important Notice Regarding Change in Investment Policy." The statement will also appear on the envelope in which the notice is delivered, unless the notice is delivered separately from other communications to the shareholder.

## **TEMPORARY DEFENSIVE POSITIONS**

When unusual market or other conditions warrant, a Portfolio may temporarily depart from its investment objective. In assuming a temporary defensive position, each Portfolio may invest in money market instruments without limit.

## **PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The VIT Funds' portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the fiscal year by the monthly average of the value of the portfolio securities owned by the Portfolio during the fiscal year. The calculation excludes from both the numerator and the denominator securities with maturities at the time of acquisition of one year or less. High portfolio turnover involves correspondingly greater brokerage commissions and other transaction costs, which will be borne directly by the Portfolio. A 100% turnover rate would occur if all of the Portfolio's portfolio securities were replaced once within a one-year period. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund, and Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund's portfolio turnover rates were 299% and 163% respectively. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund, and Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund's portfolio turnover rates were 181% and 232% respectively. The Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund and the Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund seek to track their respective indexes, the DF Risk Managed Dividend Index and the DF Risk-Managed Momentum Index. The portfolio turnover for the Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund and the Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund is driven primarily by quarterly portfolio reconstitutions and the Adviser's defensive tactical overlay signals that are incorporated in the index methodologies. Defensive signals are based on market volatility of the underlying index constituents. The greater the volatility of the underlying constituents the more signals are likely to be triggered. The turnover in the Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT was greater in 2023, because there were two defensive signals each followed by subsequent returns to 100% dividend paying equities. In 2024, the turnover rate was lower, because there were no risk mitigating defensive signals and the portfolio remained fully invested in dividend paying equities throughout the year.

## **TYPES OF INVESTMENTS**

The investment objective of each Portfolio and a description of its principal investment strategies are set forth under “Portfolio Summary” in the Prospectus. Each Portfolio’s investment objectives are not “Fundamental” and may be changed without the approval of a majority of its outstanding voting securities, however, shareholders will be given at least 60 days’ notice of such a change.

The following information describes securities in which each Portfolio may invest and their related risks. To the extent a type of investment is not discussed in the section titled “Principal Investment Strategies” in the VIT Funds’ prospectus, such type of investment is not used by each Portfolio in executing its principal investment strategies.

### **EQUITY SECURITIES**

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

#### **Common Stock**

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

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

#### **Convertible Securities**

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

#### **Warrants**

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

### **DERIVATIVES**

#### **Futures Contracts**

A futures contract provides for the future sale by one party and purchase by another party of a specified amount of a specific financial instrument (e.g., units of a stock index) for a specified price, date, time and place designated at the time

the contract is made. Brokerage fees are incurred when a futures contract is bought or sold and margin deposits must be maintained. Entering into a contract to buy is commonly referred to as buying or purchasing a contract or holding a long position. Entering into a contract to sell is commonly referred to as selling a contract or holding a short position.

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

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

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

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

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

### Options on Futures Contracts

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

### *Regulation as a Commodity Pool Operator*

The Adviser, on behalf of each Portfolio, has filed with the National Futures Association, a notice claiming an exemption from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" in accordance with Rule 4. 5 under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"), as amended, and the rules of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission promulgated thereunder, with respect to each Portfolio's operations. Accordingly, each Portfolio is not subject, nor will it be subject, to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the CEA.

## Options on Securities

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

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

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

Each Portfolio's obligation to sell an instrument subject to a call option written by it, or to purchase an instrument subject to a put option written by it, may be terminated prior to the expiration date of the option by the Portfolio's execution of a closing purchase transaction, which is effected by purchasing on an exchange an option of the same series (*i.e.*, same underlying instrument, exercise price and expiration date) as the option previously written. A closing purchase transaction will ordinarily be effected to realize a profit on an outstanding option, to prevent an underlying instrument from being called, to permit the sale of the underlying instrument or to permit the writing of a new option containing different terms on such underlying instrument. The cost of such a liquidation purchase plus transactions costs may be greater than the premium received upon the original option, in which event the Portfolio will have incurred a loss in the transaction. There is no assurance that a liquid secondary market will exist for any particular option. An option writer unable to effect a closing purchase transaction will not be able to sell the underlying instrument or liquidate the assets held in a segregated account, as described below, until the option expires or the optioned instrument is delivered upon exercise. In such circumstances, the writer will be subject to the risk of market decline or appreciation in the instrument during such period.

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

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

outstanding options that had been issued by the Options Clearing Corporation as a result of trades on that exchange would continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms.

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

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

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

*Cover for Options Positions.* Transactions using options (other than options that a Portfolio has purchased) expose the VIT Funds to an obligation to another party. The VIT Funds will not enter into any such transactions unless it owns either (i) an offsetting ("covered") position in securities or other options or (ii) cash or liquid securities with a value sufficient at all times to cover its potential obligations not covered as provided in (i) above.

#### *Dealer Options*

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

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

The Staff of the SEC has taken the position that purchased dealer options are illiquid securities. Each Portfolio may treat the cover used for written dealer options as liquid if the dealer agrees that the Portfolio may repurchase the dealer option it has written for a maximum price to be calculated by a predetermined formula. In such cases, the dealer option would be

considered illiquid only to the extent the maximum purchase price under the formula exceeds the intrinsic value of the option. Accordingly, each Portfolio will treat dealer options as subject to the Portfolio's limitation on illiquid securities. If the SEC changes its position on the liquidity of dealer options, a Portfolio will change its treatment of such instruments accordingly.

### Spread Transactions

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

### Swap Agreements

Each Portfolio may enter into interest rate, index and currency exchange rate swap agreements in an attempt to obtain a particular desired return at a lower cost to each Portfolio than if it had invested directly in an instrument that yielded that desired return. Swap agreements are two-party contracts entered into primarily by institutional investors for periods ranging from a few weeks to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of returns) earned or realized on particular predetermined investments or instruments. The gross returns to be exchanged or "swapped" between the parties are calculated with respect to a "notional amount," *i.e.*, the return on or increase in value of a particular dollar amount invested at a particular interest rate, in a particular foreign currency, or in a "basket" of securities representing a particular index. The "notional amount" of the swap agreement is only a fictive basis on which to calculate the obligations the parties to a swap agreement have agreed to exchange. A Portfolio's obligations (or rights) under a swap agreement will generally be equal only to the amount to be paid or received under the agreement based on the relative values of the positions held by each party to the agreement (the "net amount"). Each Portfolio's obligations under a swap agreement will be accrued daily (offset against any amounts owing to that Portfolio) and any accrued but unpaid net amounts owed to a swap counterparty will be covered by the maintenance of a segregated account consisting of cash, U.S. government securities, or other liquid securities, to avoid leveraging of each Portfolio's portfolio.

Whether a Portfolio's use of swap agreements enhance that Portfolio's total return will depend on the Adviser's ability correctly to predict whether certain types of investments are likely to produce greater returns than other investments. Because they are two-party contracts and may have terms of greater than seven days, swap agreements may be considered to be illiquid. Moreover, a Portfolio bears the risk of loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap agreement counterparty. The Portfolio's Adviser will cause the Portfolio to enter into swap agreements only with counterparties that would be eligible for consideration as repurchase agreement counterparties under the Portfolio's repurchase agreement guidelines. The swap market is a relatively new market and is largely unregulated. It is possible that developments in the swaps market, including potential government regulation, could adversely affect a Portfolio's ability to terminate existing swap agreements or to realize amounts to be received under such agreements.

Certain swap agreements are exempt from most provisions of the CEA and, therefore, are not regulated as futures or commodity option transactions under the CEA, pursuant to regulations of the CFTC. To qualify for this exemption, a swap agreement must be entered into by "eligible participants," which include the following, provided the participants' total assets exceed established levels: a bank or trust company, savings association or credit union, insurance company, investment company subject to regulation under the 1940 Act, commodity pool, corporation, partnership, proprietorship, organization, trust or other entity, employee benefit plan, governmental entity, broker-dealer, futures commission merchant, natural person, or regulated foreign person. To be eligible, natural persons and most other entities must have total assets exceeding \$10 million; commodity pools and employees benefit plans must have assets exceeding \$5 million. In addition, an eligible swap transaction must meet three conditions. First, the swap agreement may not be part of a fungible class of agreements that are standardized as to their material economic terms. Second, the creditworthiness of parties with actual or potential obligations under the swap agreement must be a material consideration in entering into or determining the terms of the swap agreement, including pricing, cost or credit enhancement terms. Third, swap agreements may not be entered into and traded on or through a multilateral transaction execution facility.

### *Certain Investment Techniques and Derivatives Risks.*

When the Adviser of the VIT Funds uses investment techniques such as margin, leverage and short sales, and forms of financial derivatives, such as options and futures, an investment in a Portfolio may be more volatile than investments in other mutual funds. Although the intention is to use such investment techniques and derivatives to minimize risk to each Portfolio, as well as for speculative purposes, there is the possibility that improper implementation of such techniques and derivative strategies or unusual market conditions could result in significant losses to a Portfolio. Derivatives

are used to limit risk in a Portfolio or to enhance investment return and have a return tied to a formula based upon an interest rate, index, price of a security, or other measurement. Derivatives involve special risks, including: (1) the risk that interest rates, securities prices and currency markets will not move in the direction that a portfolio manager anticipates; (2) imperfect correlation between the price of derivative instruments and movements in the prices of the securities, interest rates or currencies being hedged; (3) the fact that skills needed to use these strategies are different than those needed to select portfolio securities; (4) the possible absence of a liquid secondary market for any particular instrument and possible exchange imposed price fluctuation limits, either of which may make it difficult or impossible to close out a position when desired; (5) the risk that adverse price movements in an instrument can result in a loss substantially greater than a Portfolio's initial investment in that instrument (in some cases, the potential loss is unlimited); (6) particularly in the case of privately-negotiated instruments, the risk that the counterparty will not perform its obligations, or that penalties could be incurred for positions held less than the required minimum holding period, which could leave a Portfolio worse off than if it had not entered into the position; and (7) the inability to close out certain hedged positions to avoid adverse tax consequences. In addition, the use of derivatives for non-hedging purposes (that is, to seek to increase total return) is considered a speculative practice and may present an even greater risk of loss than when used for hedging purposes.

#### FIXED INCOME/DEBT/BOND SECURITIES

Yields on fixed income securities, which each Portfolio defines to include preferred stock, are dependent on a variety of factors, including the general conditions of the money market and other fixed income securities markets, the size of a particular offering, the maturity of the obligation and the rating of the issue. An investment in a Portfolio will be subjected to risk even if all fixed income securities in that Portfolio's portfolio are paid in full at maturity. All fixed income securities, including U.S. Government securities, can change in value when there is a change in interest rates or the issuer's actual or perceived creditworthiness or ability to meet its obligations.

There is normally an inverse relationship between the market value of securities sensitive to prevailing interest rates and actual changes in interest rates. In other words, an increase in interest rates produces a decrease in market value. The longer the remaining maturity (and duration) of a security, the greater will be the effect of interest rate changes on the market value of that security. Changes in the ability of an issuer to make payments of interest and principal and in the markets' perception of an issuer's creditworthiness will also affect the market value of the debt securities of that issuer. Obligations of issuers of fixed income securities (including municipal securities) are subject to the provisions of bankruptcy, insolvency, and other laws affecting the rights and remedies of creditors, such as the Federal Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978. In addition, the obligations of municipal issuers may become subject to laws enacted in the future by Congress, state legislatures, or referenda extending the time for payment of principal and/or interest, or imposing other constraints upon enforcement of such obligations or upon the ability of municipalities to levy taxes. Changes in the ability of an issuer to make payments of interest and principal and in the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness will also affect the market value of the debt securities of that issuer. The possibility exists, therefore, that the ability of any issuer to pay, when due, the principal of and interest on its debt securities may become impaired.

The corporate debt securities in which each Portfolio may invest include corporate bonds and notes and short-term investments such as commercial paper and variable rate demand notes. Commercial paper (short-term promissory notes) is issued by companies to finance their or their affiliate's current obligations and is frequently unsecured. Variable and floating rate demand notes are unsecured obligations redeemable upon not more than 30 days' notice. These obligations include master demand notes that permit investment of fluctuating amounts at varying rates of interest pursuant to a direct arrangement with the issuer of the instrument. The issuer of these obligations often has the right, after a given period, to prepay the outstanding principal amount of the obligations upon a specified number of days' notice. These obligations generally are not traded, nor generally is there an established secondary market for these obligations. To the extent a demand note does not have a 7-day or shorter demand feature and there is no readily available market for the obligation, it is treated as an illiquid security.

Each Portfolio may invest in debt securities, including non-investment grade debt securities. The following describes some of the risks associated with fixed income debt securities:

*Interest Rate Risk.* Debt securities have varying levels of sensitivity to changes in interest rates. In general, the price of a debt security can fall when interest rates rise and can rise when interest rates fall. Securities with longer maturities and mortgage securities can be more sensitive to interest rate changes although they usually offer higher yields to compensate investors for the greater risks. The longer the maturity of the security, the greater the impact a change in interest rates could have on the security's price. In addition, short-term and long-term interest rates do not necessarily move in the same amount or the same direction. Short-term securities tend to react to changes in short-term interest rates and long-term securities tend to react to changes in long-term interest rates.

*Credit Risk.* Fixed income securities have speculative characteristics and changes in economic conditions or other circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of those issuers to make principal or interest payments, as compared to issuers of more highly rated securities.

*Extension Risk.* Each Portfolio is subject to the risk that an issuer will exercise its right to pay principal on an obligation held by the Portfolio (such as mortgage-backed securities) later than expected. This may happen when there is a rise in interest rates. These events may lengthen the duration (i.e. interest rate sensitivity) and potentially reduce the value of these securities.

*Prepayment Risk.* Certain types of debt securities, such as mortgage-backed securities, have yield and maturity characteristics corresponding to underlying assets. Unlike traditional debt securities, which may pay a fixed rate of interest until maturity when the entire principal amount comes due, payments on certain mortgage-backed securities may include both interest and a partial payment of principal. Besides the scheduled repayment of principal, payments of principal may result from the voluntary prepayment, refinancing, or foreclosure of the underlying mortgage loans.

Securities subject to prepayment are less effective than other types of securities as a means of “locking in” attractive long-term interest rates. One reason is the need to reinvest prepayments of principal; another is the possibility of significant unscheduled prepayments resulting from declines in interest rates. These prepayments would have to be reinvested at lower rates. As a result, these securities may have less potential for capital appreciation during periods of declining interest rates than other securities of comparable maturities, although they may have a similar risk of decline in market value during periods of rising interest rates. Prepayments may also significantly shorten the effective maturities of these securities, especially during periods of declining interest rates. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, a reduction in prepayments may increase the effective maturities of these securities, subjecting them to a greater risk of decline in market value in response to rising interest rates than traditional debt securities, and, therefore, potentially increasing the volatility of a Portfolio.

At times, some of the mortgage-backed securities in which each Portfolio may invest will have higher than market interest rates and therefore will be purchased at a premium above their par value. Prepayments may cause losses in securities purchased at a premium, as unscheduled prepayments, which are made at par, will cause a Portfolio to experience a loss equal to any unamortized premium.

#### Certificates of Deposit and Bankers’ Acceptances

Each Portfolio may invest in certificates of deposit and bankers’ acceptances, which are considered to be short-term money market instruments.

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

#### Commercial Paper

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

## Time Deposits and Variable Rate Notes

Each Portfolio may invest in fixed time deposits, whether or not subject to withdrawal penalties.

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

## Exchange Traded Notes

Each Portfolio may invest in exchange-traded notes ("ETNs"), which are a type of debt security that is typically unsecured and unsubordinated. This type of debt security differs from other types of bonds and notes because ETN returns are based upon the performance of a market index minus applicable fees, and typically, no periodic coupon payments are distributed and no principal protections exists, even at maturity. As debt securities, ETNs do not own the underlying commodity or other index they are tracking. The purpose of ETNs is to create a type of security that combines both the aspects of bonds and exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"). Similar to ETFs, ETNs are traded on a major exchange, such as the NYSE during normal trading hours. However, investors such as the VIT Funds can also hold the debt security until maturity. At that time, the issuer will pay the investor a cash amount that would be equal to principal amount times the return of a benchmark index, less any fees or other reductions. Because fees reduce the amount of return at maturity or upon redemption, if the value of the underlying decreases or does not increase significantly, each Portfolio may receive less than the principal amount of investment at maturity or upon redemption.

ETNs are senior, unsecured, unsubordinated debt securities whose returns are linked to the performance of a particular market benchmark or strategy minus applicable fees. ETNs are traded on an exchange during normal trading hours. However, investors can also hold the ETN until maturity. At maturity, the issuer pays to the investor a cash amount equal to the principal amount, subject to the day's market benchmark or strategy factor. ETNs do not make periodic coupon payments or provide principal protection. ETNs are subject to credit risk and the value of the ETN may drop due to a downgrade in the issuer's credit rating, despite the underlying market benchmark or strategy remaining unchanged. The value of an ETN may also be influenced by time to maturity, level of supply and demand for the ETN, volatility and lack of liquidity in underlying assets, changes in the applicable interest rates, changes in the issuer's credit rating, and economic, legal, political, or geographic events that affect the referenced underlying asset. When a Portfolio invests in ETNs it will bear its proportionate share of any fees and expenses borne by the ETN. Although an ETN may be listed on an exchange, the issuer may not be required to maintain the listing and there can be no assurance that a secondary market will exist for an ETN. ETNs are also subject to tax risk. No assurance can be given that the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") will accept, or a court will uphold, how the Portfolio characterizes and treats ETNs for tax purposes. Further, the IRS and Congress are considering proposals that would change the timing and character of income and gains from ETNs. An ETN that is tied to a specific market benchmark or strategy may not be able to replicate and maintain exactly the composition and relative weighting of securities, commodities or other components in the applicable market benchmark or strategy. Some ETNs that use leverage can, at times, be relatively illiquid and, thus, they may be difficult to purchase or sell at a fair price. Leveraged ETNs are subject to the same risk as other instruments that use leverage in any form.

## Insured Bank Obligations

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

## High Yield Securities

Each Portfolio may invest in high yield securities. High yield, high risk bonds are securities that are generally rated below investment grade by the primary rating agencies (BB+ or lower by S&P and Ba1 or lower by Moody's). Other terms used to describe such securities include "lower rated bonds," "non-investment grade bonds," "below investment grade bonds," and "junk bonds." These securities are considered to be high-risk investments. The risks include the following:

*Greater Risk of Loss.* These securities are regarded as predominately speculative. There is a greater risk that issuers of lower rated securities will default than issuers of higher rated securities. Issuers of lower rated securities generally are less creditworthy and may be highly indebted, financially distressed, or bankrupt. These issuers are more vulnerable to real or perceived economic changes, political changes or adverse industry developments. In addition, high yield securities are frequently subordinated to the prior payment of senior indebtedness. If an issuer fails to pay principal or interest, a Portfolio would experience a decrease in income and a decline in the market value of its investments.

*Sensitivity to Interest Rate and Economic Changes.* The income and market value of lower-rated securities may fluctuate more than higher rated securities. Although non-investment grade securities tend to be less sensitive to interest rate changes than investment grade securities, non-investment grade securities are more sensitive to short-term corporate, economic and market developments. During periods of economic uncertainty and change, the market price of the investments in lower-rated securities may be volatile. The default rate for high yield bonds tends to be cyclical, with defaults rising in periods of economic downturn. For example, in 2000, 2001 and 2002, the default rate for high yield securities was significantly higher than in the prior or subsequent years.

*Valuation Difficulties.* It is often more difficult to value lower rated securities than higher rated securities. If an issuer's financial condition deteriorates, accurate financial and business information may be limited or unavailable. In addition, the lower rated investments may be thinly traded and there may be no established secondary market. Because of the lack of market pricing and current information for investments in lower rated securities, valuation of such investments is much more dependent on judgment than is the case with higher rated securities.

*Liquidity.* There may be no established secondary or public market for investments in lower rated securities. Such securities are frequently traded in markets that may be relatively less liquid than the market for higher rated securities. In addition, relatively few institutional purchasers may hold a major portion of an issue of lower-rated securities at times. As a result, a Portfolio may be required to sell investments at substantial losses or retain them indefinitely when an issuer's financial condition is deteriorating.

*Credit Quality.* Credit quality of non-investment grade securities can change suddenly and unexpectedly, and even recently-issued credit ratings may not fully reflect the actual risks posed by a particular high-yield security.

*New Legislation.* Future legislation may have a possible negative impact on the market for high yield, high risk bonds. As an example, in the late 1980's, legislation required federally-insured savings and loan associations to divest their investments in high yield, high risk bonds. New legislation, if enacted, could have a material negative effect on a Portfolio's investments in lower rated securities.

High yield, high risk investments may include the following:

*Straight fixed-income debt securities.* These include bonds and other debt obligations that bear a fixed or variable rate of interest payable at regular intervals and have a fixed or resettable maturity date. The particular terms of such securities vary and may include features such as call provisions and sinking funds.

*Zero-coupon debt securities.* These bear no interest obligation but are issued at a discount from their value at maturity. When held to maturity, their entire return equals the difference between their issue price and their maturity value.

*Zero-fixed-coupon debt securities.* These are zero-coupon debt securities that convert on a specified date to interest-bearing debt securities.

*Pay-in-kind bonds.* These are bonds which allow the issuer, at its option, to make current interest payments on the bonds either in cash or in additional bonds. These are bonds sold without registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("1933 Act"), usually to a relatively small number of institutional investors.

*Convertible Securities.* These are bonds or preferred stock that may be converted to common stock.

*Preferred Stock.* These are stocks that generally pay a dividend at a specified rate and have preference over common stock in the payment of dividends and in liquidation.

*Loan Participations and Assignments.* These are participations in, or assignments of all or a portion of loans to corporations or to governments, including governments of less developed countries.

*Securities issued in connection with Reorganizations and Corporate Restructurings.* In connection with reorganizing or restructuring of an issuer, an issuer may issue common stock or other securities to holders of its debt securities. Each Portfolio may hold such common stock and other securities even if it does not invest in such securities.

### Municipal Government Obligations

In general, municipal obligations are debt obligations issued by or on behalf of states, territories and possessions of the United States (including the District of Columbia) and their political subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities. Municipal obligations generally include debt obligations issued to obtain funds for various public purposes. Certain types of municipal obligations are issued in whole or in part to obtain Funding for privately operated facilities or projects. Municipal obligations include general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, industrial development bonds, notes and municipal lease obligations. Municipal obligations also include additional obligations, the interest on which is exempt from federal income tax that may become available in the future as long as the Board determines that an investment in any such type of obligation is consistent with a Portfolio's investment objectives. Municipal obligations may be fully or partially backed by local government, the credit of a private issuer, current or anticipated revenues from a specific project or specific assets or domestic or foreign entities providing credit support such as letters of credit, guarantees or insurance.

*Bonds and Notes.* General obligation bonds are secured by the issuer's pledge of its full faith, credit and taxing power for the payment of interest and principal. Revenue bonds are payable only from the revenues derived from a project or facility or from the proceeds of a specified revenue source. Industrial development bonds are generally revenue bonds secured by payments from and the credit of private users. Municipal notes are issued to meet the short-term funding requirements of state, regional and local governments. Municipal notes include tax anticipation notes, bond anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes, tax and revenue anticipation notes, construction loan notes, short-term discount notes, tax-exempt commercial paper, demand notes and similar instruments.

*Municipal Lease Obligations.* Municipal lease obligations may take the form of a lease, an installment purchase or a conditional sales contract. They are issued by state and local governments and authorities to acquire land, equipment and facilities, such as vehicles, telecommunications and computer equipment and other capital assets. Each Portfolio may invest in Underlying Funds that purchase these lease obligations directly, or it may purchase participation interests in such lease obligations (See "Participation Interests" section). States have different requirements for issuing municipal debt and issuing municipal leases. Municipal leases are generally subject to greater risks than general obligation or revenue bonds because they usually contain a "non-appropriation" clause, which provides that the issuer is not obligated to make payments on the obligation in future years unless funds have been appropriated for this purpose each year. Such non-appropriation clauses are required to avoid the municipal lease obligations from being treated as debt for state debt restriction purposes. Accordingly, such obligations are subject to "non-appropriation" risk. Municipal leases may be secured by the underlying capital asset and it may be difficult to dispose of any such asset in the event of non-appropriation or other default.

### United States Government Obligations

These consist of various types of marketable securities issued by the United States Treasury, i.e., bills, notes and bonds. Such securities are direct obligations of the United States government and differ mainly in the length of their maturity. Treasury bills, the most frequently issued marketable government security, have a maturity of up to one year and are issued on a discount basis. Each Portfolio may also invest in Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS). TIPS are special types of treasury bonds that were created in order to offer bond investors protection from inflation. The values of the TIPS are automatically adjusted to the inflation rate as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). If the CPI goes up by half a percent, the value of the bond (the TIPS) would also go up by half a percent. If the CPI falls, the value of the bond does not fall because the government guarantees that the original investment will stay the same. TIPS decline in value when real interest rates rise. However, in certain interest rate environments, such as when real interest rates are rising faster than nominal interest rates, TIPS may experience greater losses than other fixed income securities with similar duration.

### United States Government Agency

These consist of debt securities issued by agencies and instrumentalities of the United States government, including the various types of instruments currently outstanding or which may be offered in the future. Agencies include, among others,

the Federal Housing Administration, Government National Mortgage Association (“GNMA”), Farmer’s Home Administration, Export-Import Bank of the United States, Maritime Administration, and General Services Administration. Instrumentalities include, for example, each of the Federal Home Loan Banks, the National Bank for Cooperatives, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC”), the Farm Credit Banks, the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA”), and the United States Postal Service. These securities are either: (i) backed by the full faith and credit of the United States government (e.g., United States Treasury Bills); (ii) guaranteed by the United States Treasury (e.g., GNMA mortgage-backed securities); (iii) supported by the issuing agency’s or instrumentality’s right to borrow from the United States Treasury (e.g., FNMA Discount Notes); or (iv) supported only by the issuing agency’s or instrumentality’s own credit (e.g., Tennessee Valley Association). On September 7, 2008, the U.S. Treasury Department and the Federal Housing Finance Authority (the “FHFA”) announced that FNMA and FHLMC had been placed into conservatorship, a statutory process designed to stabilize a troubled institution with the objective of returning the entity to normal business operations. The U.S. Treasury Department and the FHFA at the same time established a secured lending facility and a Secured Stock Purchase Agreement with both FNMA and FHLMC to ensure that each entity had the ability to fulfill its financial obligations. The FHFA announced that it does not anticipate any disruption in pattern of payments or ongoing business operations of FNMA and FHLMC.

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

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

### Mortgage Pass-Through Securities

Interests in pools of mortgage pass-through securities differ from other forms of debt securities (which normally provide periodic payments of interest in fixed amounts and the payment of principal in a lump sum at maturity or on specified call dates). Instead, mortgage pass-through securities provide monthly payments consisting of both interest and principal payments. In effect, these payments are a “pass-through” of the monthly payments made by the individual borrowers on the underlying residential mortgage loans, net of any fees paid to the issuer or guarantor of such securities. Unscheduled payments of principal may be made if the underlying mortgage loans are repaid or refinanced or the underlying properties are foreclosed, thereby shortening the securities’ weighted average life. Some mortgage pass-through securities (such as securities guaranteed by GNMA) are described as “modified pass-through securities.” These securities entitle the holder to receive all interest and principal payments owed on the mortgage pool, net of certain fees, on the scheduled payment dates regardless of whether the mortgagor actually makes the payment.

The principal governmental guarantor of mortgage pass-through securities is GNMA. GNMA is authorized to guarantee, with the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury, the timely payment of principal and interest on securities issued by lending institutions approved by GNMA (such as savings and loan institutions, commercial banks and mortgage bankers) and backed by pools of mortgage loans. These mortgage loans are either insured by the Federal Housing Administration or guaranteed by the Veterans Administration. A “pool” or group of such mortgage loans is assembled and after being approved by GNMA, is offered to investors through securities dealers.

Government-related guarantors of mortgage pass-through securities (i.e., not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury) include FNMA and FHLMC. FNMA is a government-sponsored corporation owned entirely by private stockholders. It is subject to general regulation by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. FNMA purchases conventional (i.e., not insured or guaranteed by any government agency) residential mortgages from a list of approved

sellers/servicers which include state and federally chartered savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, commercial banks and credit unions and mortgage bankers. Mortgage pass-through securities issued by FNMA are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by FNMA but are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury.

Commercial banks, savings and loan institutions, private mortgage insurance companies, mortgage bankers and other secondary market issuers also create pass-through pools of conventional residential mortgage loans. Such issuers may, in addition, be the originators and/or servicers of the underlying mortgage loans as well as the guarantors of the mortgage pass-through securities. The Portfolio does not purchase interests in pools created by such non-governmental issuers.

*Resets.* The interest rates paid on the Adjustable Rate Mortgage Securities (“ARMs”) in which the Portfolio may invest generally are readjusted or reset at intervals of one year or less to an increment over some predetermined interest rate index. There are two main categories of indices: those based on U.S. Treasury securities and those derived from a calculated measure, such as a cost of funds index or a moving average of mortgage rates. Commonly utilized indices include the one-year and five-year constant maturity Treasury Note rates, the three-month Treasury Bill rate, the 180-day Treasury Bill rate, rates on longer-term Treasury securities, the National Median Cost of Funds, the one-month or three-month London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR), the prime rate of a specific bank, or commercial paper rates. Some indices, such as the one-year constant maturity Treasury Note rate, closely mirror changes in market interest rate levels. Others tend to lag changes in market rate levels and tend to be somewhat less volatile.

*Caps and Floors.* The underlying mortgages which collateralize the ARMs in which the Portfolio invests will frequently have caps and floors which limit the maximum amount by which the loan rate to the residential borrower may change up or down: (1) per reset or adjustment interval, and (2) over the life of the loan. Some residential mortgage loans restrict periodic adjustments by limiting changes in the borrower’s monthly principal and interest payments rather than limiting interest rate changes. These payment caps may result in negative amortization. The value of mortgage securities in which the Portfolio invests may be affected if market interest rates rise or fall faster and farther than the allowable caps or floors on the underlying residential mortgage loans. Additionally, even though the interest rates on the underlying residential mortgages are adjustable, amortization and prepayments may occur, thereby causing the effective maturities of the mortgage securities in which the Portfolio invests to be shorter than the maturities stated in the underlying mortgages.

#### Preferred Stock

The VIT Funds define preferred stock as form of fixed income security because it has similar features to other forms of fixed income securities. Preferred stocks are securities that have characteristics of both common stocks and corporate bonds. Preferred stocks may receive dividends but payment is not guaranteed as with a bond. These securities may be undervalued because of a lack of analyst coverage resulting in a high dividend yield or yield to maturity. The risks of preferred stocks include a lack of voting rights and the VIT Funds’ Adviser may incorrectly analyze the security, resulting in a loss to a Portfolio. Furthermore, preferred stock dividends are not guaranteed and management can elect to forego the preferred dividend, resulting in a loss to a Portfolio. Preferred stock may also be convertible in the common stock of the issuer. Convertible securities may be exchanged or converted into a predetermined number of shares of the issuer’s underlying common stock at the option of the holder during a specified period. Convertible securities are senior to common stocks in an issuer’s capital structure, but are usually subordinated to similar non-convertible securities. A convertible security also gives an investor the opportunity, through its conversion feature, to participate in the capital appreciation of the issuing company depending upon a market price advance in the convertible security’s underlying common stock. In general, preferred stocks generally pay a dividend at a specified rate and have preference over common stock in the payment of dividends and in liquidation. Each Portfolio may invest in preferred stock with any or no credit rating. Preferred stock is a class of stock having a preference over common stock as to the payment of dividends and the recovery of investment should a company be liquidated, although preferred stock is usually junior to the debt securities of the issuer. Preferred stock market value may change based on changes in interest rates.

#### Foreign Securities

Each Portfolio may invest in securities of foreign issuers and exchange traded funds (“ETFs”) and other investment companies that hold a portfolio of foreign securities. Investing in securities of foreign companies and countries involves certain considerations and risks that are not typically associated with investing in U.S. government securities and securities of domestic companies. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign issuer than a domestic one, and foreign companies are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial standards and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. There may also be less government supervision and regulation of foreign securities exchanges, brokers and listed companies than exists in the United States. Interest and dividends paid by foreign issuers may be subject to withholding and other foreign taxes, which may decrease the net return on such investments as compared to dividends and interest paid to a Portfolio by domestic companies or the U.S. government. There may be the possibility of expropriations, seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits, confiscatory taxation, political, economic or social instability or diplomatic

developments that could affect assets of a Portfolio held in foreign countries. Finally, the establishment of exchange controls or other foreign governmental laws or restrictions could adversely affect the payment of obligations.

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

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

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

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

#### Illiquid and Restricted Securities

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

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

A large institutional market exists for certain securities that are not registered under the 1933 Act, including foreign securities. The fact that there are contractual or legal restrictions on resale to the general public or to certain institutions may not be indicative of the liquidity of such investments. Rule 144A under the 1933 Act allows such a broader institutional trading market for securities otherwise subject to restrictions on resale to the general public. Rule 144A establishes a "safe harbor" from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act for resale of certain securities to qualified institutional buyers. Rule 144A has produced enhanced liquidity for many restricted securities, and market

liquidity for such securities may continue to expand as a result of this regulation and the consequent existence of the PORTAL system, which is an automated system for the trading, clearance and settlement of unregistered securities of domestic and foreign issuers sponsored by National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System (commonly known as "NASDAQ").

Under guidelines adopted by the Trust's Board, the Adviser of the VIT Funds may determine that particular Rule 144A securities, and commercial paper issued in reliance on the private placement exemption from registration afforded by Section 4(a)(2) of the 1933 Act, are liquid even though they are not registered. A determination of whether such a security is liquid or not is a question of fact. In making this determination, the Adviser will consider, as it deems appropriate under the circumstances and among other factors: (1) the frequency of trades and quotes for the security; (2) the number of dealers willing to purchase or sell the security; (3) the number of other potential purchasers of the security; (4) dealer undertakings to make a market in the security; (5) the nature of the security (e.g., debt or equity, date of maturity, terms of dividend or interest payments, and other material terms) and the nature of the marketplace trades (e.g., the time needed to dispose of the security, the method of soliciting offers, and the mechanics of transfer); and (6) the rating of the security and the financial condition and prospects of the issuer. In the case of commercial paper, the Adviser will also determine that the paper (1) is not traded flat or in default as to principal and interest, and (2) is rated in one of the two highest rating categories by at least two National Statistical Rating Organization ("NRSRO") or, if only one NRSRO rates the security, by that NRSRO, or, if the security is unrated, the Adviser determines that it is of equivalent quality.

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

### Investment Companies

Each Portfolio may invest in investment companies such as open-end funds (mutual funds), closed-end funds, and exchange traded funds (also referred to as "Underlying Funds"). The 1940 Act provides that the mutual funds may not: (1) purchase more than 3% of an investment company's outstanding shares; (2) invest more than 5% of its assets in any single such investment company (the "5% Limit"), and (3) invest more than 10% of its assets in investment companies overall (the "10% Limit"), unless: (i) the underlying investment company and/or the funds has received an order for exemptive relief from such limitations from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"); and (ii) the underlying investment company and the funds take appropriate steps to comply with any conditions in such order.

The VIT Funds may exceed these statutory limits when permitted by SEC order or other applicable law or regulatory guidance, such as is the case with many ETFs. The SEC recently adopted certain regulatory changes and took other actions related to the ability of an investment company to invest in the securities of another investment company. These changes include, among other things, the rescission of certain SEC exemptive orders permitting investments in excess of the statutory limits and the withdrawal of certain related SEC staff no-action letters, and the adoption of Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act. Rule 12d1-4 permits the VIT Funds to invest in other investment companies beyond the statutory limits, subject to certain conditions. The rescission of the applicable exemptive orders and the withdrawal of the applicable no-action letters is effective on January 19, 2022. After such time, an investment company will no longer be able to rely on the aforementioned exemptive orders and no-action letters, and will be subject instead to Rule 12d1-4 and other applicable rules under Section 12(d)(1).

In addition, Section 12(d)(1)(F) of the 1940 Act provides that the provisions of paragraph 12(d)(1) shall not apply to securities purchased or otherwise acquired by a Portfolio if (i) immediately after such purchase or acquisition not more than 3% of the total outstanding stock of such registered investment company is owned by that Portfolio and all affiliated persons of that Portfolio; and (ii) that Portfolio has not, and is not proposing to offer or sell any security issued by it through a principal underwriter or otherwise at a public or offering price which includes a sales load of more than 1 ½% percent. An investment company that issues shares to a Portfolio pursuant to paragraph 12(d)(1)(F) shall not be required to redeem its shares in an amount exceeding 1% of such investment company's total outstanding shares in any period of less than thirty days. Each Portfolio (or the Adviser acting on behalf of each Portfolio) must comply with the following voting restrictions: when the Portfolio exercises voting rights, by proxy or otherwise, with respect to investment companies owned by the Portfolio, the Portfolio will either seek instruction from the Portfolio's shareholders with regard to the voting of all proxies and vote in accordance with such instructions, or vote the shares held by the Portfolio in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such security.

Further, each Portfolio may rely on Rule 12d1-3, which allows unaffiliated mutual funds to exceed the 5% Limitation and the 10% Limitation, provided the aggregate sales loads any investor pays (i.e., the combined distribution expenses of both the acquiring funds and the acquired funds) does not exceed the limits on sales loads established by the NASD for funds of funds.

Each Portfolio and any “affiliated persons,” as defined by the 1940 Act, may purchase in the aggregate only up to 3% of the total outstanding securities of any Underlying Funds. Accordingly, when affiliated persons hold shares of any of the Underlying Funds, each Portfolio’s ability to invest fully in shares of those funds is restricted, and the Adviser must then, in some instances, select alternative investments that would not have been its first preference. The 1940 Act also provides that an Underlying Funds whose shares are purchased by each Portfolio will be obligated to redeem shares held by the Portfolio only in an amount up to 1% of the Underlying Fund’s outstanding securities during any period of less than 30 days. Shares held by each Portfolio in excess of 1% of an Underlying Fund’s outstanding securities therefore, will be considered not readily marketable securities, which, together with other such securities, may not exceed 15% of the Portfolio’s total assets.

Under certain circumstances an Underlying Fund may determine to make payment of a redemption by each Portfolio wholly or partly by a distribution in kind of securities from its portfolio, in lieu of cash, in conformity with the rules of the SEC. In such cases, the Portfolio may hold securities distributed by an Underlying Funds until the Adviser determines that it is appropriate to dispose of such securities.

Investment decisions by the investment advisers of the Underlying Funds are made independently of each Portfolio and its Adviser. Therefore, the investment adviser of one Underlying Funds may be purchasing shares of the same issuer whose shares are being sold by the investment adviser of another such funds. The result would be an indirect expense to the Portfolio without accomplishing any investment purpose. Because other investment companies employ an investment adviser, such investments by a Portfolio may cause shareholders to bear duplicate fees.

*Closed-End Investment Companies.* Each Portfolio may invest its assets in “closed-end” investment companies (or “closed-end funds”), subject to the investment restrictions set forth above. Shares of closed-end funds are typically offered to the public in a one-time initial public offering by a group of underwriters who retain a spread or underwriting commission of between 4% or 6% of the initial public offering price. Such securities are then listed for trading on the NYSE, the NASDAQ and, in some cases, may be traded in other over-the-counter markets. Because the shares of closed-end funds cannot be redeemed upon demand to the issuer like the shares of an open-end investment company (such as each Portfolio), investors seek to buy and sell shares of closed-end funds in the secondary market.

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

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

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

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

*Exchange Traded Funds.* ETFs are passive funds that track their related index and have the flexibility of trading like a security. They are managed by professionals and provide the investor with diversification, cost and tax efficiency, liquidity, marginability, are useful for hedging, have the ability to go long and short, and some provide quarterly dividends. Additionally,

some ETFs are unit investment trusts (UITs), which are unmanaged VIT Funds overseen by trustees. ETFs generally have two markets. The primary market is where institutions swap “creation units” in block-multiples of 50,000 shares for in-kind securities and cash in the form of dividends. The secondary market is where individual investors can trade as little as a single share during trading hours on the exchange. This is different from open-ended mutual funds that are traded after hours once the NAV is calculated. ETFs share many similar risks with open-end and closed-end funds.

There is a risk that an ETFs in which a Portfolio invests may terminate due to extraordinary events that may cause any of the service providers to the ETFs, such as the trustee or sponsor, to close or otherwise fail to perform their obligations to the ETF. Also, because the ETFs in which a Portfolio intends to principally invest may be granted licenses by agreement to use the indices as a basis for determining their compositions and/or otherwise to use certain trade names, the ETFs may terminate if such license agreements are terminated. In addition, an ETF may terminate if its entire net asset value falls below a certain amount. Although each Portfolio believes that, in the event of the termination of an underlying ETF, it will be able to invest instead in shares of an alternate ETF tracking the same market index or another market index with the same general market, there is no guarantee that shares of an alternate ETF would be available for investment at that time. To the extent a Portfolio invests in a sector product that Portfolio is subject to the risks associated with that sector.

#### Lending Portfolio Securities

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

#### Real Estate Investment Trusts

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

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

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

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

## Repurchase Agreements

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

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

## When-Issued, Forward Commitments and Delayed Settlements

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

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

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

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

## Short Sales

Subject to fundamental policy limits described above, the VIT Funds may sell securities short, including ETFs. A short sale is a transaction in which a Portfolio sells a security it does not own or have the right to acquire (or that it owns but does not wish to deliver) in anticipation that the market price of that security will decline.

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

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

To the extent a Portfolio sells securities short, it will provide collateral to the broker-dealer and (except in the case of short sales “against the box”) will maintain additional asset coverage in the form of cash, U.S. government securities or other liquid securities with its custodian in a segregated account in an amount at least equal to the difference between the current market value of the securities sold short and any amounts required to be deposited as collateral with the selling broker (not including the proceeds of the short sale). A Portfolio does not intend to enter into short sales (other than short sales “against the box”) if immediately after such sales the aggregate of the value of all collateral plus the amount in such segregated account exceeds 50% of the value of a Portfolio’s net assets. This percentage may be varied by action of the Board. A short sale is “against the box” to the extent the Portfolio contemporaneously owns, or has the right to obtain at no added cost, securities identical to those sold short.

### Reverse Repurchase Agreements

In a reverse repurchase agreement, a Portfolio sells portfolio securities to another party and agrees to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price and date. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party will fail to return the securities in a timely manner, or at all, which may result in losses to a Portfolio. A Portfolio could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by that Portfolio is less than the value of the securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences to a Portfolio. Reverse repurchase agreements also involve the risk that the market value of the securities sold will decline below the price at which a Portfolio is obligated to repurchase them. Reverse repurchase agreements may increase fluctuations in a Portfolio’s NAV and may be viewed as a form of borrowing by a Portfolio.

### Borrowing

In the event that a Portfolio engages in any borrowings and such borrowings exceed the limits of Section 18 of the 1940 Act, that Portfolio will reduce its borrowings within three days in order to comply with such limits.

## **SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS**

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

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

- the best net price available;
- the reliability, integrity and financial condition of the broker or dealer;
- the size of and difficulty in executing the order; and
- the value of the expected contribution of the broker or dealer to the investment performance of the Portfolio on a continuing basis.

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, Dividend Portfolio and Momentum Portfolio each paid brokerage commissions of approximately \$6,020 and \$25,197, respectively. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, Dividend Portfolio and Momentum Portfolio each paid brokerage commissions of approximately \$8,673 and \$16,586, respectively. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, Dividend Portfolio and Momentum Portfolio each paid brokerage commissions of approximately \$7,143 and \$48,524, respectively.

## **CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL OWNERS**

A principal shareholder is any person who owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of a Portfolio. A control person is one who owns beneficially or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a Portfolio or acknowledges the existence of control. A controlling person possesses the ability to control the outcome of matters submitted for shareholder vote by a Portfolio.

As of April 3, 2025, the following separate accounts owned 5% or more of the outstanding shares of each Portfolio.

### **Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund**

<b>Name &amp; Address</b>	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Percentage of VIT Funds</b>
Jefferson National Life Insurance Company PO Box 183000 Columbus, OH 43218-3000	479,492	95.97%

### **Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund**

<b>Name &amp; Address</b>	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Percentage of VIT Funds</b>
Jefferson National Life Insurance Company PO Box 183000 Columbus, OH 43218-3000	2,071,787	99.99%

As of April 3, 2025, the Trustees, as a group, owned less than 1.00% of each Portfolio's outstanding shares and less than 1.00% of the Fund Complex's outstanding shares.

## **MANAGEMENT**

### **The Adviser**

Donoghue Forlines LLC, 125 High Street, Suite 220 Boston, MA 02110, serves as investment adviser to the VIT Funds. The Adviser was established in 1986, and also advises individuals, financial institutions, pension plans, other pooled investment vehicles and corporations in addition to the VIT Funds. David Manilla is deemed to control the Adviser by virtue of his indirect majority ownership, through Manilla Capital Management, LLC, of the Adviser's interests. Subject to the supervision and direction of the Trustees, the Adviser manages the VIT Funds' securities and investments in accordance with the VIT Funds' stated investment objectives and policies, makes investment decisions and places orders to purchase and sell securities on behalf of the VIT Funds. The fee paid to the Adviser is governed by an investment advisory agreement ("Advisory Agreement") between the Trust, on behalf of the VIT Funds and the Adviser.

Under the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser, under the supervision of the Board, agrees to invest the assets of the VIT Funds in accordance with applicable law and the investment objective, policies and restrictions set forth in the VIT Funds' current Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, and subject to such further limitations as the Trust may from time to time impose by written notice to the Adviser. The Adviser shall act as the investment adviser to the VIT Funds and, as such shall (i) obtain and evaluate such information relating to the economy, industries, business, securities markets and securities as it may deem necessary or useful in discharging its responsibilities here under, (ii) formulate a continuing program for the investment of the assets of the VIT Funds in a manner consistent with its investment objective, policies and restrictions, and (iii) determine from time to time securities to be purchased, sold, retained or lent by the VIT Funds, and implement those decisions, including the selection of entities with or through which such purchases, sales or loans are to be effected; provided, that the Adviser will place orders pursuant to its investment determinations either directly with the issuer or with a broker or dealer, and if with a broker or dealer, (a) will attempt to obtain the best price and execution of its orders, and (b) may nevertheless in its discretion purchase and sell portfolio securities from and to brokers who provide the Adviser with research, analysis, advice and similar services and pay such brokers in return a higher commission or spread than may be charged by other brokers. The Adviser also provides the VIT Funds with all necessary office facilities and personnel for servicing the VIT Funds' investments, compensates all officers, Trustees and employees of the Trust who are officers, directors or employees of the Adviser, and all personnel of the VIT Funds or the Adviser performing services relating to research, statistical and investment activities. The Advisory Agreement was approved by the Board, including by a majority of the Independent Trustees, at a meeting held on September 25-26, 2024.

Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser receives an annual advisory fee equal to 1.00% of each Portfolio's average daily net assets computed daily and payable monthly.

The Adviser has entered into an expense limitation agreement with the VIT Funds to reduce its fees and to reimburse expenses, at least until October 31, 2026, such that Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses Net of Waiver and/or Reimbursement (exclusive of any front-end or contingent deferred loads, brokerage fees and commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses, fees and expenses associated with investments in other collective investment vehicles or derivative instruments (including for example option and swap fees and expenses), borrowing costs (such as interest and dividend expense on securities sold short), taxes and extraordinary expenses, such as litigation expenses (which may include indemnification of Portfolio officers and Trustees, contractual indemnification of Portfolio service providers (other than the Adviser)) will not exceed 2.00% and 2.50% of the average daily net assets attributable to the VIT Funds for their Class 1 and Class 2 shares, respectively, subject to possible recoupment from the VIT Funds in future years on a rolling three year basis (within the three years after the fees have been waived or reimbursed) if such recoupment can be achieved within the foregoing expense limits.

Expenses not expressly assumed by the Adviser under the Advisory Agreement are paid by the VIT Funds. Under the terms of the Advisory Agreement, the VIT Funds are responsible for the payment of the following expenses among others: (a) the fees payable to the Adviser, (b) the fees and expenses of Trustees who are not affiliated persons of the Adviser (c) the fees and certain expenses of the Custodian and Transfer and Dividend Disbursing Agent (as defined under the section entitled "Transfer Agent"), including the cost of maintaining certain required records of the VIT Funds and of pricing the VIT Funds' shares, (d) the charges and expenses of legal counsel and independent accountants for the VIT Funds, (e) brokerage commissions and any issue or transfer taxes chargeable to the VIT Funds in connection with its securities transactions, (f) all taxes and corporate fees payable by the VIT Funds to governmental agencies, (g) the fees of any trade association of which the VIT Funds may be a member, (h) the cost of share certificates representing shares of the VIT Funds, (i) the cost of fidelity and liability insurance, (j) the fees and expenses involved in registering and maintaining registration of the VIT Funds and of its shares with the SEC, qualifying its shares under state securities laws, including the preparation and printing of the VIT Funds' registration statements and prospectuses for such purposes, (k) all expenses of shareholders and Trustees' meetings (including travel expenses of Trustees and officers of the VIT Funds who are directors, officers or employees of the Adviser) and of preparing, printing and mailing reports, proxy statements and prospectuses to shareholders in the amount necessary for distribution to the shareholders and (l) litigation and indemnification expenses and other extraordinary expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of the VIT Funds' business.

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

For the Fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, the Adviser to the VIT Funds was paid as follows:

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Payment Due</b>	<b>Fees Waived</b>	<b>Fees Paid to Adviser</b>
Dividend Portfolio	\$85,240	\$64,466	\$20,774
Momentum Portfolio	\$660,870	\$0	\$660,870

For the Fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the Adviser to the VIT Funds was paid as follows:

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Payment Due</b>	<b>Fees Waived</b>	<b>Fees Paid to Adviser</b>
Dividend Portfolio	\$85,581	\$57,854	\$27,727
Momentum Portfolio	\$548,878	\$0	\$548,878

For the Fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, the Adviser to the VIT Funds was paid as follows:

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Payment Due</b>	<b>Fees Waived</b>	<b>Fees Paid to Adviser</b>
Dividend Portfolio	\$102,771	\$55,764	\$47,007
Momentum Portfolio	\$608,519	\$0	\$608,519

## Portfolio Managers

The following provides further information for those individuals that are primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of each Portfolio. Experience and business background for each portfolio manager may be found in the Prospectus under the section "Portfolio Managers."

## Dividend Portfolio and Momentum Portfolio

The following table lists the number and types of accounts managed by each Portfolio Manager in addition to those of the VIT Funds and assets under management in those accounts as of December 31, 2024:

### Total Other Accounts Managed

Portfolio Manager	Registered Investment Company Accounts	Assets Managed	Pooled Investment Vehicle Accounts	Assets Managed	Other Accounts	Assets Managed
Jeffrey R. Thompson	5	\$314 million	0	\$0	16	\$2 million
Richard E. Molari	5	\$314 million	0	\$0	16	\$2 million
John A. Forlines III	5	\$314 million	0	\$0	16	\$2 million
Nicholas A. Lobley	5	\$314 million	0	\$0	16	\$2million

### Other Accounts Managed Subject to Performance-Based Fees

Portfolio Manager	Registered Investment Company Accounts	Assets Managed	Pooled Investment Vehicle Accounts	Assets Managed	Other Accounts	Assets Managed
Jeffrey R. Thompson	None	None	None	None	None	None
Richard E. Molari	None	None	None	None	None	None
John A. Forlines III	None	None	None	None	None	None
Nicholas A. Lobley	None	None	None	None	None	None

### Conflicts of Interest.

As indicated in the table above, portfolio managers at the Adviser may manage numerous accounts for multiple clients. These accounts may include registered investment companies, other types of pooled accounts (e.g., collective investment funds), and separate accounts (i.e., accounts managed on behalf of individuals or public or private institutions). Portfolio managers make investment decisions for each account based on the investment objectives and policies and other relevant investment considerations applicable to that portfolio.

When a portfolio manager has responsibility for managing more than one account, potential conflicts of interest may arise. Those conflicts could include preferential treatment of one account over others in terms of allocation of resources or of investment opportunities. For instance, the Adviser may receive fees from certain accounts that are higher than the fee it receives from the funds, or it may receive a performance-based fee on certain accounts. In those instances, the portfolio manager may have an incentive to favor the higher and/or performance-based fee accounts over the funds. The Adviser has adopted policies and procedures designed to address these potential material conflicts. For instance, portfolio managers within the Adviser are normally responsible for all accounts within a certain investment discipline, and do not, absent special circumstances, differentiate among the various accounts when allocating resources. Additionally, the Adviser utilizes a system for allocating investment opportunities among VIT Funds that is designed to provide a fair and equitable allocation.

Each portfolio manager receives a fixed salary and a share of the profits, if any, related to his ownership interest in the Adviser.

## Ownership.

The following table shows the dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned by the Portfolio Managers in the Portfolio as of December 31, 2024:

<b>Name of Portfolio Manager</b>	<b>Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Dividend Portfolio Fund</b>
Jeffrey R. Thompson	None
Richard E. Molari	None
John A. Forlines III	None
Nicholas A. Lobley	None

  

<b>Name of Portfolio Manager</b>	<b>Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Momentum Portfolio Fund</b>
Jeffrey R. Thompson	None
Richard E. Molari	None
John A. Forlines III	None
Nicholas A. Lobley	None

**Code of Ethics.** The Trust and Adviser have each adopted a Code of Ethics of (hereinafter each, a “Code”) pursuant to Rule 17j-1 promulgated by the SEC pursuant to Section 17(j) of the 1940 Act and under the Insider Trading and Securities Fraud Enforcement Act of 1988. Under the Trust’s Code, the Trustees are permitted to invest in securities that may also be purchased by the VIT Funds.

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

## **OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS**

### **Fund Administration, Fund Accounting and Transfer Agent Services**

Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (“UFS”), which has its principal office at 4221 North 203<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100, Elkhorn, NE 68022, serves as administrator, fund accountant and transfer agent for the VIT Funds pursuant to a Fund Services Agreement (the “Agreement”) with the VIT Funds and subject to the supervision of the Board. UFS is primarily in the business of providing administrative, fund accounting and transfer agent services to retail and institutional mutual funds. UFS is an affiliate of the Distributor. UFS may also provide persons to serve as officers of the VIT Funds. Such officers may be directors, officers or employees of UFS or its affiliates.

UFS may recommend the engagement of certain service providers, such as trading sub-advisors, securities lending agents and other service providers, to the Trust and advisers and sub-advisers of Funds in the Trust. UFS may receive a referral or revenue sharing fee from such service providers in connection with such engagements. Any agreement between the Trust and such service providers is subject to the approval of the Trustees.

Effective February 1, 2019, NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC, the parent company of Gemini Fund Services, LLC and its affiliated companies including Northern Lights Distributors, LLC (“NLD”) and Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC (“NLCS”) (collectively, the “Gemini Companies”), sold its interest in the Gemini Companies to a third party private equity firm that contemporaneously acquired Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (an independent mutual fund administration firm) and its affiliates (collectively, the “Ultimus Companies”). As a result of these separate transactions, the Gemini Companies and the Ultimus Companies are now indirectly owned through a common parent entity, The Ultimus Group, LLC.

The Agreement became effective on February 23, 2011, and remained in effect for two years from the applicable effective date for each Portfolio and will continue in effect for successive twelve-month periods provided that such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by a majority of the Board. The Agreement is terminable by the Board or UFS on 90 days’ written notice, and may be assigned by either party, provided that the Trust may not assign this agreement without the prior written consent of UFS. The Agreement provides that UFS shall be without liability for any action reasonably taken or omitted pursuant to the Agreement.

Under the Agreement, UFS performs administrative services, including: (1) monitoring the performance of administrative and professional services rendered to the Trust by others service providers; (2) monitoring each Portfolio's holdings and operations for post-trade compliance with the Portfolio's registration statement and applicable laws and rules; (3) preparing and coordinating the printing of semi-annual and annual financial statements and tailored shareholder reports; (4) preparing selected management reports for performance and compliance analyses; (5) preparing and disseminating materials for and attend and participate in meetings of the Board; (6) determining income and capital gains available for distribution and calculating distributions required to meet regulatory, income, and excise tax requirements; (7) reviewing the Trust's federal, state, and local tax returns as prepared and signed by the Trust's independent public accountants; (8) preparing and maintaining the Trust's operating expense budget to determine proper expense accruals to be charged to each Portfolio to calculate its daily NAV; (9) assist in and monitoring the preparation, filing, printing and where applicable, dissemination to shareholders of amendments to the Trust's Registration Statement on Form N-1A, periodic reports to the Trustees, shareholders and the SEC, notices pursuant to Rule 24f-2, proxy materials and reports to the SEC on Forms N-CEN, N-CSR, N-PORT and N-PX; (10) coordinating the Trust's audits and examinations by assisting each Portfolio's independent public accountants; (11) determining, in consultation with others, the jurisdictions in which shares of the Trust shall be registered or qualified for sale and facilitate such registration or qualification; (12) monitoring sales of shares and ensure that the shares are properly and duly registered with the SEC; (13) monitoring the calculation of performance data for the VIT Funds; (14) preparing, or causing to be prepared, expense and financial reports; (15) preparing authorization for the payment of Trust expenses and pay, from Trust assets, all bills of the Trust; (16) providing information typically supplied in the investment company industry to companies that track or report price, performance or other information with respect to investment companies; (17) upon request, assisting each Portfolio in the evaluation and selection of other service providers, such as independent public accountants, printers, EDGAR providers and proxy solicitors (such parties may be affiliates of UFS); and (18) performing other services, recordkeeping and assistance relating to the affairs of the Trust as the Trust may, from time to time, reasonably request.

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

UFS also, acts as transfer, dividend disbursing, and shareholder servicing agent for the VIT Funds pursuant to written agreement with VIT Funds. Under the agreement, UFS is responsible for administering and performing transfer agent functions, dividend distribution, shareholder administration, and maintaining necessary records in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

For the services rendered to the VIT Funds pursuant to the Administration, Fund Accounting and Transfer Agency Agreements, UFS receives the greater of an annual minimum fee or an asset based fee, which scales downward based upon net assets. The VIT Funds also pay UFS for any out-of-pocket expenses. The following table sets forth the amount of administration, fund accounting and transfer agency fees paid by each Portfolio to UFS during the periods shown:

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Dividend Portfolio	\$61,107	\$60,185	\$59,101
Momentum Portfolio	\$123,724	\$98,516	128,942

### **Custodian**

U.S. Bank, 60 Livingston Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55107, (the "Custodian") serves as the custodian of the VIT Funds' assets pursuant to a Custody Agreement by and between the Custodian and the Trust on behalf of the VIT Funds. The Custodian's responsibilities include safeguarding and controlling the VIT Funds' cash and securities, handling the receipt and delivery of securities, and collecting interest and dividends on the VIT Funds' investments. Pursuant to the Custody Agreement, the Custodian also maintains original entry documents and books of record and general ledgers; posts cash receipts and disbursements; and records purchases and sales based upon communications from the Adviser. The VIT Funds may employ foreign sub-custodians that are approved by the Board to hold foreign assets.

### **Securities Lending Activities**

U.S. Bank, N.A. (“U.S. Bank”) serves as the Funds’ securities lending agent pursuant to a Securities Lending Authorization Agreement between U.S. Bank and the Trust on behalf of the Funds. The dollar amounts of income and fees and compensation paid to the Funds and U.S. Bank related to the Funds’ respective securities lending activities during fiscal year ended December 31, 2024 were as follows:

	<b>Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund</b>	<b>Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund</b>
<b>Gross income from securities lending activities (including income from cash collateral reinvestment)</b>	\$93,366	\$385,219
<b>Fees and/or compensation for securities lending activities and related services</b>		
Fees paid to securities lending agent from a revenue split	\$(1,305)	\$(4,288)
Fees paid for any cash collateral management service (including fees deducted from a pooled cash collateral)	-	-
Administrative fees not included in revenue split	0	0
Indemnification fees not included in revenue split	0	0
Rebate (paid to borrower)	\$(88,937)	\$(372,028)
Other fees not included in revenue split	0	0
Aggregate fees/compensation for securities lending activities	\$(90,242)	\$(376,316)
Net income from securities lending activities	\$3,124	\$8,903

The services provided by U.S. Bank as securities lending agent are as follows: selection of securities to be loaned; locating borrowers previously approved by the Funds’ board; negotiation of loan terms; monitoring daily the value of the loaned securities and collateral; requiring additional collateral as necessary; investing cash collateral in accordance with the Funds’ instructions; marking to market non-cash collateral; maintaining custody of non-cash collateral; recordkeeping and account servicing; monitoring dividend activity and material proxy votes relating to loaned securities; transferring loaned securities; recalling loaned securities in accordance with the funds’ instructions; and arranging for return of loaned securities to the fund at loan termination.

### **Compliance Officer**

Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC (“NLCS”), 4221 North 203<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100, Elkhorn, NE 68022-3474, an affiliate of UFS and the Distributor, provides a Chief Compliance Officer to the Trust as well as related compliance services pursuant to a consulting agreement between NLCS and the Trust. NLCS’s compliance services consist primarily of reviewing and assessing the policies and procedures of the Trust and its service providers pertaining to compliance with applicable federal securities laws, including Rule 38a-1 under the 1940 Act. For the compliance services rendered to the VIT Fund, the VIT Fund pays NLCS an annual fee based on VIT Fund assets, which scales downward based upon each VIT Fund’s net assets. Each Portfolio also pays NLCS for any out-of-pocket expenses. The following table sets forth the amount of compliance services fees paid by each VIT Fund to NLCS during the periods shown:

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Dividend Portfolio	\$4,562	\$2,964	\$8,643
Momentum Portfolio	10,123	\$6,604	\$18,754

## Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Deloitte & Touche LLP, located at 695 Town Center, Suite 1000, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 serves as the VIT Funds' independent registered public accounting firm.

## **DISTRIBUTION AND SHAREHOLDER SERVICES PLAN**

### **Distributor**

Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, located at 4221 North 203<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100, Elkhorn, Nebraska 68022-3474 (the "Distributor") serves as the principal underwriter and national distributor for the shares of the Trust pursuant to an Underwriting Agreement with the Trust (the "Underwriting Agreement"). The Distributor is registered as a broker-dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and each state's securities laws and is a member of Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). The offering of each Portfolio's shares is continuous. The Underwriting Agreement provides that the Distributor, as agent in connection with the distribution of Portfolio shares, will use reasonable efforts to facilitate the sale of the of the Portfolio's shares.

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

The Underwriting Agreement may be terminated by the Portfolio at any time, without the payment of any penalty, by vote of a majority of the entire Board or by vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Portfolio on 60 days' written notice to the Distributor, or by the Distributor at any time, without the payment of any penalty, on 60 days' written notice to the Portfolio. The Underwriting Agreement will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment.

### **Distribution and Shareholder Services Plan**

Pursuant to a Distribution and Shareholder Services Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act (the "Plan") approved by the Board, the Portfolio is authorized to pay the participating insurance company and other intermediaries, compensation for distribution and shareholder services. The Plan permits each Portfolio to pay compensation for account maintenance, shareholder services, distribution, sales and promotional activities at the annual rate of up to 0.25% for the Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund and Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund attributable to Class 1 Shares and 0.50% of the average net assets of all Portfolios attributable to Class 2 shares. Shareholders would need to approve of any increase. Such fees are to be paid by the Portfolio monthly, or at such other intervals as the Board shall determine. Such fees shall be based upon the Portfolio's average daily net assets during the preceding month, and shall be calculated and accrued daily. The participating insurance company and other intermediaries shall use such fee, among other things, to pay interest and principal where such payments have been financed.

The Trust is required to provide a written report, at least quarterly to the Board, specifying in reasonable detail the amounts expended pursuant to the Plan and the purposes for which such expenditures were made. Class 2 shares were not offered during this time periods below.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund and Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund paid \$21,310 and \$165,218 in distribution/12b-1 fees related to the Plan, respectively. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, each Portfolio paid the following allocated distribution fees:

	<b>Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund – Total Dollars Allocated</b>	<b>Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund – Total Dollars Allocated</b>
Advertising/Marketing	None	None
Printing/Postage	None	None
Payment to distributor	\$181	\$1,402
Payment to dealers	None	None
Compensation to sales personnel	None	None
Other	\$21,129	\$163,816
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,310</b>	<b>\$165,218</b>

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund and Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund paid \$21,395 and \$137,219 in distribution/12b-1 fees related to the Plan, respectively. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, each Portfolio paid the following allocated distribution fees:

	<b>Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund – Total Dollars Allocated</b>	<b>Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund – Total Dollars Allocated</b>
Advertising/Marketing	None	None
Printing/Postage	None	None
Payment to distributor	\$229	\$1,466
Payment to dealers	None	None
Compensation to sales personnel	None	None
Other	\$21,166	\$135,753
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,395</b>	<b>\$137,219</b>

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund and Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund paid \$25,693 and \$152,130 in distribution/12b-1 fees related to the Plan, respectively. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, each Portfolio paid the following allocated distribution fees:

	<b>Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund – Total Dollars Allocated</b>	<b>Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund – Total Dollars Allocated</b>
Advertising/Marketing	None	None
Printing/Postage	None	None
Payment to distributor	\$301	\$1,778
Payment to dealers	None	\$None
Compensation to sales personnel	None	None
Other	\$25,392	\$150,352
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,693</b>	<b>\$152,130</b>

The initial term of the Plan is one year and it will continue in effect from year to year thereafter, provided such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by a majority of the Board and a majority of the Trustees who are not “interested persons” of the Trust and do not have a direct or indirect financial interest in the Plan (“Rule 12b-1 Trustees”) by votes cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on the Plan. The Plan may be terminated at any time by the Trust or the Portfolio by vote of a majority of the Rule 12b-1 Trustees or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting shares of the Portfolio. The Plan will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act).

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

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

## **TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE TRUST**

The business of the Trust is managed under the direction of the Board in accordance with the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and the Trust’s By-laws (the “Governing Documents”), which have been filed with the SEC and are available upon request. The Board consists of six (6) individuals who are not “interested persons” (as defined under the 1940 Act) of the Trust and the Adviser (“Independent Trustees”). Pursuant to the Governing Documents of the Trust, the

Trustees shall elect officers including a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Principal Executive Officer and a Principal Accounting Officer. The Board retains the power to conduct, operate and carry on the business of the Trust and has the power to incur and pay any expenses, which, in the opinion of the Board, are necessary or incidental to carry out any of the Trust's purposes. The Trustees, officers, employees and agents of the Trust, when acting in such capacities, shall not be subject to any personal liability except for his or her own bad faith, willful misfeasance, gross negligence or reckless disregard of his or her duties.

### **Board Leadership Structure**

The Trust is led by Anthony Hertl, an Independent Trustee, who has served as the Chairman of the Board since July 2013. The Board of Trustees is comprised of Mr. Hertl and, five (5) additional Independent Trustees. Under certain 1940 Act governance guidelines that apply to the Trust, the Independent Trustees will meet in executive session, at least quarterly. Pursuant to the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust and By-Laws, the Chairman of the Board is responsible for (a) presiding at board meetings, (b) calling special meetings on an as-needed basis, (c) executing and administering of Trust policies including (i) setting the agendas for board meetings and (ii) providing information to board members in advance of each board meeting and between board meetings. Generally, the Trust believes it best to have a non-executive Chairman of the Board, who together with the President (principal executive officer), are seen by our shareholders, business partners and other stakeholders as providing strong leadership. The Trust believes that its Chairman, the independent chair of the Audit Committee, and, as an entity, the full Board, provide effective leadership that is in the best interests of the Trust, its funds and each shareholder.

### **Board Risk Oversight**

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

### **Trustee Qualifications**

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

Anthony J. Hertl has over 20 years of business experience in financial services industry and related fields including serving as chair of the finance committee for the Borough of Interlaken, New Jersey and Vice President-Finance and Administration of Marymount College, holds a Certified Public Accountant designation, serves or has served as a member of other mutual fund boards outside of the Fund Complex and possesses a strong understanding of the regulatory framework under which investment companies must operate based on his years of service to this Board and other fund boards.

Gary W. Lanzen has over 20 years of business experience in the financial services industry, holds a Master's degree in Education Administration, is a Certified Financial Planner ("CFP"), serves as a member of two other mutual fund boards outside of the Fund Complex and possesses a strong understanding of the regulatory framework under which investment companies must operate based on his years of service to this Board and other mutual fund boards.

Mark H. Taylor holds PhD, Masters and Bachelors degrees in Accountancy, is a licensed Certified Public Accountant and has over 30 years of academic and professional experience in the accounting and auditing fields, all of which make him particularly qualified to chair the Trust's Audit Committee. Dr. Taylor is the Director of the Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy at the Muma College of Business at the University of South Florida and is serving a three-year term as President of the American Accounting Association (AAA) since August 2022 (President-Elect 2022-2023, President 2023-2024; Past President 2024-2025). Dr. Taylor previously served as AAA Vice President-Finance, and as President of the Auditing Section of the AAA. Dr. Taylor serves as a member of three other mutual fund boards within the Northern Lights Fund Complex. He served a three-year term on the AICPA's Auditing Standards Board (2010-2012) and previously completed a fellowship in the Professional Practice Group of the Office of the Chief Accountant at the headquarters of the United States Securities Exchange Commission. Dr. Taylor is a member of two research teams that have received grants from the Center for Audit Quality to study how accounting firms' tone-at-the top messaging impacts audit performance and how auditors manage the process of auditing fair value measurements and other complex estimates in financial statements. Dr. Taylor has published extensively in leading academic accounting journals, has teaching interests in corporate governance and accounting policy as well as auditing and assurance services at the graduate and undergraduate levels, and possesses a strong understanding of the regulatory framework under which investment companies operate.

John V. Palancia has over 30 years of business experience in financial services industry including serving as the Director of Futures Operations for Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc. (“Merrill Lynch”). Mr. Palancia holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. He also possesses a strong understanding of risk management, balance sheet analysis and the regulatory framework under which regulated financial entities must operate based on service to Merrill Lynch. Additionally, he is well versed in the regulatory framework under which investment companies must operate and serves as a member of three other fund boards.

Mark D. Gersten has more than 30 years of experience in the financial services industry, having served in executive roles at AllianceBernstein LP and holding key industry positions at Prudential-Bache Securities and PriceWaterhouseCoopers. He also serves as a member of two other mutual fund boards outside of the Fund Complex. Mr. Gersten is a certified public accountant and holds an MBA in accounting. Like other trustees, his experience has given him a strong understanding of the regulatory framework under which investment companies operate.

Mark S. Garbin has more than 30 years of experience in corporate balance sheet and income statement risk management for large asset managers, serving as Managing Principal of Coherent Capital Management LLC since 2007. Mr. Garbin has extensive derivatives experience and has provided consulting services to alternative asset managers. He is both a Chartered Financial Analyst and Professional Risk Manager charterholder and holds advanced degrees in international business. The Trust does not believe any one factor is determinative in assessing a Trustee’s qualifications, but that the collective experience of each Trustee makes them each highly qualified.

The Trustees and the executive officers of the Trust are listed below with their present positions with the Trust and principal occupations over at least the last five years. The business address of each Trustee and Officer is 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, OH 45246. All correspondence to the Trustees and Officers should be directed to c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLP, P.O Box 46707, Cincinnati, OH 45246.

***Independent Trustees***

<b>Name, Address and Year of Birth</b>	<b>Position/Term of Office</b>	<b>Principal Occupation During the Past Five Years</b>	<b>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex* Overseen by Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships held by Trustee During the Past Five Years</b>
Mark Garbin Born in 1951	Trustee Since 2013	Managing Principal, Coherent Capital Management LLC (since 2007).	7	Northern Lights Variable Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds since 2013); Two Roads Shared Trust (since 2012); Forethought Variable Insurance Trust (since 2013); Northern Lights Variable Trust (since 2013); iDirect Private Markets Fund (since 2014); Carlyle Tactical Private Credit Fund (since March 2018); Independent Director OHA CLO Enhanced Equity II Genpar LLP (since June 2021); and Caryle Credit Income Fund (since July 2023)
Mark D. Gersten Born in 1950	Trustee Since 2013	Independent Consultant (since 2012).	7	Northern Lights Variable Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds since 2013); Northern Lights Fund Trust (since 2013); Two Roads Shared Trust (since 2012); Altegris KKR Commitments Master Fund (since 2014); previously, Ramius Archview Credit and Distressed Fund (2015-2017); and Schroder Global Series Trust (2012 to 2017).

Anthony J. Hertl Born in 1950	Trustee Since 2005; Chairman of the Board since 2013	Retired, previously held several positions in a major Wall Street firm including Capital Markets Controller, Director of Global Taxation, and CFO of the Specialty Finance Group.	7	Northern Lights Variable Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds since 2006); Northern Lights Fund Trust (since 2005); Alternative Strategies Fund (since 2010); Satuit Capital Management Trust (2007-2019).
Gary W. Lanzen Born in 1954	Trustee Since 2005	Retired since 2012. Formerly, Founder, President, and Chief Investment Officer, Orizon Investment Counsel, Inc. (2000-2012).	7	Northern Lights Variable Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds since 2006); Northern Lights Fund Trust (since 2005); AdvisorOne Funds (since 2003); Alternative Strategies Fund (since 2010); and previously, CLA Strategic Allocation Fund (2014-2015).
John V. Palancia Born in 1954	Trustee Since 2011	Retired (since 2011). Formerly, Director of Futures Operations, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc. (1975-2011).	7	Northern Lights Variable Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds since 2011); Northern Lights Fund Trust III (since February 2012); Alternative Strategies Fund (since 2012) and Northern Lights Fund Trust (since 2011).
Mark H. Taylor Born in 1964	Trustee Since 2007; Chairman of the Audit Committee since 2013	PhD (Accounting), CPA; Professor and Director, Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy, Muma College of Business, University of South Florida (2019 – present); Professor and Department of Accountancy Chair, Case Western Reserve University (2009-2019); President, American Accounting Association (AAA) commenced August 2022 (President-Elect 2022-2023, President 2023-2024; Past President 2024-2025). AAA Vice President-Finance (2017-2020); President, Auditing Section of the AAA; Member, AICPA Auditing Standards Board (2009-2012); Academic Fellow, Office of the Chief Accountant, United States Securities Exchange Commission (2005-2006); Center for Audit Quality research grants (2014, 2012).	7	Northern Lights Variable Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds since 2007); Alternative Strategies Fund (since 2010); Northern Lights Fund Trust III (since 2012); and Northern Lights Fund Trust (since 2007).

**Officers**

Name, Address and Year of Birth	Position/Term of Office*	Principal Occupation During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex* Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships held by Trustee During the Past Five Years
Kevin E. Wolf Born in 1969	President Since June 2017	Executive Vice President, Head of Fund Administration, and Product; Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (since 2020); Vice President of The Ultimus Group, LLC (since 2019); Executive Vice President of Gemini Fund Services, LLC (2019-2020) President, Gemini Fund Services, LLC (2012 - 2019).	N/A	N/A
Timothy Burdick Born in 1986	Vice President Since November 2023	Vice President and Senior Managing Counsel, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (since 2023); Vice President and Managing Counsel, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2022-2023); Assistant Vice President and Counsel, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (2019-2022).	N/A	N/A
James Colantino Born in 1969	Treasurer Since June 2017	Senior Vice President Fund Administration, Ultimus Fund Solutions (since 2020); Senior Vice President Fund Administration, Gemini Fund Services, LLC (2012-2020); Assistant Treasurer of the Trust (2006-June 2017).	N/A	N/A
Stephanie Shearer Born in 1979	Secretary Since February 2017	Director, Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC (since 2024); Associate Director, Ultimus Fund Solutions (2022-2024); Manager of Legal Administration, Ultimus Fund Solutions (since 2020-2022); Manager of Legal Administration, Gemini Fund Services, LLC (2018-2020); Senior Paralegal, Gemini Fund Services, LLC (2013 - 2018).	N/A	N/A

Michael J. Nanosky Born in 1966	Chief Compliance Officer since January 2021	Chief Compliance Officer, of the Trust (Since January 2021); Vice President-Senior Compliance Officer, Ultimus Fund Solutions (Since 2020); Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer for Williamsburg Investment Trust (2020-current); Senior Vice President- Chief Compliance Officer, PNC Funds (2014-2019).	N/A	N/A
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\*The term of office for each Trustee and officer listed above will continue indefinitely until the individual resigns or is removed.

\*\*As of February 28, 2025, the Trust was comprised of 13 active portfolios managed by unaffiliated investment advisers. The term “Fund Complex” applies only to the Portfolios managed by the Adviser. The Portfolios do not hold themselves out as related to any other series within the Trust for investment purposes, nor do they share the same investment adviser with any other series.

## Board Committees

### Audit Committee

The Board has an Audit Committee that consists of all the Trustees who are not “interested persons” of the Trust within the meaning of the 1940 Act. The Audit Committee’s responsibilities include: (i) recommending to the Board the selection, retention or termination of the Trust’s independent auditors; (ii) reviewing with the independent auditors the scope, performance and anticipated cost of their audit; (iii) discussing with the independent auditors certain matters relating to the Trust’s financial statements, including any adjustment to such financial statements recommended by such independent auditors, or any other results of any audit; (iv) reviewing on a periodic basis a formal written statement from the independent auditors with respect to their independence, discussing with the independent auditors any relationships or services disclosed in the statement that may impact the objectivity and independence of the Trust’s independent auditors and recommending that the Board take appropriate action in response thereto to satisfy itself of the auditor’s independence; and (v) considering the comments of the independent auditors and management’s responses thereto with respect to the quality and adequacy of the Trust’s accounting and financial reporting policies and practices and internal controls. The Audit committee operates pursuant to an Audit Committee Charter. The Audit Committee is also responsible for seeking and reviewing nominee candidates for consideration as Independent Trustees as is from time to time considered necessary or appropriate. The Audit Committee generally will not consider shareholder nominees. In addition, The Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and setting Independent Trustee compensation from time to time when considered necessary or appropriate. During the past fiscal year, the Audit Committee held thirteen meetings.

### Compensation

Effective January 1, 2025, each Trustee who is not affiliated with the Trust or an investment adviser to any series of the Trust will receive a quarterly fee of \$51,250, allocated among each of the various portfolios comprising the Trust and Northern Lights Fund Trust (together, the “Trusts”), a separate registrant that shares a common board with the Trust, for his attendance at the regularly scheduled meetings of the Board, to be paid in advance of each calendar quarter, as well as reimbursement for any reasonable expenses incurred. In addition to which, the Chairman of the Board receives a quarterly fee of \$13,750 and the Audit Committee Chairman receives a quarterly fee of \$10,000.

Prior to January 1, 2025, each Trustee who was not affiliated with the Trusts or an investment adviser to any series of the Trusts received a quarterly fee of \$50,000, allocated among each of the various portfolios comprising the Trusts. In addition to the quarterly fees and reimbursements, the Chairman of the Board previously received a quarterly fee of \$13,750 and the Audit Committee Chairman receives a quarterly fee of \$10,000.

Additionally, in the event a meeting of the Board other than its regularly scheduled meetings (a “Special Meeting”) is required, each Independent Trustee will receive a fee of \$2,500 per Special Meeting, as well as reimbursement for any reasonable expenses incurred, to be paid by the relevant series of the Trust or its investment adviser depending on the circumstances necessitating the Special Meeting.

None of the executive officers receive compensation from the Trusts.

The table below details the amount of compensation the Trustees received from the Trust during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. Each Independent Trustee attended all quarterly meetings during the period. The Trust does not have a bonus, profit sharing, pension or retirement plan.

Name and Position	Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund	Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of Funds Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation From Funds Paid to Trustees
Anthony J. Hertl	\$3,107	\$3,107	None	None	\$6,214
Gary Lanzen	\$2,616	\$2,616	None	None	\$5,233
Mark H. Taylor	\$2,780	\$2,780	None	None	\$5,560
John V. Palancia	\$2,616	\$2,616	None	None	\$5,233
Mark D. Gersten	\$2,616	\$2,616	None	None	\$5,233
Mark Garbin	\$2,616	\$2,616	None	None	\$5,233

### Trustee Ownership

The following table indicates the dollar range of equity securities that each Trustee beneficially owned in the Trust as of December 31, 2024.

Name of Trustee	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the VIT Funds	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Registered Investment Companies Overseen by Trustee in Family of Investment Companies
Anthony J. Hertl	None	\$50,001-\$100,000
Gary Lanzen	None	None
John V. Palancia	None	None
Mark Taylor	None	None
Mark D. Gersten	None	\$10,001-\$50,000
Mark Garbin	None	\$50,001-\$100,000

### **ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING PROGRAM**

The Trust has established an Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Program (the "Program") as required by Section 352 the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 ("USA PATRIOT Act"). To ensure compliance with this law, the Trust's Program is written and has been approved by the Fund's Board. The program provides for the development of policies, procedures and internal controls reasonably designed to prevent money laundering, the designation of an anti-money laundering compliance officers who is responsible for implementing and monitoring the Program, an ongoing anti-money laundering training for appropriate persons and an independent audit function to determine the effectiveness of the Program.

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

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

### **PROXY VOTING SUMMARY**

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

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

**More information.** Information regarding how each Portfolio voted proxies relating to securities held by the Portfolio during the most recent 12-month period ending June 30 will be available (1) without charge, upon request, by calling the VIT Funds at 1-877-779-7462 or sending an email to [Fulfillment@ultimusfundsolutions.com](mailto:Fulfillment@ultimusfundsolutions.com); (2) on or through the Fund's website at [www.donoghueforlinesfunds.com](http://www.donoghueforlinesfunds.com) and (3) on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, a copy of the Trust's proxy voting policies and procedures are also available by calling 1-877-779-7462 and will be sent within three business days of receipt of a request.

## **DISCLOSURE OF THE VIT FUNDS' HOLDINGS**

The Trust has adopted policies and procedures that govern the disclosure of each Portfolio's portfolio holdings. These policies and procedures are designed to ensure that such disclosure is in the best interests of Portfolio shareholders.

It is the Trust's policy to: (1) ensure that any disclosure of portfolio holdings information is in the best interest of Trust shareholders; (2) protect the confidentiality of portfolio holdings information; (3) have procedures in place to guard against personal trading based on the information; and (4) ensure that the disclosure of portfolio holdings information does not create conflicts between the interests of the Trust's shareholders and those of the Trust's affiliates.

Each Portfolio discloses its portfolio holdings by mailing its annual and semi-annual financial statements to shareholders approximately two months after the end of the fiscal year and semi-annual period. In addition, Each Portfolio will disclose its portfolio holdings reports on Forms N-CSR and Form N-Q approximately two months after the end of each quarter/semi-annual period.

Each Portfolio may choose to make portfolio holdings information available to rating agencies such as Lipper, Morningstar or Bloomberg more frequently on a confidential basis.

Under limited circumstances, as described below, each Portfolio's portfolio holdings may be disclosed to, or known by, certain third parties in advance of their filing with the SEC on Form N-CSR, Form N-Q or Form N-MFP. In each case, a determination has been made that such advance disclosure is supported by a legitimate business purpose and that the recipient is subject to a duty to keep the information confidential and to not trade on any material non-public information.

- **The Adviser.** Personnel of the Adviser, including personnel responsible for managing a Portfolio's portfolio, may have full daily access to each Portfolio's portfolio holdings because that information is necessary in order for the Adviser to provide their management, administrative, and investment services to the Portfolio. As required for purposes of analyzing the impact of existing and future market changes on the prices, availability, demand and liquidity of such securities, as well as for the assistance of portfolio managers in the trading of such securities, Adviser personnel may also release and discuss certain portfolio holdings with various broker-dealers.
- **Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC.** Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC is the transfer agent, fund accountant and administrator for the VIT Funds; therefore, its personnel have full daily access to each Portfolio's holdings because that information is necessary in order for them to provide the agreed-upon services for the Trust.
- **U.S. Bank, N.A.** U.S. Bank, N.A. is the custodian for the VIT Funds; therefore, its personnel have full daily access to the VIT Funds' portfolio holdings because that information is necessary in order for them to provide the agreed-upon services for the VIT Funds.
- **Deloitte & Touche LLP.** Deloitte & Touche LLP is the VIT Funds' registered independent public accounting firm; therefore, its personnel have access to the VIT Funds' portfolio holdings in connection with auditing of the VIT Funds' annual financial statements and providing assistance and consultation in connection with SEC filings.
- **Orion Advisor Services, LLC.** Orion Advisor Services, LLC provides back office account support and account performance services to the Adviser; therefore, its personnel have full daily access to the portfolio holdings of the Adviser's clients, including the VIT Funds, because that information is necessary in order for Orion to provide the agreed-upon services.
- **Thompson Hine LLP.** Thompson Hine LLP is counsel to the VIT Funds; therefore, its personnel have access to each Portfolio's holdings in connection with the review of the Trust's annual and semi-annual shareholder reports and SEC filings.

- **Counsel to the Independent Trustees.** Counsel to the Independent Trustees and its personnel have access to the VIT Funds' portfolio holdings in connection with review of the VIT Funds' annual and semi-annual shareholder reports and SEC filings.
- **Derivatives Risk Consultant:** The Trust has engaged a derivatives risk consultant ("Consultant") to consult with the Board, and the Adviser, regarding the effectiveness of derivatives risk management. The Consultant therefore may have access to the Fund's portfolio holdings in order to provide such services to the Trust.

**Additions to List of Approved Recipients.** The Trust's Chief Compliance Officer is the person responsible, and whose prior approval is required, for any disclosure of each Portfolio's portfolio securities at any time or to any persons other than those described above. In such cases, the recipient must have a legitimate business need for the information and must be subject to a duty to keep the information confidential and to not trade on any material non-public information. There are no ongoing arrangements in place with respect to the disclosure of portfolio holdings. In no event shall the VIT Funds, the Adviser or any other party receive any direct or indirect compensation in connection with the disclosure of information about the VIT Funds' portfolio holdings.

**Compliance With Portfolio Holdings Disclosure Procedures.** The VIT Funds' Chief Compliance Officer will report periodically to the Board with respect to compliance with the VIT Funds' portfolio holdings disclosure procedures, and from time to time will provide the Board any updates to the portfolio holdings disclosure policies and procedures.

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

## **DESCRIPTION OF SHARES**

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

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

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

## **PURCHASE, REDEMPTION AND PRICING OF SHARES**

**Calculation of Share Price.** As indicated in the Prospectus under the heading "How Shares are Priced," the net asset value of each Portfolio's shares is determined by dividing the total value of the Portfolio's portfolio investments and other assets, less any liabilities, by the total number of shares outstanding of the Portfolio.

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

Certain securities or investments for which daily market quotes are not readily available may be valued, pursuant to guidelines established by the Board, with reference to other securities or indexes. Debt securities not traded on an exchange may be valued at prices supplied by a pricing agent(s) based on broker or dealer supplied valuations or matrix pricing, a method of valuing securities by reference to the value of other securities with similar characteristics, such as

rating, interest rate and maturity. Short-term investments having a maturity of 60 days or less are generally valued at amortized cost.

Exchange traded options are valued at the last quoted sales price or, in the absence of a sale, at the mean between the current bid and ask prices on the exchange on which such options are traded. Futures and options on futures are valued at the settlement price determined by the exchange. Other securities for which market quotes are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Board or persons acting at their direction. Swap agreements and other derivatives are generally valued daily based upon quotations from market makers or by a pricing service in accordance with the valuation procedures approved by the Board.

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

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

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

When market quotations are insufficient or not readily available, instead of valuing securities in the usual manner, a Portfolio may value securities at fair value or estimate their value as determined in good faith by the Board or their designees, pursuant to procedures approved by the Board. Fair valuation may also be used by the Board if extraordinary events occur after the close of the relevant market but prior to the NYSE Close.

The Portfolio may hold securities, such as private placements, interests in commodity pools, other non-traded securities or temporarily illiquid securities, for which market quotations are not readily available or are determined to be unreliable. These securities will be valued at their fair market value as determined using the "fair value" procedures approved by the Board. The Board has designated the Adviser as its "Valuation Designee" to execute these procedures. The Adviser may also enlist third party consultants such as an audit firm or financial officer of a security issuer on an as-needed basis to assist in determining a security-specific fair value. The Board reviews the execution of this process and the resultant fair value prices at least quarterly to assure the process produces reliable results.

**Valuation Process.** This committee is composed of one or more representatives from each of the (i) Trust, (ii) administrator, and (iii) Adviser. The applicable investments are valued collectively via inputs from each of these groups. For example, fair value determinations are required for the following securities: (i) securities for which market quotations are insufficient or not readily available on a particular business day (including securities for which there is a short and temporary lapse in the provision of a price by the regular pricing source), (ii) securities for which, in the judgment of the Adviser, the prices or values available do not represent the fair value of the instrument. Factors which may cause the

Adviser to make such a judgment include, but are not limited to, the following: only a bid price or an asked price is available; the spread between bid and asked prices is substantial; the frequency of sales; the thinness of the market; the size of reported trades; and actions of the securities markets, such as the suspension or limitation of trading; (iii) securities determined to be illiquid; (iv) securities with respect to which an event that will affect the value thereof has occurred (a "significant event") since the closing prices were established on the principal exchange on which they are traded, but prior to a Portfolio's calculation of its net asset value. Specifically, interests in commodity pools or managed futures pools are valued on a daily basis by reference to the closing market prices of each futures contract or other asset held by a pool, as adjusted for pool expenses. Restricted or illiquid securities, such as private placements or non-traded securities are valued via inputs from the Adviser valuation based upon the current bid for the security from two or more independent dealers or other parties reasonably familiar with the facts and circumstances of the security (who should take into consideration all relevant factors as may be appropriate under the circumstances). If the Adviser is unable to obtain a current bid from such independent dealers or other independent parties, the Adviser shall determine the fair value of such security using the following factors: (i) the type of security; (ii) the cost at date of purchase; (iii) the size and nature of the Portfolio's holdings; (iv) the discount from market value of unrestricted securities of the same class at the time of purchase and subsequent thereto; (v) information as to any transactions or offers with respect to the security; (vi) the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition of the security and the existence of any registration rights; (vii) how the yield of the security compares to similar securities of companies of similar or equal creditworthiness; (viii) the level of recent trades of similar or comparable securities; (ix) the liquidity characteristics of the security; (x) current market conditions; and (xi) the market value of any securities into which the security is convertible or exchangeable.

**Standards For Fair Value Determinations.** As a general principle, the fair value of a security is the amount that a Portfolio might reasonably expect to realize upon its current sale. The Trust has adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement of Financial Accounting Standards Codification Topic 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures ("ASC 820"). In accordance with ASC 820, fair value is defined as the price that the Portfolio would receive upon selling an investment in a timely transaction to an independent buyer in the principal or most advantageous market of the investment. ASC 820 establishes a three-tier hierarchy to maximize the use of observable market data and minimize the use of unobservable inputs and to establish classification of fair value measurements for disclosure purposes. Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk, for example, the risk inherent in a particular valuation technique used to measure fair value including such a pricing model and/or the risk inherent in the inputs to the valuation technique. Inputs may be observable or unobservable. Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, developed based on the best information available under the circumstances.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of each Portfolio's investments relating to ASC 820. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below.

Level 1 – quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.

Level 2 – other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)

Level 3 – significant unobservable inputs (including a Portfolio's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The Adviser takes into account the relevant factors and surrounding circumstances, which may include: (i) the nature and pricing history (if any) of the security; (ii) whether any dealer quotations for the security are available; (iii) possible valuation methodologies that could be used to determine the fair value of the security; (iv) the recommendation of a portfolio manager of the Portfolio with respect to the valuation of the security; (v) whether the same or similar securities are held by other funds managed by the Adviser or other funds and the method used to price the security in those funds; (vi) the extent to which the fair value to be determined for the security will result from the use of data or formulae produced by independent third parties and (vii) the liquidity or illiquidity of the market for the security.

**Board of Trustees Determination.** The Board meets at least quarterly to consider the valuations provided by the Adviser and to ratify the valuations made for the applicable securities. The Board considers the reports provided by the Adviser, including follow up studies of subsequent market-provided prices when available, in reviewing and determining in good faith the fair value of the applicable portfolio securities.

The Trust expects that the NYSE will be closed on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

**Purchase of Shares.** Orders for shares received by each Portfolio in good order prior to the close of business on the NYSE on each day during such periods that the NYSE is open for trading are priced at net asset value per share computed as of the close of the regular session of trading on the NYSE. Orders received in good order after the close of the NYSE, or on a day it is not open for trading, are priced at the close of such NYSE on the next day on which it is open for trading at the next determined net asset value per share.

Notice to Texas Shareholders

Under section 72.1021(a) of the Texas Property Code, initial investors in a Portfolio who are Texas residents may designate a representative to receive notices of abandoned property in connection with Portfolio shares. Texas shareholders who wish to appoint a representative should notify the Transfer Agent by writing to the address below to obtain a form for providing written notice to the Trust:

Donoghue Forlines Dividend VIT Fund  
and Donoghue Forlines Momentum VIT Fund  
c/o Ultimus Fund Solutions, LLC  
225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450  
Cincinnati, OH 45246

**Redemption of Shares.** Each Portfolio will redeem all or any portion of a shareholder's shares of the Portfolio when requested in accordance with the procedures set forth in the "Redemptions" section of the Prospectus. Under the 1940 Act, a shareholder's right to redeem shares and to receive payment therefore may be suspended at times when:

- (a) the NYSE is closed, other than customary weekend and holiday closings;
- (b) trading on that exchange is restricted for any reason;

(c) an emergency exists as a result of which disposal by the Portfolio of securities owned by it is not reasonably practicable or it is not reasonable practicable for the Portfolio fairly to determine the value of its net assets, provided that applicable rules and regulations of the SEC (or any succeeding governmental authority) will govern as to whether the conditions prescribed in (b) or (c) exist; or

(d) the SEC by order permits a suspension of the right to redemption or a postponement of the date of payment on redemption.

In case of suspension of the right of redemption, payment of a redemption request will be made based on the net asset value next determined after the termination of the suspension.

## **TAX STATUS**

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

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

Net investment income is made up of dividends and interest less expenses. Net capital gain for a fiscal year is computed by taking into account any capital loss carryforward of each Portfolio. Capital losses incurred in tax years beginning after December 22, 2010 may now be carried forward indefinitely and retain the character of the original loss. Under previously enacted laws, capital losses could be carried forward to offset any capital gains for only eight years, and carried forward as short-term capital losses, irrespective of the character of the original loss. Capital loss carryforwards are available to offset future realized capital gains. To the extent that these carryforwards are used to offset future capital gains it is probable that the amount offset will not be distributed to shareholders.

At December 31, 2024, the Portfolio had capital loss carryforwards for federal income tax purposes available to offset future capital gains and capital loss carryforwards utilized as follows:

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Short-Term</b>	<b>Non-Expiring Long-Term</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Utilized</b>
Donoghue Forlines Dividend Index VIT Fund	\$ 4,313,895	\$ 782,083	\$ 5,095,978	\$ 1,141,168
Donoghue Forlines Momentum Index VIT Fund	—	—	—	8,672,278

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

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

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

Each Portfolio is subject to a 4% nondeductible excise tax on certain undistributed amounts of ordinary income and capital gain under a prescribed formula contained in Section 4982 of the Tax Code. The formula requires payment to shareholders during a calendar year of distributions representing at least 98.2% of each Portfolio's ordinary income for the calendar year and at least 98% of its capital gain net income (i.e., the excess of its capital gains over capital losses) realized

during the one-year period ending October 31 during such year plus 100% of any income that was neither distributed nor taxed to the Portfolio during the preceding calendar year. Under ordinary circumstances, each Portfolio expects to time its distributions so as to avoid liability for this tax.

For a discussion of the tax consequences to holders of variable life or annuity contracts, refer to the prospectuses or other documents you received when you purchased your variable life or variable annuity contracts. Variable life or variable annuity contracts purchased through insurance company separate accounts provide for the accumulation of all earnings from interest, dividends, and capital appreciation without current federal income tax liability for the owner. Depending on the variable annuity or variable life contract, distributions from the contract may be subject to ordinary income tax and, in addition, on distributions before age 59 1/2, a 10% penalty tax. Only the portion of a distribution attributable to income on the investment in the contract is subject to federal income tax. Investors should consult with competent tax advisers for a more complete discussion of possible tax consequences in a particular situation.

## **Other Reporting and Withholding Requirements**

Payments to a shareholder that is either a foreign financial institution (“FFI”) or a non-financial foreign entity (“NFFE”) within the meaning of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (“FATCA”) may be subject to a generally nonrefundable 30% withholding tax on: (a) income dividends paid by a Portfolio after June 30, 2014 and (b) certain capital gain distributions and the proceeds arising from the sale of Portfolio shares paid by the Portfolio after December 31, 2016. FATCA withholding tax generally can be avoided: (a) by an FFI, subject to any applicable intergovernmental agreement or other exemption, if it enters into a valid agreement with the IRS to, among other requirements, report required information about certain direct and indirect ownership of foreign financial accounts held by U.S. persons with the FFI and (b) by an NFFE, if it: (i) certifies that it has no substantial U.S. persons as owners or (ii) if it does have such owners, reports information relating to them. A Portfolio may disclose the information that it receives from its shareholders to the IRS, non-U.S. taxing authorities or other parties as necessary to comply with FATCA. Withholding also may be required if a foreign entity that is a shareholder of a Portfolio fails to provide the Portfolio with appropriate certifications or other documentation concerning its status under FATCA.

**Additional Diversification Requirement.** In addition to the diversification requirements applicable to all regulated investment companies discussed above, the Tax Code imposes certain diversification standards on the underlying assets of variable life or variable annuity contracts held in the Portfolio. The Tax Code provides that a variable annuity contract shall not be treated as an annuity contract for any period (and any subsequent period) for which the investments are not, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Treasury Department, adequately diversified. Disqualification of the variable life or variable annuity contract as such would result in immediate imposition of federal income tax on variable life or variable annuity contract owners with respect to earnings allocable to the contract. This liability would generally arise prior to the receipt of payments under the contract.

Each Portfolio intends to comply, and continue to comply, with the diversification requirement imposed by Section 817(h) of the Tax Code and the regulations thereunder on insurance company segregated asset (i.e., separate) accounts. This requirement places certain limitations on the assets of each insurance company separate account, and, because Section 817(h) and those regulations treat the assets of each Portfolio as assets of the related separate account, of each Portfolio, that may be invested in securities of a single issuer. Specifically, the regulations require that, except as permitted by the “safe harbor” described below, as of the end of each calendar quarter or within thirty days thereafter no more than 55% of the total assets of the Portfolio may be represented by any one investment, no more than 70% by any two investments, no more than 80% by any three investments and no more than 90% by any four investments. For this purpose, all securities of the same issuer are considered a single investment, and each U.S. government agency or instrumentality is considered a separate issuer. Section 817(h) provides, as a safe harbor, that a separate account will be treated as being adequately diversified if the diversification requirements are satisfied and no more than 55% of the value of the account’s total assets are cash and cash items, U.S. Government Securities and securities of other registered investment companies. Failure of a Portfolio to satisfy the Section 817(h) requirements would result in taxation of the insurance company issuing the Contracts and treatment of the holders other than as described in the applicable Contract prospectus.

Treasury regulations provide that a variable annuity contract will be able to look through to the assets held by a Portfolio for the purpose of meeting the diversification test if the Portfolio meets certain requirements. Each Portfolio will be managed in such a manner as to comply with the diversification requirements and to allow the variable annuity contracts to be treated as owning a proportionate share of the Portfolio’s assets. It is possible that in order to comply with the diversification requirements, less desirable investment decisions may be made which would affect the investment performance of a Portfolio.

The above discussion of the federal income tax treatment of each Portfolio assumes that all the insurance company accounts holding shares of each Portfolio are either segregated asset accounts underlying variable contracts as defined in Section 817(d) of the Tax Code or the general account of an insurance company as defined in Section 816 of the Tax Code.

Additional tax consequences may apply to holders of variable contracts investing in a Portfolio if any of those contracts are not treated as annuity, endowment or life insurance contracts.

Under Treasury regulations, if a shareholder realizes a loss on a disposition of a Portfolio's shares of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder (such as an insurance company holding the separate accounts referenced in this SAI), the shareholder must file with the Internal Revenue Service a disclosure statement on Form 8886. Direct shareholders of Portfolio securities are in many cases excepted from this reporting requirement, but under current guidance, shareholders of a regulated investment company, such as the separate accounts that owns shares of the Portfolio, are not excepted. This filing requirement applies even though, as a practical matter, any such loss would not reduce the taxable income of the insurance company holding the separate accounts. Future guidance may extend the current exception from this reporting requirement to shareholders of most or all regulated investment companies.

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

### **INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The VIT Funds have selected Deloitte & Touche LLP, located at 695 Town Center Drive, Suite 1000, Costa Mesa, CA 92626, as its independent registered public accounting firm for the current fiscal year. The firm provides services including (1) audit of annual financial statements, and (2) assistance and consultation in connection with SEC filings.

### **LEGAL COUNSEL**

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

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements and report of the independent registered public accounting firm required to be included in the SAI are hereby incorporated by reference to the Annual Financial Statements for each Portfolio for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. You can obtain a copy of the [Annual Financial Statements](#) without charge by calling the VIT Funds at 1-877-779-7462.

## Appendix A

### DESCRIPTION OF BOND RATINGS

Standard & Poor's Ratings Group. A Standard & Poor's corporate bond rating is a current assessment of the credit worthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific obligation. This assessment of credit worthiness may take into consideration obligors, such as guarantors, insurers or lessees. The debt rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold a security, inasmuch as it does not comment as to market price or suitability for a particular investor.

The ratings are based on current information furnished to Standard & Poor's by the issuer or obtained by Standard & Poor's from other sources it considers reliable. Standard & Poor's does not perform any audit in connection with the ratings and may, on occasion, rely on unaudited financial information. The ratings may be changed, suspended or withdrawn as a result of changes in, unavailability of such information, or for other circumstances.

The ratings are based, in varying degrees, on the following considerations:

1. Likelihood of default-capacity and willingness of the obligor as to the timely payment of interest and repayment of principal in accordance with the terms of the obligation.
2. Nature of and provisions of the obligation.
3. Protection afforded by, and relative position of, the obligation in the event of bankruptcy, reorganization or their arrangement under the laws of bankruptcy and other laws affecting creditors' rights.

AAA - This is the highest rating assigned by Standard & Poor's to a debt obligation and indicates an extremely strong capacity to pay interest and repay any principal.

AA - Debt rated AA also qualifies as high quality debt obligations. Capacity to pay interest and repay principal is very strong and in the majority of instances they differ from AAA issues only in small degree.

A - Debt rated A has a strong capacity to pay interest and repay principal although it is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than debt in higher rated categories.

BBB - Debt rated BBB is regarded as having an adequate capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Whereas they normally exhibit protection parameters, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity to pay interest and repay principal for debt in this category than in higher rated categories.

BB, B, CCC, CC, C - Debt rated BB, B, CCC, CC and C is regarded, on a balance, as predominantly speculative with respect to capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of the obligation.

BB indicates the lowest degree of speculation and C the highest degree of speculation. While such debt will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these are outweighed by large uncertainties or major risk exposures to adverse conditions.

BB - Debt rated BB has less near-term vulnerability to default than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions which could lead to inadequate capacity to meet timely interest and principal payments. The BB rating category is also used for debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied BBB rating.

B - Debt rated B has greater vulnerability to default but currently has the capacity to meet interest payments and principal repayments. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair capacity or willingness to pay interest and repay principal. The B rating category is also used for debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied BB or BB- rating.

CCC - Debt rated CCC has a currently indefinable vulnerability to default, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial and economic conditions to meet timely payment of interest and repayment of principal. In the event of adverse business, financial or economic conditions, it is not likely to have the capacity to pay interest and repay principal. The CCC rating category is also used for debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied B or B- rating.

CC - The rating CC is typically applied to debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied CCC rating.

C - The rating C is typically applied to debt subordinated to senior debt which is assigned an actual or implied CCC- debt rating. The C rating may be used to cover a situation where a bankruptcy petition has been filed, but debt service payments are continued.

C1 - The rating C1 is reserved for income bonds on which no interest is being paid.

D - Debt rated D is in payment default. It is used when interest payments or principal payments are not made on a due date even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless Standard & Poor's believes that such payments will be made during such grace periods; it will also be used upon a filing of a bankruptcy petition if debt service payments are jeopardized. Plus (+) or Minus (-) - To provide more detailed indications of credit quality, the ratings from AA to CCC may be modified by the addition of a plus or minus sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.

NR - indicates that no public rating has been requested, that there is insufficient information on which to base a rating, or that Standard & Poor's does not rate a particular type of obligation as a matter of policy. Debt obligations of issuers outside the United States and its territories are rated on the same basis as domestic corporate issues. The ratings measure the credit worthiness of the obligor but do not take into account currency exchange and related uncertainties.

Bond Investment Quality Standards: Under present commercial bank regulations issued by the Comptroller of the Currency, bonds rated in the top four categories (AAA, AA, A, BBB, commonly known as "Investment Grade" ratings) are generally regarded as eligible for bank investment. In addition, the Legal Investment Laws of various states may impose certain rating or other standards for obligations eligible for investment by savings banks, trust companies, insurance companies and fiduciaries generally.

Moody's Investors Service, Inc. A brief description of the applicable Moody's rating symbols and their meanings follows:

Aaa - Bonds which are rated Aaa are judged to be of the best quality. They carry the smallest degree of investment risk and are generally referred to as "gilt edge". Interest payments are protected by a large or by an exceptionally stable margin and principal is secure. While the various protective elements are likely to change such changes as can be visualized are most unlikely to impair the fundamentally strong position of such issues.

Aa - Bonds which are rated Aa are judged to be of high quality by all standards. Together with the Aaa group they comprise what are generally known as high grade bonds. They are rated lower than the best bonds because margins of protection may not be as large as in Aaa securities or fluctuations of protective elements may be of greater amplitude or there may be other elements present which make the long-term risks appear somewhat larger than in Aaa securities.

A - Bonds which are rated A possess many favorable investment attributes and are to be considered as upper medium grade obligations. Factors giving security to principal and interest are considered adequate, but elements may be present which suggest a susceptibility to impairment sometime in the future.

Baa - Bonds which are rated Baa are considered as medium grade obligations, i.e., they are neither highly protected nor poorly secured. Interest payments and principal security appear adequate for the present but certain protective elements may be lacking or may be characteristically unreliable over any great length of time. Some bonds lack outstanding investment characteristics and in fact have speculative characteristics as well.

NOTE: Bonds within the above categories which possess the strongest investment attributes are designated by the symbol "1" following the rating.

Ba - Bonds which are rated Ba are judged to have speculative elements; their future cannot be considered as well assured. Often the protection of interest and principal payments may be very moderate and thereby not well safeguarded during good and bad times over the future. Uncertainty of position characterizes bonds in this class.

B - Bonds which are rated B generally lack characteristics of the desirable investment. Assurance of interest and principal payments or of maintenance of other terms of the contract over any long period of time may be small.

Caa - Bonds which are rated Caa are of poor standing. Such issues may be in default or there may be present elements of danger with respect to principal or interest.

Ca - Bonds which are rated Ca represent obligations which are speculative in a high degree. Such issues are often in default or have other marked shortcomings.

C - Bonds which are rated C are the lowest rated class of bonds and issue so rated can be regarded as having extremely poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing.

Duff & Phelps, Inc.: AAA-- highest credit quality, with negligible risk factors; AA -- high credit quality, with strong protection factors and modest risk, which may vary very slightly from time to time because of economic conditions; A-- average credit quality with adequate protection factors, but with greater and more variable risk factors in periods of economic stress. The indicators "+" and "-" to the AA and A categories indicate the relative position of a credit within those rating categories.

Fitch Investors Service LLP.: AAA -- highest credit quality, with an exceptionally strong ability to pay interest and repay principal; AA -- very high credit quality, with very strong ability to pay interest and repay principal; A -- high credit quality, considered strong as regards principal and interest protection, but may be more vulnerable to adverse changes in economic conditions and circumstances. The indicators "+" and "-" to the AA, A and BBB categories indicate the relative position of credit within those rating categories.

## DESCRIPTION OF NOTE RATINGS

A Standard & Poor's note rating reflects the liquidity concerns and market access risks unique to notes. Notes due in three years or less will likely receive a note rating. Notes maturing beyond three years will most likely receive a long-term debt rating. The following criteria will be used in making that assessment.

Amortization schedule (the larger the final maturity relative to other maturities the more likely it will be treated as a note).

Source of Payment (the more dependent the issue is on the market for its refinancing, the more likely it will be treated as a note. ) Note rating symbols are as follows:

- SP-1 Very strong or strong capacity to pay principal and interest. Those issues determined to possess overwhelming safety characteristics will be given a plus (+) designation.
- SP-2 Satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest.
- SP-3 Speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

Moody's Short-Term Loan Ratings - Moody's ratings for state and municipal short-term obligations will be designated Moody's Investment Grade (MIG). This distinction is in recognition of the differences between short-term credit risk and long-term risk. Factors affecting the liquidity of the borrower are uppermost in importance in short-term borrowing, while various factors of major importance in bond risk are of lesser importance over the short run.

Rating symbols and their meanings follow:

- MIG 1 - This designation denotes best quality. There is present strong protection by established cash flows, superior liquidity support or demonstrated broad-based access to the market for refinancing.
- MIG 2 - This designation denotes high quality. Margins of protection are ample although not so large as in the preceding group.
- MIG 3 - This designation denotes favorable quality. All security elements are accounted for but this is lacking the undeniable strength of the preceding grades. Liquidity and cash flow protection may be narrow and market access for refinancing is likely to be less well established.
- MIG 4 - This designation denotes adequate quality. Protection commonly regarded as required of an investment security is present and although not distinctly or predominantly speculative, there is specific risk.

## COMMERCIAL PAPER RATINGS

Moody's Investors Service, Inc.: Commercial paper rated "Prime" carries the smallest degree of investment risk. The modifiers 1, 2, and 3 are used to denote relative strength within this highest classification.

Standard & Poor's Ratings Group: "A" is the highest commercial paper rating category utilized by Standard & Poor's Ratings Group which uses the numbers 1+, 1, 2 and 3 to denote relative strength within its "A" classification.

Duff & Phelps Inc.: Duff 1 is the highest commercial paper rating category utilized by Duff & Phelps which uses + or - to denote relative strength within this classification. Duff 2 represents good certainty of timely payment, with minimal risk factors. Duff 3 represents satisfactory protection factors, with risk factors larger and subject to more variation.

Fitch Investors Service LLP.: F-1+ -- denotes exceptionally strong credit quality given to issues regarded as having strongest degree of assurance for timely payment; F-1 -- very strong, with only slightly less degree of assurance for timely payment than F-1+; F-2 -- good credit quality, carrying a satisfactory degree of assurance for timely payment.

## Appendix B

### PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

#### PROXY VOTING SUMMARY FOR

#### Donoghue Forlines., LLC

**Proxy Voting and Corporate Actions** Donoghue Forlines., LLC ("ADVISER"), as a matter of policy and as a fiduciary, has responsibility for voting proxies for portfolio securities consistent with the best economic interests of the Funds, Portfolios and clients. Our firm maintains written policies and procedures as to the handling, research, voting and reporting of proxy voting and makes appropriate disclosures about our firm's proxy policies and practices. Our policy and practice includes the responsibility to monitor corporate actions, receive and vote client proxies and disclose any potential conflicts of interest as well as making information available to clients about the voting of proxies for their portfolio securities and maintaining relevant and required records. Subject to our oversight, our firm has delegated authority to vote proxies for our clients to a third party service provider.

#### **Background**

Proxy voting is an important right of shareholders and reasonable care and diligence must be undertaken to ensure that such rights are properly and timely exercised.

Investment advisers registered with the SEC, and which exercise voting authority with respect to client securities, are required by Rule 206(4)-6 of the Advisers Act to (a) adopt and implement written policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure that client securities are voted in the best interests of clients, which must include how an adviser addresses material conflicts that may arise between an adviser's interests and those of its Funds, Portfolios and clients; (b) to disclose to Funds, Portfolios and clients how they may obtain information from the adviser with respect to the voting of proxies for their securities; (c) to describe to clients a summary of its proxy voting policies and procedures and, upon request, furnish a copy to its clients; and (d) maintain certain records relating to the adviser's proxy voting activities when the adviser does have proxy voting authority.

#### **Responsibility**

The Chief Compliance Officer has the responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of our proxy voting policy, practices, disclosures and record keeping, including outlining our voting guidelines in our procedures.