

# Helping to Safeguard Your Assets

You can feel confident with our firm and Fidelity Investments.



# Committed to Safeguarding Your Securities

As your financial professionals, we're committed to helping you reach your financial objectives. One important way we do this is by providing a high degree of safety for your assets. This is why the investments you entrust to our firm are placed in custody with Fidelity Investments (Fidelity), one of the world's largest providers of financial services.

## The strength and stability of a leader

Fidelity has more than 70 years of financial management experience and a reputation for integrity. Fidelity is one of the largest mutual fund companies in the United States and a leading provider of workplace retirement savings plans. We feel confident doing business with Fidelity to help serve your needs, regardless of market conditions.

## A long-term view

Because Fidelity is privately owned, it is able to make decisions based on long-term benefits — not short-term gains — for the clients it serves.

## Protecting your assets is our priority

Fidelity's financial stability, its compliance with industry regulations, and its insurance protection all serve to help safeguard your investments.

**Strong custodial relationship.** Fidelity protects customer assets held in custody through our relationship with National Financial Services LLC (NFS), a Fidelity Investments company.

NFS has been an industry-leading clearing firm in the United States for 35 years. NFS offers a comprehensive clearing platform, trading capabilities, and business process and operations consulting to broker-dealer firms, banks, and insurance companies.

**Adherence to industry regulations.** Like other registered broker-dealers, NFS is subject to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and other regulatory organizations. These organizations have established a number of financial responsibility rules and regulations that NFS must follow to help safeguard your assets, including keeping accurate records of your assets and maintaining net capital at required levels.<sup>1</sup>

In compliance with SEC rules, NFS has its financial information audited every year by an independent public accounting firm. Further, as a member of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and as a company registered with the SEC, NFS is subject to their regulatory oversight and examinations.

<sup>1</sup>Please refer to the National Financial Services LLC Statement of Financial Condition (audited) for the net capital calculation as of December 31, 2018.



**Insurance protection for your investments.** You should be aware that your brokerage account, which is maintained with Fidelity, is afforded protection by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC).

Securities in accounts carried by NFS are protected in accordance with SIPC up to \$500,000. For claims filed on or after July 22, 2010, the \$500,000 total amount of SIPC protection is inclusive of up to \$250,000 in protection for claims for cash, subject to periodic adjustments for inflation in accordance with terms of the SIPC statute and approval by SIPC's Board of Directors. NFS has also arranged for coverage above these limits. Neither coverage protects against a decline in the market value of securities, nor does either coverage extend to certain securities that are considered ineligible for coverage. For more details about SIPC or to request a SIPC brochure, visit [www.sipc.org](http://www.sipc.org) or call 202.371.8300.

### **“Excess of SIPC” coverage**

In addition to SIPC protection, NFS provides brokerage accounts with additional “excess of SIPC” coverage.

The excess of SIPC coverage would be used only when SIPC coverage is exhausted. Like SIPC protection, excess of SIPC protection does not cover investment losses in customer accounts due to market fluctuation. It also does not cover other claims for losses incurred while broker-dealers remain in business. Total aggregate excess of SIPC coverage

*With Fidelity, we believe that we are working with a provider that maintains the highest level of integrity in offering brokerage and custody services, and protection for your assets.*

available through NFS's excess of SIPC policy is \$1 billion. Within NFS's excess of SIPC coverage, there is no per-customer dollar limit on coverage of securities, but there is a per-customer limit of \$1.9 million on coverage of cash awaiting investment. This is the maximum excess of SIPC protection currently available in the brokerage industry.

### **Working together for you**

Our selection of Fidelity as our custodian brings you the strength, stability, and protection you need to help you meet your goals. Our firm, working together with Fidelity's advanced brokerage platform and comprehensive asset protection, provides a solid foundation to help us safeguard your securities and help you achieve your financial objectives.

The Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) is an independent company, unaffiliated with Fidelity Investments. A full description of SIPC and its coverage is available at [www.sipc.org](http://www.sipc.org).

Keep in mind that investing involves risk. The value of your investment will fluctuate over time, and you may gain or lose money.

For more information about protecting your assets,  
please contact your financial professional.



FIDELITY CLEARING & CUSTODY SOLUTIONS®  
200 SEAPORT BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MA 02210

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