# Convexity Investments LLC Firm Brochure - Form ADV Part 2A

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Convexity Investments LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (630) 363-2191 or by email at: info@convexityinvest.com. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about Convexity Investments LLC is also available on the SEC's website at <u>www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</u>. Convexity Investments LLC's CRD number is: 315257.

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Registration as an investment adviser does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

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## Item 2: Material Changes

Convexity Investments LLC has not yet filed an annual updating amendment using the Form ADV Part 2A. Therefore there are no material changes to report.

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## Item 4: Advisory Business

#### A. Description of the Advisory Firm

Convexity Investments LLC (hereinafter "CIL") is a Limited Liability Company organized in the State of Illinois. The firm was formed in December 2020, and the principal owner is Nathaniel Tanney.

## **B.** Types of Advisory Services

#### **Portfolio Management Services**

CIL offers ongoing portfolio management services based on the individual goals, objectives, time horizon, and risk tolerance of each client. CIL creates an Investment Policy Statement for each client, which outlines the client's current situation (income, tax levels, and risk tolerance levels). Portfolio management services include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Investment strategy
  Personal investment policy
  - Asset selection
- Asset allocationRisk tolerance
- Regular portfolio monitoring

CIL evaluates the current investments of each client with respect to their risk tolerance levels and time horizon. CIL will require discretionary authority from clients in order to select securities and execute transactions without permission from the client prior to each transaction. Risk tolerance levels are documented in the Investment Policy Statement, which is given to each client.

CIL seeks to provide that investment decisions are made in accordance with the fiduciary duties owed to its accounts and without consideration of CIL's economic, investment or other financial interests. To meet its fiduciary obligations, CIL attempts to avoid, among other things, investment or trading practices that systematically advantage or disadvantage certain client portfolios, and accordingly, CIL's policy is to seek fair and equitable allocation of investment opportunities/transactions among its clients to avoid favoring one client over another over time. It is CIL's policy to allocate investment opportunities and transactions it identifies as being appropriate and prudent among its clients on a fair and equitable basis over time.

## Services Limited to Specific Types of Investments

CIL generally limits its investment advice to equities and ETFs. CIL may use other securities as well to help diversify a portfolio when applicable.

## C. Client Tailored Services and Client Imposed Restrictions

CIL offers the same suite of services to all of its clients. However, specific client investment strategies and their implementation are dependent upon the client Investment Policy Statement which outlines each client's current situation (income, tax levels, and risk tolerance levels). Clients may impose restrictions in investing in certain securities or types of securities in accordance with their values or beliefs. However, if the restrictions prevent CIL from properly servicing the client account, or if the restrictions would require CIL to deviate from its standard suite of services, CIL reserves the right to end the relationship.

## **D. Wrap Fee Programs**

A wrap fee program is an investment program where the investor pays one stated fee that includes management fees, transaction costs, fund expenses, and other administrative fees. CIL does not participate in any wrap fee programs.

#### E. Assets Under Management

CIL has the following assets under management:

<b>Discretionary Amounts:</b>	Non-discretionary Amounts:	Date Calculated:
\$0	\$0	June 2021

## **Item 5: Fees and Compensation**

#### A. Fee Schedule

**Portfolio Management Fees** 

Total Assets Under Management	Annual Fees
\$0 - \$1,000,000	0.75%
\$1,000,001 - AND UP	0.60%

CIL uses an average of the daily balance in the client's account throughout the billing period, after taking into account deposits and withdrawals, for purposes of determining the market value of the assets upon which the advisory fee is based.

The final fee schedule will be memorialized in the client's advisory agreement. Clients may terminate the agreement without penalty for a full refund of CIL's fees within five business days of signing the Investment Advisory Contract. Thereafter, clients may terminate the Investment Advisory Contract immediately upon written notice.

## **B.** Payment of Fees

## Payment of Portfolio Management Fees

Asset-based portfolio management fees are withdrawn directly from the client's accounts with client's written authorization on a quarterly basis. Fees are paid in arrears.

## C. Client Responsibility For Third Party Fees

Clients are responsible for the payment of all third party fees (i.e. custodian fees, brokerage fees, mutual fund fees, transaction fees, etc.). Those fees are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by CIL. Please see Item 12 of this brochure regarding broker-dealer/custodian.

## **D.** Prepayment of Fees

CIL collects its fees in arrears. It does not collect fees in advance.

## E. Outside Compensation For the Sale of Securities to Clients

Neither CIL nor its supervised persons accept any compensation for the sale of investment products, including asset-based sales charges or service fees from the sale of mutual funds.

## Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management

CIL does not accept performance-based fees or other fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a client.

## **Item 7: Types of Clients**

CIL generally provides advisory services to the following types of clients:

- Individuals
- High-Net-Worth Individuals

There is no account minimum for any of CIL's services.

## Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies, & Risk of Loss

#### A. Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies

#### Methods of Analysis

CIL's methods of analysis include Cyclical analysis and Quantitative analysis.

**Cyclical analysis** involves the analysis of business cycles to find favorable conditions for buying and/or selling a security.

**Quantitative analysis** deals with measurable factors as distinguished from qualitative considerations such as the character of management or the state of employee morale, such as the value of assets, the cost of capital, historical projections of sales, and so on.

#### Investment Strategies

CIL uses long term trading and short term trading.

Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.

## **B.** Material Risks Involved

## Methods of Analysis

**Cyclical analysis** assumes that the markets react in cyclical patterns which, once identified, can be leveraged to provide performance. The risks with this strategy are two-fold: 1) the markets do not always repeat cyclical patterns; and 2) if too many investors begin to implement this strategy, then it changes the very cycles these investors are trying to exploit.

**Quantitative analysis** Investment strategies using quantitative models may perform differently than expected as a result of, among other things, the factors used in the models, the weight placed on each factor, changes from the factors' historical trends, and technical issues in the construction and implementation of the models.

## **Investment Strategies**

**Long term trading** is designed to capture market rates of both return and risk. Due to its nature, the long-term investment strategy can expose clients to various types of risk that will typically surface at various intervals during the time the client owns the investments.

These risks include but are not limited to inflation (purchasing power) risk, interest rate risk, economic risk, market risk, and political/regulatory risk.

**Short term trading** risks include liquidity, economic stability, and inflation, in addition to the long term trading risks listed above. Frequent trading can affect investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes.

Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.

#### C. Risks of Specific Securities Utilized

Clients should be aware that there is a material risk of loss using any investment strategy. The investment types listed below are not guaranteed or insured by the FDIC or any other government agency.

**Equity** investment generally refers to buying shares of stocks in return for receiving a future payment of dividends and/or capital gains if the value of the stock increases. The value of equity securities may fluctuate in response to specific situations for each company, industry conditions and the general economic environments.

**Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs):** An ETF is an investment fund traded on stock exchanges, similar to stocks. Investing in ETFs carries the risk of capital loss (sometimes up to a 100% loss in the case of a stock holding bankruptcy). Areas of concern include the lack of transparency in products and increasing complexity, conflicts of interest and the possibility of inadequate regulatory compliance. Risks in investing in ETFs include trading risks, liquidity and shutdown risks, risks associated with a change in authorized participants and non-participation of authorized participants, risks that trading price differs from indicative net asset value (iNAV), or price fluctuation and disassociation from the index being tracked. With regard to trading risks, regular trading adds cost to your portfolio thus counteracting the low fees that one of the typical benefits of ETFs. Additionally, regular trading to beneficially "time the market" is difficult to achieve. Even paid fund managers struggle to do this every year, with the majority failing to beat the relevant indexes. With regard to liquidity and shutdown risks, not all ETFs have the same level of liquidity. Since ETFs are at least as liquid as their underlying assets, trading conditions are more accurately reflected in implied liquidity rather than the average daily volume of the ETF itself. Implied liquidity is a measure of what can potentially be traded in ETFs based on its underlying assets. ETFs are subject to market volatility and the risks of their underlying securities, which may include the risks associated with investing in smaller companies, foreign securities, commodities, and fixed income investments (as applicable). Foreign securities in particular are subject to interest rate, currency exchange rate, economic, and political risks, all of which are magnified in emerging markets. ETFs that target a small universe of securities, such as a specific region or market sector, are generally subject to greater market volatility, as well as to the specific risks associated with that sector, region, or other focus. ETFs that use derivatives, leverage, or complex investment strategies are subject to additional risks. The return of an index ETF is usually different from that of the index it tracks because of fees, expenses, and tracking error. An ETF may trade at a premium or discount to its net asset value (NAV) (or indicative value in the case of exchange-traded notes). The degree of liquidity can vary significantly from one ETF to another and losses may be magnified if no liquid market exists for the ETF's shares when attempting to sell them. Each ETF has a unique risk profile, detailed in its prospectus, offering circular, or similar material, which should be considered carefully when making investment decisions.

Past performance is not indicative of future results. Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.

## **Item 9: Disciplinary Information**

A. Criminal or Civil Actions

There are no criminal or civil actions to report.

**B.** Administrative Proceedings

There are no administrative proceedings to report.

C. Self-regulatory Organization (SRO) Proceedings

There are no self-regulatory organization proceedings to report.

## Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

A. Registration as a Broker/Dealer or Broker/Dealer Representative

Neither CIL nor its representatives are registered as, or have pending applications to become, a broker/dealer or a representative of a broker/dealer.

## **B.** Registration as a Futures Commission Merchant, Commodity Pool Operator, or a Commodity Trading Advisor

Neither CIL nor its representatives are registered as or have pending applications to become either a Futures Commission Merchant, Commodity Pool Operator, or Commodity Trading Advisor or an associated person of the foregoing entities.

## C. Registration Relationships Material to this Advisory Business and Possible Conflicts of Interests

Nathaniel Tanney is a commodities trader for a proprietary trading firm. Nathaniel Tanney receives no commissions from this job.

## D. Selection of Other Advisers or Managers and How This Adviser is Compensated for Those Selections

CIL does not utilize nor select third-party investment advisers.

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

## A. Code of Ethics

CIL has a written Code of Ethics that covers the following areas: Prohibited Purchases and Sales, Insider Trading, Personal Securities Transactions, Exempted Transactions, Prohibited Activities, Conflicts of Interest, Gifts and Entertainment, Confidentiality, Service on a Board of Directors, Compliance Procedures, Compliance with Laws and Regulations, Procedures and Reporting, Certification of Compliance, Reporting Violations, Compliance Officer Duties, Training and Education, Recordkeeping, Annual Review, and Sanctions. CIL's Code of Ethics is available free upon request to any client or prospective client.

## **B.** Recommendations Involving Material Financial Interests

CIL does not recommend that clients buy or sell any security in which a related person to CIL or CIL has a material financial interest.

## C. Investing Personal Money in the Same Securities as Clients

From time to time, representatives of CIL may buy or sell securities for themselves that they also recommend to clients. This may provide an opportunity for representatives of CIL to buy or sell the same securities before or after recommending the same securities to clients resulting in representatives profiting off the recommendations they provide to clients. Such transactions may create a conflict of interest. CIL will always document any transactions that could be construed as conflicts of interest and will never engage in trading that operates to the client's disadvantage when similar securities are being bought or sold.

## D. Trading Securities At/Around the Same Time as Clients' Securities

From time to time, representatives of CIL may buy or sell securities for themselves at or around the same time as clients. This may provide an opportunity for representatives of CIL to buy or sell securities before or after recommending securities to clients resulting in representatives profiting off the recommendations they provide to clients. Such transactions may create a conflict of interest; however, CIL will never engage in trading that operates to the client's disadvantage if representatives of CIL buy or sell securities at or around the same time as clients.

## **Item 12: Brokerage Practices**

#### A. Factors Used to Select Custodians and/or Broker/Dealers

Custodians/broker-dealers will be recommended based on CIL's duty to seek "best execution," which is the obligation to seek execution of securities transactions for a client on the most favorable terms for the client under the circumstances. Clients will not necessarily pay the lowest commission or commission equivalent, and CIL may also consider the market expertise and research access provided by the brokerdealer/custodian, including but not limited to access to written research, oral communication with analysts, admittance to research conferences and other resources provided by the brokers that may aid in CIL's research efforts. CIL will never charge a premium or commission on transactions, beyond the actual cost imposed by the brokerdealer/custodian.

CIL will require clients to use Schwab Institutional, a division of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc..

#### 1. Research and Other Soft-Dollar Benefits

While CIL has no formal soft dollars program in which soft dollars are used to pay for third party services, CIL may receive research, products, or other services from custodians and broker-dealers in connection with client securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits"). CIL may enter into soft-dollar arrangements consistent with (and not outside of) the safe harbor contained in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. There can be no assurance that any particular client will benefit from soft dollar research, whether or not the client's transactions paid for it, and CIL does not seek to allocate benefits to client accounts proportionate to any soft dollar credits generated by the accounts. CIL benefits by not having to produce or pay for the research, products or services, and CIL will have an incentive to recommend a broker-dealer based on receiving research or services. Clients should be aware that CIL's acceptance of soft dollar benefits may result in higher commissions charged to the client.

## 2. Brokerage for Client Referrals

CIL receives no referrals from a broker-dealer or third party in exchange for using that broker-dealer or third party.

## 3. Clients Directing Which Broker/Dealer/Custodian to Use

CIL will require clients to use a specific broker-dealer to execute transactions. Not all advisers require clients to use a particular broker-dealer.

## B. Aggregating (Block) Trading for Multiple Client Accounts

If CIL buys or sells the same securities on behalf of more than one client, it might, but would be under no obligation to, aggregate or bunch, to the extent permitted by applicable law and regulations, the securities to be purchased or sold for multiple clients in order to seek more favorable prices, lower brokerage commissions or more efficient execution. In such case, CIL would place an aggregate order with the broker on behalf of all such clients in order to ensure fairness for all clients; provided, however, that trades would be reviewed periodically to ensure that accounts are not systematically disadvantaged by this policy. CIL would determine the appropriate number of shares to place with brokers and will select the appropriate brokers consistent with CIL's duty to seek best execution, except for those accounts with specific brokerage direction (if any).

## Item 13: Review of Accounts

## A. Frequency and Nature of Periodic Reviews and Who Makes Those Reviews

All client accounts for CIL's advisory services provided on an ongoing basis are reviewed at least Monthly by Nathaniel Tanney, Managing Member & Chief Compliance Officer, with regard to clients' respective investment policies and risk tolerance levels. All accounts at CIL are assigned to this reviewer.

## B. Factors That Will Trigger a Non-Periodic Review of Client Accounts

Reviews may be triggered by material market, economic or political events, or by changes in client's financial situations (such as retirement, termination of employment, physical move, or inheritance).

C. Content and Frequency of Regular Reports Provided to Clients

Each client of CIL's advisory services provided on an ongoing basis will receive a monthly report detailing the client's account, including assets held, asset value, and calculation of fees. This written report will come from the custodian. CIL will also provide at least quarterly a separate written statement to the client.

## Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation

A. Economic Benefits Provided by Third Parties for Advice Rendered to Clients (Includes Sales Awards or Other Prizes)

CIL does not receive any economic benefit, directly or indirectly from any third party for advice rendered to CIL's clients.

With respect to Schwab, CIL receives access to Schwab's institutional trading and custody services, which are typically not available to Schwab retail investors. These services generally are available to independent investment advisers on an unsolicited basis, at no charge to them so long as a total of at least \$10 million of the adviser's clients' assets are maintained in accounts at Schwab Advisor Services. Schwab's services include brokerage services that are related to the execution of securities transactions, custody, research, including that in the form of advice, analyses and reports, and access to mutual funds and other investments that are otherwise generally available only to institutional investors or would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment. For CIL client accounts maintained in its custody, Schwab generally does not charge separately for custody services but is compensated by account holders through commissions or other transaction-related or asset-based fees for securities trades that are executed through Schwab or that settle into Schwab accounts.

Schwab also makes available to CIL other products and services that benefit CIL but may not benefit its clients' accounts. These benefits may include national, regional or CIL specific educational events organized and/or sponsored by Schwab Advisor Services. Other potential benefits may include occasional business entertainment of personnel of CIL by Schwab Advisor Services personnel, including meals, invitations to sporting events, including golf tournaments, and other forms of entertainment, some of which may accompany educational opportunities. Other of these products and services assist CIL in managing and administering clients' accounts. These include software and other technology (and related technological training) that provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements), facilitate trade execution (and allocation of aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts, if applicable), provide research, pricing information and other market data, facilitate payment of CIL's fees from its clients' accounts (if applicable), and assist with back-office training and support functions, recordkeeping and client reporting. Many of these services generally may be used to service all or some substantial number of CIL's accounts. Schwab Advisor Services also makes available to CIL other services intended to help CIL manage and further develop its business enterprise. These services may include professional compliance, legal and business consulting, publications and conferences on practice management,

information technology, business succession, regulatory compliance, employee benefits providers, human capital consultants, insurance and marketing. In addition, Schwab may make available, arrange and/or pay vendors for these types of services rendered to CIL by independent third parties. Schwab Advisor Services may discount or waive fees it would otherwise charge for some of these services or pay all or a part of the fees of a third-party providing these services to CIL. CIL is independently owned and operated and not affiliated with Schwab.

## **B.** Compensation to Non – Advisory Personnel for Client Referrals

CIL does not directly or indirectly compensate any person who is not advisory personnel for client referrals.

## Item 15: Custody

When advisory fees are deducted directly from client accounts at client's custodian, CIL will be deemed to have limited custody of client's assets and must have written authorization from the client to do so. Clients will receive all account statements and billing invoices that are required in each jurisdiction, and they should carefully review those statements for accuracy.

## **Item 16: Investment Discretion**

CIL provides discretionary investment advisory services to clients. The advisory contract established with each client sets forth the discretionary authority for trading. Where investment discretion has been granted, CIL generally manages the client's account and makes investment decisions without consultation with the client as to when the securities are to be bought or sold for the account, the total amount of the securities to be bought/sold, what securities to buy or sell, or the price per share.

## Item 17: Voting Client Securities (Proxy Voting)

CIL will not ask for, nor accept voting authority for client securities. Clients will receive proxies directly from the issuer of the security or the custodian. Clients should direct all proxy questions to the issuer of the security.

## **Item 18: Financial Information**

## A. Balance Sheet

CIL neither requires nor solicits prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per client, six months or more in advance, and therefore is not required to include a balance sheet with this brochure.

## **B.** Financial Conditions Reasonably Likely to Impair Ability to Meet Contractual Commitments to Clients

Neither CIL nor its management has any financial condition that is likely to reasonably impair CIL's ability to meet contractual commitments to clients.

C. Bankruptcy Petitions in Previous Ten Years

CIL has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition in the last ten years.

## Item 19: Requirements For State Registered Advisers

## A. Principal Executive Officers and Management Persons; Their Formal Education and Business Background

CIL currently has only one management person: Nathaniel Michael Tanney. Education and business background can be found on the individual's Form ADV Part 2B brochure supplement.

## B. Other Businesses in Which This Advisory Firm or its Personnel are Engaged and Time Spent on Those (If Any)

Other business activities for each relevant individual can be found on the Form ADV Part 2B brochure supplement for each such individual.

## C. Calculation of Performance-Based Fees and Degree of Risk to Clients

CIL does not accept performance-based fees or other fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a client.

## D. Material Disciplinary Disclosures for Management Persons of this Firm

There are no civil, self-regulatory organization, or arbitration proceedings to report under this section.

## E. Material Relationships That Management Persons Have With Issuers of Securities (If Any)

See Item 10.C and 11.B.