

AssetGrade, LLC Brochure Supplement

March 24, 2020

SUSAN L. POWERS



This Brochure Supplement provides information about Susan L. Powers that supplements the Disclosure Brochure of AssetGrade, LLC (hereinafter "AssetGrade"), a copy of which you should have received. Please contact AssetGrade's Chief Compliance Officer if you did not receive the Disclosure Brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure Supplement. Additional information about Susan L. Powers is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

AssetGrade, LLC, a Registered Investment Adviser
One Boston Place, Suite 2600, Boston, MA 02108 | (617) 933-7257
www.assetgrade.com

Item 2. Educational Background and Business Experience

Born 1961

Post-Secondary Education

West Texas A&M University | Master of Science, Finance & Economics | 1996
West Texas State University | B.B.A., Accounting | 1984

Recent Business Background

AssetGrade, LLC | Partner and Chief Compliance Officer | August 2015 – Present
Fidelity Investments | Senior Vice President | March 1998 – August 2015

Professional Designations:

Susan L. Powers holds the professional designations of CFP® - Certified Financial Planner, Chartered Financial Analyst (“CFA”) and Certified Public Accountant (“CPA”).

CFP® - Certified Financial Planner

The CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, CFP® and federally registered CFP (with flame design) marks (collectively, the “CFP® marks”) are professional certification marks granted in the United States by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. (“CFP Board”).

The CFP® certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP® certification. It is recognized in the United States and a number of other countries for its (1) high standard of professional education; (2) stringent code of conduct and standards of practice; and (3) ethical requirements that govern professional engagements with clients.

To attain the right to use the CFP® marks, an individual must satisfactorily fulfill the following requirements:

Education: Complete an advanced college-level course of study addressing the financial planning subject areas that CFP Board’s studies have determined as necessary for the competent and professional delivery of financial planning services, and attain a Bachelor’s Degree from a regionally accredited United States college or university (or its equivalent from a foreign university). CFP Board’s financial planning subject areas include insurance planning and risk management, employee benefits planning, investment planning, income tax planning, retirement planning, and estate planning.

Examination: Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination includes case studies and client scenarios designed to test one's ability to correctly diagnose financial planning issues and apply one's knowledge of financial planning to real world circumstances.

Experience: Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent, measured as 2,000 hours per year); and

Ethics: Agree to be bound by CFP Board's *Standard of Professional Conduct*, a set of documents outlining the ethical and practice standards for CFP® professionals.

Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to continue to use the CFP® marks:

- i. Continuing Education – complete 30 hours of continuing education hours every two years, including two hours on the *Code of Ethics* and other parts of the *Standards of Professional Conduct*, to maintain competence and keep up with the developments in the financial planning field; and
- ii. Ethics – renew an agreement to be bound by the *Standards of Professional Conduct*. The Standards prominently require that CFP® professionals provide financial planning services at a fiduciary standard of care. This means CFP® professionals must provide financial planning services in the best interests of their clients.

CFP® professionals who fail to comply with the above standards and requirements may be subject to CFP Board's enforcement process, which could result in suspension or permanent revocation of their CFP® certification.

CFA – Chartered Financial Analyst

The Chartered Financial Analyst charter is a globally respected, graduate-level investment credential established in 1962 and awarded by CFA Institute – the largest association of investment professionals.

There are currently more than 90,000 CFA charter holders working in 134 countries. To earn the CFA charter, candidates must: 1) pass three sequential, six-hour examinations; 2) have at least four years of qualified professional investment experience; 3) join CFA Institute as members; and 4) commit to abide by, and annually reaffirm, their adherence to the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.

High Ethical Standards: The CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct, enforced through an active professional conduct program, require CFA charter holders to:

- Place their clients' interests ahead of their own;
- Maintain independence and objectivity;

- Act with integrity;
- Maintain and improve their professional competence; and
- Disclose conflicts of interest and legal matters

Global Recognition: Passing the three CFA exams is a difficult feat that requires extensive study (successful candidates report spending an average of 300 hours of study per level). Earning the CFA charter demonstrates mastery of many of the advanced skills needed for investment analysis and decision making in today's quickly evolving global financial industry. As a result, employers and clients are increasingly seeking CFA charter holders – often making the charter a prerequisite for employment.

Additionally, regulatory bodies in 22 countries and territories recognize the CFA charter as a proxy for meeting certain licensing requirements, and more than 125 colleges and universities around the world have incorporated a majority of the CFA Program curriculum into their finance courses.

Comprehensive and Current Knowledge: The CFA Program curriculum provides a comprehensive framework of knowledge for investment decision making and is firmly grounded in the knowledge and skills used every day in the investment profession. The three levels of the CFA Program test a proficiency with a wide range of fundamental and advanced investment topics, including ethical and professional standards, fixed-income and equity analysis, alternative and derivative investments, economics, financial reporting standards, portfolio management, and wealth planning.

The CFA Program curriculum is updated every year by experts from around the world to ensure that candidates learn the most relevant and practical new tools, ideas, and investment and wealth management skills to reflect the dynamic and complex nature of the profession. To learn more about the CFA charter, visit www.cfainstitute.org.

CPA - Certified Public Accountant

CPAs are licensed and regulated by their state boards of accountancy. While state laws and regulations vary, the education, experience and testing requirements for licensure as a CPA generally include minimum college education (typically 150 credit hours with at least a baccalaureate degree and a concentration in accounting), minimum experience levels (most states require at least one year of experience providing services that involve the use of accounting, attest, compilation, management advisory, financial advisory, tax or consulting skills, all of which must be achieved under the supervision of or verification by a CPA), and successful passage of the Uniform CPA Examination.

In order to maintain a CPA license, states generally require the completion of 40 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) each year (or 80 hours over a two-year period or 120 hours over a three-year period). Additionally, all American Institute of Certified Public

Accountants (AICPA) members are required to follow a rigorous Code of Professional Conduct which requires that they act with integrity, objectivity, due care, competence, fully disclose any conflicts of interest (and obtain client consent if a conflict exists), maintain client confidentiality, disclose to the client any commission or referral fees, and serve the public interest when providing financial services.

In addition to the Code of Professional Conduct, AICPA members who provide personal financial planning services are required to follow the Statement on Standards in Personal Financial Services (SSPFPS). For additional information about this credential, please refer directly to the website of the issuing organization.

Item 3. Disciplinary Information

AssetGrade is required to disclose information regarding any legal or disciplinary events material to a client's evaluation of Susan L. Powers. AssetGrade has no information to disclose in relation to this item.

Item 4. Other Business Activities

AssetGrade is required to disclose information regarding any investment-related business or occupation in which Susan L. Powers is actively engaged. AssetGrade has no information to disclose in relation to this item.

Item 5. Additional Compensation

AssetGrade is required to disclose information regarding any arrangement under which Susan L. Powers receives an economic benefit from someone other than a client for providing investment advisory services. AssetGrade has no information to disclose in relation to this item.

Item 6. Supervision

Susan L. Powers is the Chief Compliance Officer and Partner of AssetGrade and is generally responsible for her own supervision. Susan L. Powers seeks to ensure that investments are suitable for her individual clients and consistent with their individual needs, goals, objectives, and risk tolerance, as well as any restrictions required by AssetGrade's clients.

Item 7. Requirements for State Registered Advisers

AssetGrade is required to disclose information regarding Susan L. Powers involvement in certain civil, self-regulatory organization or administrative proceedings, arbitration awards or findings, or bankruptcy proceedings. AssetGrade has no information to disclose in relation to this item.