# **Quarterly Considerations December 31, 2018**



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## QUARTERLY CONSIDERATIONS

#### **GENERAL**

Stop the Black – We want to keep you informed during periods of heightened market volatility, but our emails may end up in your Spam folder. Please be sure to add mail@dimeoschneider.com to your safe list to receive our market updates, timely research and flash alerts.

A New Year – We've issued three new publications to help you prosper this year: DiMeo Schneider Annual Firm Update, 2019 Market Outlook and 2019 Financial Planning Considerations. All are available on our website or ask us for your copy.

E-Reports & Fiduciary Lockbox - If you're looking for a paperless way to securely store and share materials, let us know. We can upload reports to your Fiduciary Lockbox, which can be accessed through our website.

#### PLAN SPONSORS

**Breaking Records** – Employers are contributing an average of 5.1% of pay to 401(k)s, the highest level ever recorded in PSCA's annual survey. Combined with an average participant savings rate of 7.1% in the survey, total savings rates are now more than 12%.

#### **NONPROFITS**

DSA at Your Service - We're allowing paid time off for Associates to serve DiMeo Schneider's nonprofit clients. Let us know how we can lend a helping hand to support your organization's charitable efforts.

#### The Wealth Office™

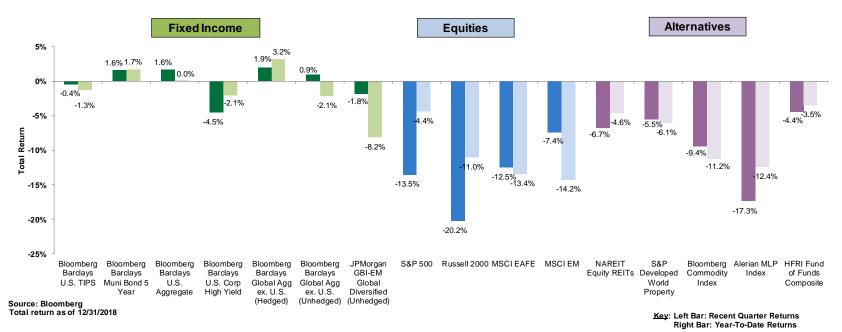
Let Us Be Your Guide – The 2019 Financial Planning Guide is now available! Download your copy today from our website for helpful tips regarding tax planning, retirement planning, college planning and many other holistic financial planning topics.

Tidy Your Estate – Are you taking on the January purge? Consider reviewing your estate plan, especially if you experienced major life changes since the estate plan was last updated. Good initial steps include reviewing the beneficiaries of your 401(k)s, IRAs, and life insurance policies. The Wealth Office™ can help you review the components of your estate plan and suggest worthwhile updates.

We Are Here - Do you receive questions about investing or financial planning from family, friends, colleagues or your network? Please feel free to direct any connections to The Wealth Office for an initial consultation.



## MARKET SNAPSHOT



#### Fixed Income

- The yield curve inverted for the first time since the financial crisis driven by rising short-term rates controlled by the Fed and falling long-term rates influenced by bearish investors.
- Fixed income posted mixed results in the fourth quarter as equity volatility rose.
- Non-investment grade bonds lagged as concerns around credit quality and the drop in oil prices impacted most high yield issuers.

#### **Equities**

- Equity markets globally were under pressure as trade negotiations continued to stay in focus and fresh concerns that economic growth may slow amidst tighter monetary and fiscal policy.
- To the surprise of many investors, emerging markets held up better in the risk-off environment during the fourth quarter. A weaker U.S. dollar in December, lower valuations, and company specific news contributed to outperformance.

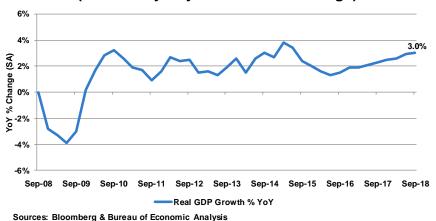
#### Real Assets

- Commodity indexes were influenced heavily by the drop in oil prices. The market was surprised by the additional supply resulting from the lifting of sanctions on Iran.
- MLPs retreated in the fourth quarter amidst souring energyrelated investor sentiment and a number of corporate actions taking place in the space.
- Real estate faired the best among real assets, but was not immune to the risk-off move in markets over the fourth quarter.



## U.S. ECONOMIC UPDATE

# U.S. Real GDP Growth (Seasonally Adjusted - YoY % Change)



Unemployment Rate Consumer Confidence

31-Dec 3.9% % Chg MoM 0.2% 31-Dec % Chg MoM 128.1 -6.1%

Leading Indicators

30-Nov
111.8

Consumer Spending
30-Nov
30-Nov
\$14.2T

Consumer Spending
% Chg MoM
\$14.2T

0.4%

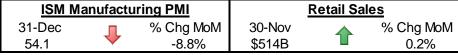
Housing Starts

30-Nov
1.26M

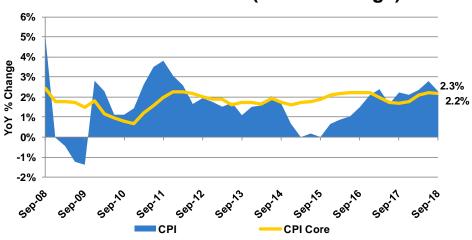
\*\*O Chg MoM 30-Nov
31.26M

\*\*O Chg MoM 30-Nov
\$17.8T

\*\*O Chg MoM 0.2%



#### **U.S. Inflation (YoY % Change)**



Sources: Bloomberg & The Bureau of Labor

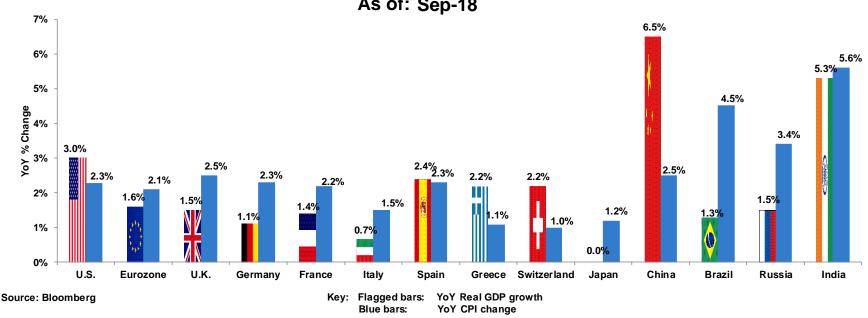
- Third quarter real GDP came in at an annual rate of 3.4% according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, a
  decrease from the rate of 4.2% during the second quarter. Aside from last quarter, this was the
  strongest quarter-over-quarter growth since the third quarter of 2014.
- The Federal Open Market Committee ("Fed") voted to increase its benchmark rate by 25 bps to a range of 2.25 – 2.50% during its December meeting. This was the fourth interest rate hike in 2018; the Fed reduced its forecast for 2019 rate increases to two from three.
- Core CPI rose 2.2% (YoY, seasonally-adjusted) in November while Core PCE, the Fed's preferred measure of inflation, increased 1.9% (YoY, seasonally-adjusted), falling short of the Fed's 2% target.

Source: Bloomberg



# GLOBAL ECONOMIC UPDATE

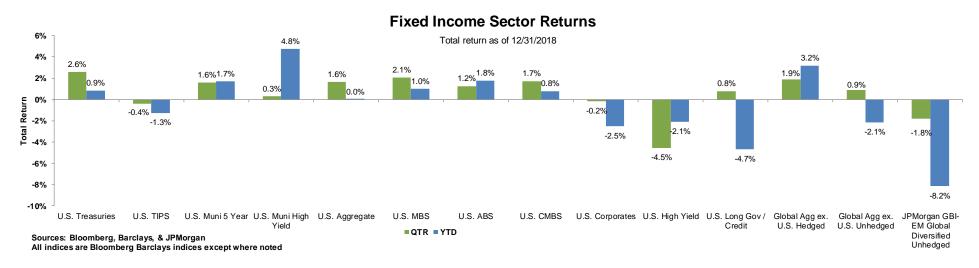


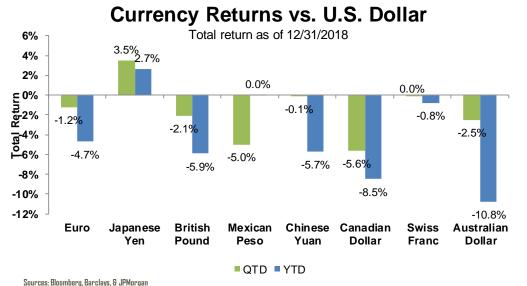


- China's official Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) declined in December to 49.4. This level is indicative of contraction and is the lowest level since February 2016. The unofficial Caixin/Markit PMI, a private survey focused more on small- and medium-sized businesses, also declined to 49.7 in December from 50.2 in November. The World Bank reduced its forecast for 2019 global GDP growth to 2.9% and cited increased trade tensions as a factor that could further negatively impact the economic outlook.
- Germany, the largest Eurozone economy, is at risk of falling into recession as real GDP declined 0.2% in the third quarter. German industrial production declined 1.9% month-over-month in November, its third consecutive monthly decline, increasing the chances of another quarterly decline in real GDP in the fourth quarter.
- Further compounding fears of an economic slowdown in the Eurozone, French real GDP growth in the third quarter fell short of expectations and only increased 0.3% quarter-over-quarter.



# **GLOBAL FIXED INCOME**



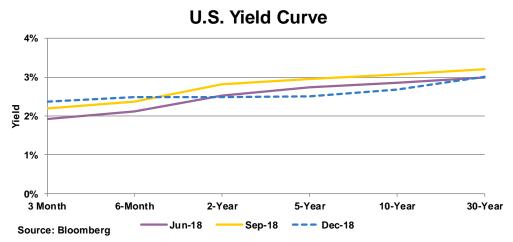


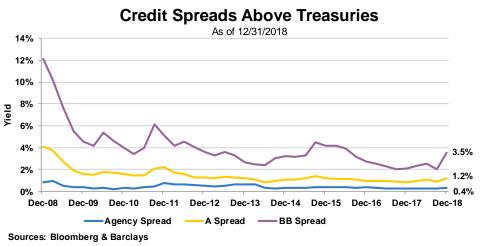
- Interest rates continued to exhibit heightened levels of volatility. Treasuries rallied as the 10-year fell nearly 40 bps to finish the quarter at 2.68%.
- Riskier parts of the fixed income universe such as emerging markets bonds and the U.S. high yield fell. Given the route in equity markets, investors placed an emphasis on upgrading the quality of their portfolio.
- The U.S. dollar continued to appreciate relative to most global currencies. As a result, hedged strategies within non-U.S. fixed income outperformed unhedged and emerging strategies.

Please reference the disclosures at the end of this presentation for additional information related to the material presented.

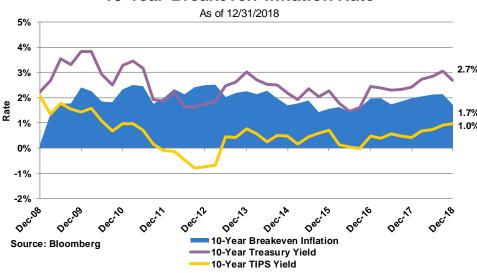
All indices are Bloomberg Barclays indices except where noted

# **U.S. FIXED INCOME**





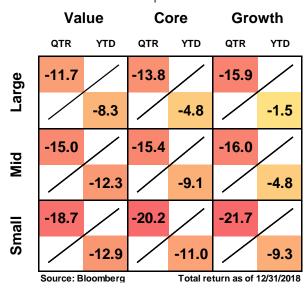
#### 10-Year Breakeven Inflation Rate



- Despite political rhetoric from the White House, the Federal Reserve increased its target rate again by 25 bps to 2.25-2.50% following the Fed's December meeting.
- Recession signals flashed during the quarter as the yield curve inverted between the 2and 5-year Treasuries. Following the intermediate term inversion, a sell off in risk assets resulted in spread widening within high yield.
- Breakeven inflation fell to 1.7% as TIPS vastly underperformed Treasuries for the quarter.

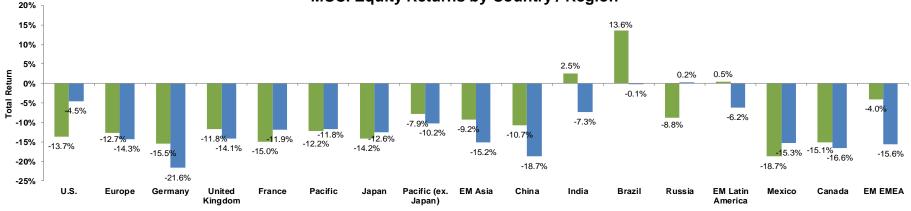
## **GLOBAL EQUITY MARKETS**

U.S. Equities:



- Within U.S. equities, value stocks held up better than growth and large capitalization stocks better than small cap during the volatile fourth quarter. Energy was the worst performing sector as oil prices slid. Utilities outperformed as investors rotated into less cyclical sectors.
- Similar to domestic equities, international equities fell. Developed markets fared worse than emerging as political developments in Brazil and positive returns in India boosted index returns in the quarter.
- The risk-off mentality was seen across all international developed markets. Similar to domestic markets, utilities outperformed while energy, technology and industrials lagged. Investors will be keeping an eye toward Brexit developments and upcoming election cycles among a number of other European countries.

#### **MSCI Equity Returns by Country / Region**



■QTR ■YTD Please reference the disclosures at the end of this presentation for additional information related to the material presented.

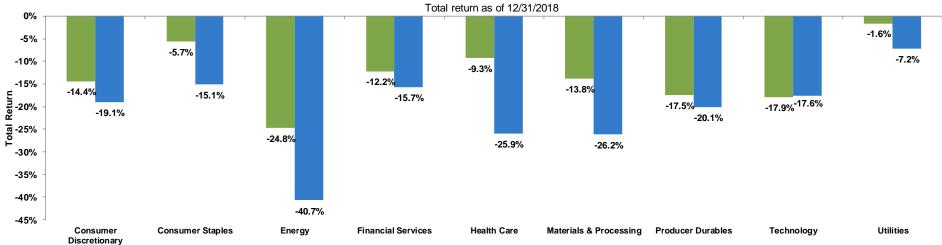


Sources: Bloomberg & MSCI

Total return as of 12/31/2018

# QUARTERLY EQUITY SECTOR RETURNS

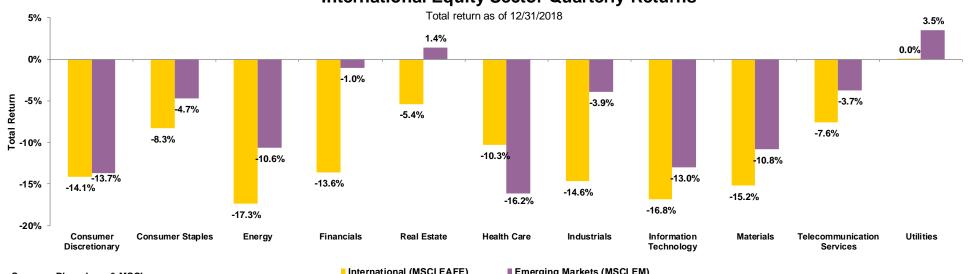
#### **Domestic Equity Sector Quarterly Returns**



Sources: Bloomberg & Russell

■ Domestic Large Cap (Russell 1000) ■ Domestic Small Cap (Russell 2000)

#### **International Equity Sector Quarterly Returns**



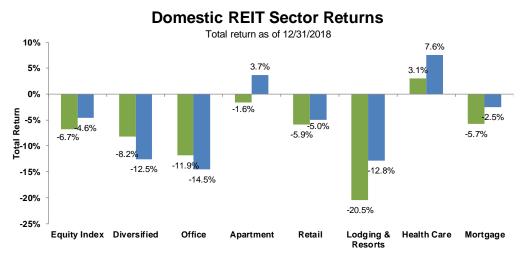
Sources: Bloomberg & MSCI

International (MSCI EAFE)

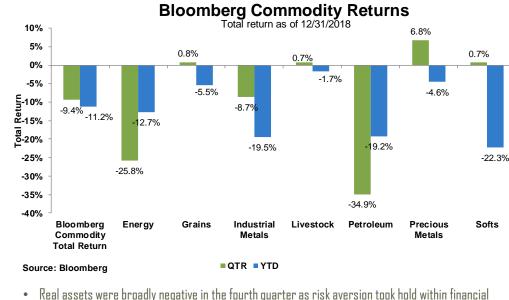
■ Emerging Markets (MSCI EM)

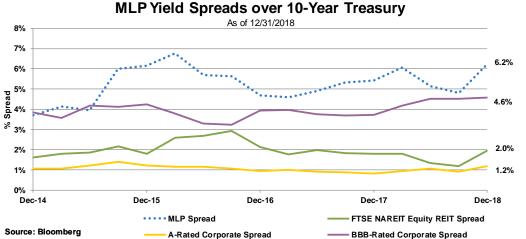


#### **REAL ASSETS**



■QTR ■YTD





A-Rated Corporate Spread

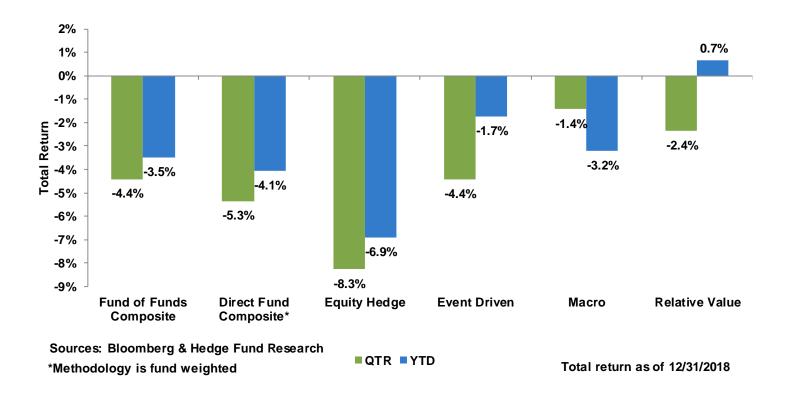
- markets. REITs outperformed other assets classes as multifamily REITs and healthcare REITs proved resilient. Hospitality underperformed as the sector is generally more sensitive to economic and equity market sentiment.
- Energy fell sharply during the quarter, stemming from a decline in crude prices. Additional supply resulting from sanctions being lifted on Iran surprised the market. Natural gas, which was flat for the quarter, helped offset a portion of the decline. The same is true of precious metals which were higher in the fourth quarter.
- MLPs declined as a combination of tax loss harvesting, corporate transactions and risk aversion negatively affected the asset class. Despite the equity market reaction, pipeline volumes, cash flow growth and balance sheets continue to strengthen in the space.

Please reference the disclosures at the end of this presentation for additional information related to the material presented



Sources: Bloomberg & NAREIT

## **HEDGE FUNDS**



- The HFRI Fund Weighted Composite Index was down during the fourth quarter, but protected capital better than the S&P 500, MSCI EAFE, and most risk assets.
- As expected, Equity Hedge strategies underperformed the broader hedge fund universe, with losses concentrated in the energy and materials-oriented strategies.
- Event Driven strategies modestly outperformed the broader hedge fund universe, with activist managers trailing the broader group while Multi-Strategy funds within Event Driven fared well.
- Macro strategies were the strongest performer during the fourth quarter amongst the broader hedge fund universe as systematic strategies exhibited strong downside protection.
- Relative Value also outperformed the broader hedge fund universe, led by relative-value multi-strategy managers and volatility trading strategies.



#### **Financial Markets Performance**

Source: Bloomberg

Total return as of December 31, 2018

Periods greater than one year are annualized All returns are in U.S. dollar terms

Global Fixed Income Markets	<u>QTR</u>	YTD	<u>1YR</u>	3YR	<u>5YR</u>	<u>7YR</u>	<u>10YR</u>	<u>15YR</u>
Bloomberg Barclays 1-3-Month T-Bill	0.6%	1.8%	1.8%	1.0%	0.6%	0.4%	0.3%	1.3%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. TIPS	-0.4%	-1.3%	-1.3%	2.1%	1.7%	0.9%	3.6%	3.8%
Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Bond (5 Year)	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	1.5%	2.0%	2.0%	3.1%	3.3%
Bloomberg Barclays High Yield Municipal Bond	0.3%	4.8%	4.8%	5.8%	6.5%	6.3%	9.1%	6.1%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%	2.1%	2.5%	2.1%	3.5%	3.9%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield	-4.5%	-2.1%	-2.1%	7.2%	3.8%	6.0%	11.1%	7.0%
Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-U.S. Hedged	1.9%	3.2%	3.2%	3.5%	4.1%	4.0%	4.0%	4.2%
Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-U.S. Unhedged	0.9%	-2.1%	-2.1%	3.1%	0.0%	0.1%	1.7%	2.9%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Long Gov / Credit	0.8%	-4.7%	-4.7%	4.0%	5.4%	3.7%	5.9%	6.0%
JPMorgan GBI-EM Global Diversified	-1.8%	-8.2%	-7.7%	5.2%	-1.7%	-0.1%	2.7%	6.0%
Global Equity Markets	<u>QTR</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>1YR</u>	3YR	<u>5YR</u>	<u>7YR</u>	<u>10YR</u>	<u>15YR</u>
S&P 500	-13.5%	-4.4%	-4.4%	9.2%	8.5%	12.7%	13.1%	7.8%
Dow Jones Industrial Average	-11.3%	-3.5%	-3.5%	12.9%	9.7%	12.4%	13.2%	8.2%
NASDAQ Composite	-17.3%	-2.8%	-2.8%	11.2%	11.1%	15.8%	16.9%	9.6%
Russell 3000	-14.3%	-5.2%	-5.2%	9.0%	7.9%	12.4%	13.2%	7.9%
Russell 1000	-13.8%	-4.8%	-4.8%	9.1%	8.2%	12.6%	13.3%	7.9%
Russell 1000 Growth	-15.9%	-1.5%	-1.5%	11.1%	10.4%	14.1%	15.3%	8.7%
Russell 1000 Value	-11.7%	-8.3%	-8.3%	6.9%	5.9%	11.0%	11.2%	7.0%
Russell Mid Cap	-15.4%	-9.1%	-9.1%	7.0%	6.2%	11.5%	14.0%	8.8%
Russell Mid Cap Growth	-16.0%	-4.8%	-4.8%	8.6%	7.4%	12.3%	15.1%	8.9%
Russell Mid Cap Value	-15.0%	-12.3%	-12.3%	6.0%	5.4%	10.9%	13.0%	8.6%
Russell 2000	-20.2%	-11.0%	-11.0%	7.3%	4.4%	10.4%	12.0%	7.5%
Russell 2000 Growth	-21.7%	-9.3%	-9.3%	7.2%	5.1%	11.2%	13.5%	7.9%
Russell 2000 Value	-18.7%	-12.9%	-12.9%	7.4%	3.6%	9.6%	10.4%	6.9%
MSCIACWI	-12.7%	-8.9%	-8.9%	7.2%	4.8%	9.0%	10.0%	6.7%
MSCI ACWI ex. U.S.	-11.4%	-13.8%	-13.8%	5.0%	1.1%	5.3%	7.1%	5.7%
MSCIEAFE	-12.5%	-13.4%	-13.4%	3.4%	1.0%	6.2%	6.8%	5.2%
MSCI EAFE Growth	-13.3%	-12.5%	-12.5%	3.3%	2.0%	6.9%	7.5%	5.5%
MSCI EAFE Value	-11.6%	-14.3%	-14.3%	3.4%	-0.1%	5.6%	6.1%	4.8%
MSCI EAFE Small Cap	-16.0%	-17.6%	-17.6%	4.1%	3.4%	9.2%	10.9%	7.7%
MSCI Emerging Markets	-7.4%	-14.2%	-14.2%	9.7%	2.0%	3.6%	8.4%	8.3%
Alternatives	<u>QTR</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>1YR</u>	<u>3YR</u>	<u>5YR</u>	<u>7YR</u>	<u>10YR</u>	<u>15YR</u>
Consumer Price Index*	0.4%	2.0%	2.0%	2.1%	1.5%	1.5%	1.8%	2.1%
FTSE NAREIT Equity REITs	-6.7%	-4.6%	-4.6%	2.9%	7.9%	8.5%	12.1%	8.2%
S&P Developed World Property x U.S.	-4.8%	-8.1%	-8.1%	4.9%	3.6%	8.6%	9.9%	7.4%
S&P Developed World Property	-5.5%	-6.1%	-6.1%	3.9%	5.4%	8.6%	10.9%	7.6%
Bloomberg Commodity Total Return	-9.4%	-11.2%	-11.2%	0.3%	-8.8%	-7.8%	-3.8%	-2.5%
HFRI Fund of Funds Composite	-4.4%	-3.5%	-3.5%	1.5%	1.5%	3.0%	3.2%	2.8%
HFRI Fund Weighted Composite	-5.3%	-4.1%	-4.1%	3.2%	2.3%	3.8%	5.0%	4.5%
Alerian MLP	-17.3%	-12.4%	-12.4%	-1.1%	-7.3%	-1.3%	9.6%	7.0%

\*One month lag



# WHY DIVERSIFY?

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	10yr Annualized
Emerging	MLP	MLP	Emerging	Small Growth	REITs	Large Growth	Small Value	Emerging	Cash	Large Growth
79.0%	35.9%	13.9%	18.6%	43.3%	30.1%	5.7%	31.7%	37.8%	1.9%	15.3%
MLP	Small Growth	TIPS	REITs	Small Blend	Large Blend	REITs	Small Blend	Large Growth	Aggregate Bond	Small Growth
76.4%	29.1%	13.6%	18.1%	38.8%	13.7%	3.2%	21.3%	30.2%	0.0%	13.5%
High Yield	REITs	REITs	Small Value	Small Value	Large Value	Large Blend	MLP	International	TIPS	Large Blend
58.2%	27.9%	8.3%	18.1%	34.5%	13.5%	1.4%	18.3%	25.6%	-1.3%	13.1%
Large Growth	Small Blend	Aggregate Bond	International	Large Growth	Large Growth	Aggregate Bond	Large Value	Small Growth	Large Growth	REITs
37.2%	26.9%	7.8%	17.9%	33.5%	13.1%	0.5%	17.3%	22.2%	-1.5%	12.1%
Small Growth	Small Value	High Yield	Large Value	Large Value	Aggregate Bond	Cash	High Yield	Large Blend	High Yield	Small Blend
34.5%	24.5%	5.0%	17.5%	32.5%	6.0%	0.0%	17.1%	21.8%	-2.1%	12.0%
International	Emerging	Foreign Bond	Emerging Debt	Large Blend	Small Growth	Hedge Funds	Large Blend	Emerging Debt	Foreign Bond	Large Value
32.5%	19.2%	4.4%	16.8%	32.4%	5.6%	-0.3%	12.0%	15.2%	-2.1%	11.2%
REITs	Commodities	Large Growth	Small Blend	MLP	Small Blend	International	Commodities	Small Blend	Hedge Funds	High Yield
28.0%	16.8%	2.6%	16.3%	27.6%	4.9%	-0.4%	11.7%	14.6%	-3.5%	11.1%
Small Blend	Large Growth	Large Blend	Large Blend	International	MLP	Small Growth	Emerging	Large Value	Large Blend	Small Value
27.2%	16.7%	2.1%	16.0%	23.3%	4.8%	-1.4%	11.6%	13.7%	-4.4%	10.4%
Balanced	Emerging Debt	Balanced	High Yield	Hedge Funds	Small Value	TIPS	Small Growth	Balanced	REITs	MLP
26.8%	15.7%	1.0%	15.8%	9.0%	4.2%	-1.4%	11.3%	12.6%	-4.6%	9.6%
Large Blend	Large Value	Large Value	Large Growth	High Yield	TIPS	Large Value	Emerging Debt	Foreign Bond	Balanced	Emerging
26.5%	15.5%	0.4%	15.3%	7.4%	3.6%	-3.8%	9.9%	10.5%	-5.2%	8.4%
Emerging Debt	High Yield	Cash	Small Growth	Balanced	Hedge Funds	Small Blend	REITs	Small Value	Emerging Debt	Balanced
22.0%	15.1%	0.1%	14.6%	7.1%	3.4%	-4.4%	8.5%	7.8%	-6.2%	6.8%
Small Value	Large Blend	Emerging Debt	Balanced	REITs	Balanced	High Yield	Balanced	Hedge Funds	Large Value	International
20.6%	15.1%	-1.8%	10.7%	2.5%	3.3%	-4.5%	8.3%	7.8%	-8.3%	6.8%
Large Value	Balanced	Small Growth	TIPS	Cash	High Yield	Foreign Bond	Large Growth	High Yield	Small Growth	TIPS
19.7%	13.9%	-2.9%	7.0%	0.1%	2.5%	-6.0%	7.1%	7.5%	-9.3%	3.6%
Commodities	International	Small Blend	MLP	Aggregate Bond	Cash	Balanced	TIPS	REITs	Small Blend	Aggregate Bond
18.9%	8.2%	-4.2%	4.8%	-2.0%	0.0%	-6.1%	4.7%	5.2%	-11.0%	3.5%
Hedge Funds	Aggregate Bond	Small Value	Hedge Funds	Emerging	Emerging	Small Value	Aggregate Bond	Aggregate Bond	Commodities	Emerging Debt
11.5%	6.5%	-5.5%	4.8%	-2.3%	-1.8%	-7.5%	2.6%	3.5%	-11.2%	3.5%
TIPS	TIPS	Hedge Funds	Aggregate Bond	Foreign Bond	Foreign Bond	Emerging	International	TIPS	MLP	Hedge Funds
11.4%	6.3%	-5.7%	4.2%	-3.1%	-3.1%	-14.6%	1.5%	3.0%	-12.4%	3.2%
Foreign Bond	Hedge Funds	International	Foreign Bond	TIPS	International	Emerging Debt	Foreign Bond	Commodities	Small Value	Foreign Bond
7.5%	5.7%	-11.7%	4.1%	-8.6%	-4.5%	-14.9%	1.5%	1.7%	-12.9%	1.7%
Aggregate Bond	Foreign Bond	Commodities	Cash	Emerging Debt	Emerging Debt	Commodities	Hedge Funds	Cash	International	Cash
5.9%	4.9%	-13.3%	0.1%	-9.0%	-5.7%	-24.7%	0.5%	0.8%	-13.4%	0.4%
Cash	Cash	Emerging	Commodities	Commodities	Commodities	MLP	Cash	MLP	Emerging	Commodities
0.2%	0.1%	-18.2%	-1.1%	-9.5%	-17.0%	-32.6%	0.3%	-6.5%	-14.2%	-3.8%

Total returns as of 12/31/2018 Source: Morningstar and Lipper



## DISCLOSURES

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When referencing asset class returns or statistics, the following indices are used to represent those asset classes. Each index is unmanaged and investors can not actually invest directly into an index: Cash - Citigroup 9D Day T-Bill; TIPS - Bloomberg Barclays US Treasury TIPS; Municipals - Bloomberg Barclays Muni Bond 5-Year; High Yield Municipals - Bloomberg Barclays High Yield Muni Bond; Aggregate Bond - Bloomberg Barclays US Corporate High Yield; Foreign Bond - Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Ex USD; Emerging Debt - JPMorgan GBI-EM Global Diversified Unhedged Index; Large Value - Russell 1000 Value; Large Blend - S&P 500; Large Growth - Russell 1000 Growth; Small Value - Russell 2000 Value; Small Blend - Russell 2000; Small Growth - Russell 2000 Growth; International - MSCI EAFE; Emerging Markets - MSCI EM; Domestic REITs - FTSE NAREIT Equity REITs; Global REITS - S&P Developed World Property; Commodities - Bloomberg Commodity Index; MLP - Alerian MLP; Hedge Funds - HFRI Fund of Funds Composite Index; Balanced^ - 3% Bloomberg Barclays US Treasury TIPS, 31% Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Ex USD, 1.5% Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Ex USD, 4% Bloomberg Barclays US Corporate High Yield, 2% JPMorgan GBI-EM Global Diversified Unhedged Index, 17% S&P 500, 6% Russell 2000, 15% MSCI EAFE, 7% MSCI EM, 3% FTSE NAREIT Equity REITs, 2% Bloomberg Commodity Index, 5% Alerian MLP, 2% Citigroup 3 Month T-Bill

<sup>^</sup>Represents current allocation of the DSA Balanced DPA Model Portfolio and historically tracks allocation changes to that Model. Returns are hypothetical and do not represent the actual returns earned by clients invested in the DSA Balanced DPA Model Portfolio. Please contact us for additional information on the historical allocation of this Model.

