

Part 2B of Form ADV: Individual Disclosure Brochure

for

Michael A. Benefield Investment Advisor Representative

> 1298 West Main Street Greenwood, IN 46142 (317) 887-0040

> > January 14, 2021

This brochure supplement provides information about Michael A. Benefield that supplements the Trustmont Advisory Group, Inc. brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Michael A. Benefield, Investment Advisor Representative, if you did not receive the Trustmont Advisory Group, Inc. brochure or if you have any questions about this supplement.

Additional information about Michael A. Benefield is available on the SEC's website <u>www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</u>.

Trustmont Advisory Group, Inc 200 Brush Run Road Suite A Greensburg, PA 15601 (724) 468-5665 www.trustmontgroup.com

### Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience

Year of Birth: 1973

Formal Education After High School:

Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law; Juris Doctor (JD) 2000 – 2004

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology; Bachelor of Science; Chemical Engineering 1991 - 1995

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

Trustmont Advisory Group, Inc.,; Investment Advisor Representative 10/2019 - Present

Trustmont Financial Group, Inc.,; Registered Representative 10/2019 – Present

Buss & Benefield, PLLC d/b/a Benefield Law; Member; Lawyer 01/2016 - Present

VOYA Financial Advisors, Inc.; Registered Representative/Investment Advisor Representative 07/2017 – 09/2019

Albritton Law Firm; Lawyer 05/2012 – 12/2015

#### Item 3 Disciplinary Information

Your Investment Advisor Representative does not have any reportable disciplinary events.

#### Item 4 Other Business Activities

Your Investment Advisor Representative ("Advisor"), who provides investment advice for a fee, may also engage in the following activities:

Your Advisor is a registered representative of Trustmont Financial Group, Inc. ("TFG"), which is a registered broker-dealer. As a broker-dealer, TFG offers a variety of securities products to clients, including, but not limited to, mutual funds, variable annuities, Section 529 college savings plans, stocks and bonds, unit investment trusts, REITs, and alternative investments. Your Advisor may also be a licensed insurance agent of various insurance companies and may offer insurance products such as fixed annuities and life insurance. TFG promotes the use of an open architecture platform, which means that your Advisor has access to a broad spectrum of securities and insurance products from multiple products providers.

Your Advisor, when acting as a registered representative or insurance agent, may sell investments and insurance products and receive commissions, which may vary by product type and/or issuer. Your Advisor, when acting as a registered representative or insurance agent, may also receive other forms of compensation such as 12b-1 mutual fund fees, marketing support and education/training programs, all of which may be built into the costs of the product.

This differential compensation may present a potential conflict of interest because your Advisor may have a greater incentive to recommend investment or insurance products based on compensation received rather than on the client's needs. To address potential conflict, TFG conducts reviews of securities and investment transactions, in accordance with regulatory requirements of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, to try and identify the suitability of each investment. TFG's goal is to provide superior products and services regardless of the potential compensation differential that exists in the pricing of financial products and services.

Depending on which product you purchase, you may receive additional materials which disclose important information, such as prospectuses, applications, and disclosure brochures. You are under no obligation to purchase investment or insurance products from your Advisor.

Michael A. Benefield is involved in the following other business activities:

Benefield Financial Advisors, LLC d/b/a Benefield Financial. This entity is used as a DBA for insurance and securities business.

Buss & Benefield, PLLC d/b/a Benefield Law, Law Practice

# Item 5 Additional Compensation

Your Investment Advisor Representative does not receive any Additional Compensation.

## Item 6 Supervision

Trustmont Advisory Group, Inc. has created policies and procedures reasonably designed to prevent violation of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and the rules that the Security and Exchange Commission have adopted under the Act. Trustmont Advisory Group, Inc. does not oversee the direct investment advice that your Investment Advisor gives to a client or potential client. Client or potential clients should rely exclusively on the expertise and knowledge of the Investment Advisor for all advice and recommendations. Trustmont Advisory Group, Inc. does have guidelines on the advice that your Investment Advisor provides. These guidelines include but are not limited to: Your Investment Advisor Representative must provide advice that is in the client's best interest and must not place their interests ahead of the client's interest under any circumstances. Your Investment Advisor must follow specific fiduciary obligations when dealing with clients, obligations such as but not limited to: the duty to have a reasonable, independent basis for the investment advice provided, the duty to ensure that investment advice is suitable to meeting the client's individual objectives, needs and circumstances and a duty to be loval to clients. Engaging in any fraudulent or deceitful conduct with clients or potential client is strictly prohibited. Examples of fraudulent conduct include but are not limited to: misrepresentation, nondisclosure of fees and/or misappropriation of client funds.

Your Investment Advisor is supervised by MaryLynne Hixenbaugh, Chief Compliance Officer, of Trustmont Advisory Group, Inc. Contact information is on the cover page of this supplement.