AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL INC Form DEF 14A March 15, 2019

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# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

## **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.

)

Filed by the Registrant ý

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o

Check the appropriate box:

- o Preliminary Proxy Statement
- o Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- ý Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

#### Ameriprise Financial, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- ý No fee required.
- o Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
  - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
  - (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
  - (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4)

Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

	(5)	Total fee paid:			
o	Fee p	aid previously with preliminary materials.			
o	Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.				
	(1)	Amount Previously Paid:			
	(2)	Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:			
	(3)	Filing Party:			
	(4)	Date Filed:			

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March 15, 2019

Dear Fellow Shareholders:

You are cordially invited to join us for our 2019 annual meeting of Shareholders, which will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. Central time at the Ameriprise Financial Center at 707 Second Avenue South in Minneapolis, Minnesota 55474. Holders of record of our common stock as of the close of business on February 28, 2019 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

The Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders and the proxy statement that follow describe the business to be conducted at the meeting. We also will report on matters of current interest to our shareholders.

We hope you will be able to attend the meeting. Even if you plan to attend in person, please submit a proxy promptly to ensure that your shares are represented at the meeting. You may submit your proxy by telephone or by Internet as described in the following materials. If you request that proxy materials be mailed to you and you don't submit your proxy by telephone or by Internet, you must complete and sign the proxy card enclosed with those materials and return it in the envelope provided. If you decide to change or revoke your proxy, you may do so by voting in person at the meeting or by submitting a timely later-dated proxy or a written revocation to our corporate secretary.

To be admitted to the annual meeting as a shareholder, you must bring an admission ticket, as explained on page 82 of the proxy statement.

We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting and discussing the business of your Company with you.

Very truly yours,

JAMES M. CRACCHIOLO Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Please join us for our Annual Meeting of Shareholders April 24, 2019

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Ameriprise Financial, Inc. 707 Second Avenue South Minneapolis, Minnesota 55474

## Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders

Wednesday

April 24, 2019

11:00 a.m. Central time

To elect the eight director nominees named in the proxy statement

To approve the compensation of the named executive officers by a

nonbinding advisory vote

Ameriprise Financial Center

Market Garden Skyway Level

707 Second Avenue South

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55474

To ratify the Audit Committee's selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2019

To transact such other business that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment of the meeting

You can vote if you are a

shareholder of record as of

the close of business on

February 28, 2019.

THOMAS R. MOORE

Vice President, Corporate Secretary and Chief Governance Officer

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## Corporate Governance Highlights

Our Board and its Nominating and Governance Committee remain focused on corporate governance issues of interest to our shareholders

	Declassified board all directors are elected annually		
	All of our directors are independent, except for our present chairman		
	Two of our eight incumbent directors are women		
	Since 2014, four new directors have joined our board		
	Majority voting in uncontested elections, with a mandatory resignation required for any director who receives the votes cast	d less than a major	ity of
	Adopted proxy access in 2018		
	No supermajority voting rights		
	Independent directors regularly meet without management		
	Expanded proxy statement disclosure of the Audit Committee's oversight of our independent auditor		
	Statement of principles governing corporate political spending and annual report of corporate political spend	ing available online	e
	Directors, officers, and employees prohibited from hedging against a decline in the value of our stock in any	way	
Sumn	nary of Voting Matters and Board Recommendations		
	To elect the eight director nominees named in the proxy statement	For	28
	To approve the compensation of the named executive officers by a nonbinding advisory vote	For	33
	Only independent directors serve on the Compensation and Benefits Committee		

The committee has retained the firm of Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc. as its independent compensation consultant and confirms FW Cook's independence from management and reviews its performance annually

To ratify the Audit Committee's selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2019

For

Only independent directors serve on the Audit Committee

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PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC has served continuously as the Company's external auditor since fiscal year 2011

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## Our Director Nominees

James M. Cracchiolo	60	2005	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Ameriprise Financial, Inc.				c	
Dianne Neal Blixt	59	2014	Former Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Reynolds American Inc.		M	M		
Amy DiGeso	66	2014	Former Executive Vice President, Global Human Resources The Esteé Lauder Companies Inc.			M		M
Lon R. Greenberg	68	2011	Chairman Emeritus and Former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer UGI Corporation		M	M		
Jeffrey Noddle	72	2005	Former Chairman SUPERVALU INC.			c	M	M
Robert F. Sharpe, Jr.	67	2005	Former President of Commercial Foods and Chief Administrative Officer ConAgra Foods, Inc.			M	M	C
W. Edward Walter III	63	2018	Global Chief Executive Officer and Director, Urban Land Institute		M			M
Christopher J. Williams	61	2016	Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Founder The Williams Capital Group, L.P.		С		М	
C = Chairman M = Member								
				2				

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## **Proxy Statement**

#### **General Information**

We are providing these proxy materials to you in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. for the 2019 annual meeting of shareholders and for any adjournment or postponement of the meeting. In this proxy statement, we may also refer to Ameriprise Financial, Inc. as "Ameriprise Financial," "Ameriprise," "the Company," "we," "our" or "us."

We are holding the 2019 annual meeting at 11:00 a.m. Central time, on Wednesday, April 24, 2019, at the Company's Minneapolis headquarters and invite you to attend in person. An admission ticket is required for the annual meeting. Please see additional information about how to attend the meeting on page 82. If you need special assistance at the meeting because of a disability, you may contact Thomas R. Moore, our Vice President, Corporate Secretary and Chief Governance Officer, by telephone at (612) 678-0106, by email at *thomas.r.moore@ampf.com* or by writing to him at 1098 Ameriprise Financial Center, Minneapolis, MN 55474. We have arranged for a live audio webcast of the 2019 annual meeting to be accessible to the general public on the Internet at *ir.ameriprise.com*.

We provide our shareholders with the choice of accessing the 2019 annual meeting proxy materials over the Internet, rather than receiving printed copies of those materials through the mail. In connection with this process, a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials is being mailed to our shareholders who have not previously requested electronic access to our proxy materials or paper proxy materials. The notice contains instructions on how you may access and review our proxy materials on the Internet and how you may submit a proxy for your shares over the Internet. The notice will also tell you how to request our proxy materials in printed form or by email, at no charge. The notice contains a 12-digit control number that you will need to submit a proxy for your shares. Please keep the notice for your reference through the meeting date.

We anticipate that the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials will be mailed to shareholders beginning on or about March 15, 2019.

## **Voting Information**

#### **Record Date**

You may vote all shares that you owned as of February 28, 2019, which is the record date for the annual meeting. On February 28, 2019, we had 135,402,721 common shares outstanding at the close of business. Each common share is entitled to one vote on each matter properly brought before the meeting.

## **Ownership of Shares**

You may own common shares in one of the following ways:

directly in your name as the shareholder of record, which includes restricted stock awards issued to employees under our long-term incentive plans;

indirectly through a broker, bank, trustee, or other holder of record in "street name"; or

indirectly in the Ameriprise Financial, Inc. Stock Fund of our 401(k) Plan.

If your shares are registered directly in your name, you are the holder of record of these shares and we are sending a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials directly to you. As the holder of record, you have the right to submit your proxy, by telephone, by the Internet or by mail (if you request to receive your proxy materials by mail), or to vote in person at the meeting. If you hold your shares in street name, your broker, bank, trustee, or other holder of record is sending a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy

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Materials to you. As a holder in street name, you have the right to direct your broker, bank or other holder of record how to vote by submitting voting instructions in the manner directed by your bank, broker, trustee, or other holder of record.

Regardless of how you hold your shares, we invite you to attend the annual meeting. To attend the meeting, you must have been a shareholder at the close of business on the record date of February 28, 2019, and you will need to bring an admission ticket. If you are a shareholder who plans to send a proxy or qualified representative to represent you at the annual meeting, it is also important to note that under our amended and restated By-Laws, the following provisions apply: (i) no later than five business days prior to the annual meeting, a shareholder who has proposed business or made a nomination in accordance with the amended and restated By-Laws for consideration at the annual meeting must provide the full name(s) and current residential address of any person(s) authorized to act as a qualified representative for such shareholder in order for such qualified representative to gain admission to the annual meeting to present the proposed business or nomination on such shareholder's behalf; and (ii) no more than three persons who are authorized to act as proxy or a qualified representative for a shareholder may attend the annual meeting. You should review Article I, Section 1.10(c) of our By-Laws for additional information. We have posted our amended and restated By-Laws on our website on the Corporate Governance page atir.ameriprise.com.

#### How to Vote

The Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials that most of our shareholders will receive will have information about submitting your proxy online but is not permitted to include a telephonic voting number because that would enable a shareholder to vote without accessing the proxy materials online. The telephonic voting number will be on the website where the proxy materials can be found. For more information about submitting your proxy by telephone, please see the next two sections.

*Your Vote is Important.* We encourage you to submit your proxy promptly. Internet and telephone proxy submission is available through 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on Sunday, April 21, 2019, for shares held in the Ameriprise 401(k) plan and through 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, for all other shares. You may submit your proxy or vote in one of the following ways:

Submit Your Proxy by Telephone. You have the option to submit your proxy by telephone. In order to submit your proxy by telephone, please go to www.proxyvote.com and log in using the 12-digit control number provided on your Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials. You will be provided with a telephone number for submitting your proxy at that site. Alternatively, if you request paper copies of the proxy materials, your proxy card or voting instruction form will have a toll-free telephone number that you may use to submit your proxy.

When you submit your proxy by telephone, you will be required to enter your 12-digit control number, so please have it available when you call. You may submit your proxy by telephone 24 hours a day. The telephone proxy submission system has easy-to-follow instructions and allows you to confirm that the system has properly recorded your voting instructions.

Submit Your Proxy by Internet. You may also submit your proxy by the Internet. The Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials indicates the website you may access for Internet proxy submission using the 12-digit control number included in the notice. You may submit your proxy by the Internet 24 hours a day. As with telephone proxy submission, you will be able to confirm that the system has properly recorded your voting instructions. If you hold your shares in street name, please follow the Internet proxy submission instructions in the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials you receive from your bank, broker, trustee, or other record holder. You may incur telephone and Internet access charges if you submit your proxy by the Internet.

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Submit Your Proxy by Mail. If you elect to receive your proxy materials by mail and you are a holder of record, you can submit your proxy by marking, dating, and signing your proxy card and returning it by mail in the postage-paid envelope provided to you. If you elect to receive your proxy materials by mail and you hold your shares in street name, you can submit your voting instructions by completing and mailing the voting instruction form provided by your bank, broker, trustee, or holder of record.

Vote at the Meeting. Submitting a proxy now will not limit your right to change your vote at the meeting if you attend in person. If you hold your shares in street name, you must obtain a proxy, executed in your favor, from the holder of record if you wish to vote your shares at the meeting in person. All shares for which proxies have been properly submitted and not revoked will be voted as you have directed at the meeting. If you sign and return your proxy card without voting instructions for a proposal, your shares will be voted as the Board of Directors recommends for that proposal.

Revocation of Proxies. You can revoke your proxy at any time before your shares are voted if you:

- (1) submit a written revocation to our corporate secretary at the meeting;
- (2) submit a timely later-dated proxy or voting instruction form if you hold shares in street name;
- (3) provide timely subsequent telephone or Internet voting instructions; or
- vote in person at the meeting.

#### Shares Held Under the Ameriprise Financial 401(k) Plan

If you participate in the Ameriprise Financial 401(k) Plan and invest in the Ameriprise Financial, Inc. Stock Fund, your proxy card includes shares that the plan has credited to your account. To allow sufficient time for the plan trustee to vote, the trustee must receive your voting instructions by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time, on Sunday, April 21, 2019. If the plan trustee does not receive your instructions by that date, the trustee will vote your shares in the same proportion of votes that the trustee receives from other plan participants who did vote.

#### **Confidential Voting**

We maintain the confidentiality of the votes of individual shareholders. We do not disclose these votes to any member of management unless we must disclose them for legal reasons or in the event of a contested proxy solicitation. However, if a shareholder writes a comment on the proxy card, we will forward the comment to management. In reviewing the comment, management may learn how the shareholder voted. In addition, the Inspector of Elections and selected employees of our independent tabulating agent may have access to individual votes in the normal course of counting and verifying the vote.

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Item		To elect directors and adopt the other proposals, the following proportion of votes is required:	Routine/ Non-Routine	Treatment of Abstentions	Treatment of Broker Non-Votes
	To elect the eight director nominees named in the proxy statement	Under the majority voting standard, in an uncontested election, a nominee must receive a number of "For" votes that exceeds 50% of the votes cast (excluding abstentions)*	Non-routine	No effect; not included in numerator or denominator.	No effect; not included in numerator or denominator.
	To approve the compensation of the named executive officers by a nonbinding advisory vote	The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast	Non-routine	No effect; not included in numerator or denominator.	No effect; not included in numerator or denominator.
	To ratify the Audit Committee's selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2019	The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast	Routine	No effect; not included in numerator or denominator.	No effect; not included in numerator or denominator.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" each of the nominees in Item (1) and "FOR" Items (2) and (3). Properly submitted proxies will be voted "FOR" each such Item unless otherwise specified.

\*

If an uncontested incumbent nominee for director does not receive an affirmative majority of "For" votes, he or she will be required to promptly tender his or her resignation to the Board. The independent Nominating and Governance Committee will then make a recommendation to the Board as to whether the tendered resignation should be accepted or rejected, or whether other action should be taken. The Board will publicly announce its decision regarding the tendered resignation and the rationale behind it within 90 days after the election results have been certified. The director who tendered the resignation will not be permitted to vote on the recommendation of the Nominating and Governance Committee or the Board's decision with respect to his or her tendered resignation.

#### Quorum and Required Vote

**Quorum.** We will have a quorum and will be able to conduct the business of the annual meeting if the holders of a majority of the voting power of the shares entitled to vote at the meeting are either present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting.

**Routine and Non-Routine Proposals.** The rules of the New York Stock Exchange determine whether proposals presented at shareholder meetings are routine or non-routine. If a proposal is routine, a broker or other entity holding shares for an owner in street name may vote on the proposal without receiving voting instructions from the owner under certain circumstances. If a proposal is non-routine, the broker or other entity may vote on the proposal only if the owner has provided voting instructions. A broker non-vote occurs when the broker or other entity is unable to vote on a proposal because the proposal is non-routine and the owner does not provide any voting instructions.

The rules of the New York Stock Exchange make all of the proposals to be considered at the annual meeting non-routine items except for the proposal to ratify the Audit Committee's selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2019. This means that brokers who do not receive voting instructions from their clients as to how to vote their shares for Items (1) and (2) can't exercise discretion to vote their clients' shares. Therefore, it is important that you instruct your broker as to how you wish to have your shares voted on these proposals, even if you wish to vote as recommended by the Board of Directors.

How We Count Votes. In determining whether we have a quorum for the annual meeting, we count abstentions and broker non-votes as present and entitled to vote. For your convenience, we have provided the chart above to show whether each item being voted on is routine or non-routine under the rules of

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the New York Stock Exchange. The chart also shows how abstentions and broker non-votes will be treated in determining the outcome of voting on each item.

#### **Multiple Shareholders Sharing the Same Address**

For those shareholders requesting paper proxy materials who share a single address and would like to receive only one annual report and proxy statement at that address, please contact our corporate secretary. This service, known as "householding," is designed to reduce our printing and postage costs. If after signing up for householding any shareholder residing at such an address wishes to receive a separate annual report or proxy statement in the future, he or she may contact our corporate secretary. The contact information for our corporate secretary is provided on page three under "General Information."

## **Cost of Proxy Solicitation**

We will pay the expenses of soliciting proxies. Our directors, officers or employees may solicit proxies for us in person, or by telephone, facsimile or electronic transmission for no additional compensation. We have hired D.F. King & Co., Inc. to help us distribute and solicit proxies. We will pay D.F. King \$20,000 plus expenses for these services.

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## Corporate Governance

This section highlights our corporate governance program. We provide details about these and other corporate governance policies and practices in other sections of the proxy statement and on our website on the Corporate Governance page at *ir.ameriprise.com*.

### **Requests for Copies of Materials**

You may request copies of any of the documents referred to in this section of the proxy statement by calling Thomas R. Moore, our Vice President, Corporate Secretary and Chief Governance Officer, at (612) 678-0106. You may also write to him by email at *thomas.r.moore@ampf.com* or by mail at 1098 Ameriprise Financial Center, Minneapolis, MN 55474. We'll provide the copies at no cost to you.

## **Director Independence**

Our Board, acting upon the recommendation of its Nominating and Governance Committee, has affirmatively determined that the following directors have no material relationship with the Company and are therefore independent under the corporate governance listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange: Dianne Neal Blixt, Amy DiGeso, Lon R. Greenberg, Jeffrey Noddle, Robert F. Sharpe, Jr., W. Edward Walter and Christopher J. Williams.

Our only non-independent director and the only Company officer serving on the Board is Mr. Cracchiolo, our chairman and chief executive officer.

#### **Independence of Committee Members**

As required by the rules of the New York Stock Exchange, only independent directors serve on these standing committees of the Board: Audit; Compensation and Benefits; and Nominating and Governance. Members of the Audit Committee also meet the independence standards of Rule 10A-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Members of the Compensation and Benefits Committee also meet the independence standards for "outside directors" under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and are considered "non-employee directors" under Rule 16b-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

On the Board's Executive Committee, Mr. Cracchiolo serves as the committee's chairman and the chairmen of the three other standing committees serve as the Executive Committee's other members. The corporate governance rules of the New York Stock Exchange do not require that all members of the Executive Committee be independent directors.

#### **Categorical Standards of Director Independence**

Upon the recommendation of its Nominating and Governance Committee, the Board has approved categorical standards of director independence. These categorical standards: assist the Board in making its independence determinations; provide investors with an adequate means of assessing the quality of the Board's independence; and avoid the excessive disclosure of immaterial relationships. The Board's categorical standards of independence are posted on our website on the Corporate Governance page at *ir.ameriprise.com*. The categorical standards generally classify as "not material": relationships with our Company arising in the ordinary course of business; relationships with companies of which a director is a shareholder or partnerships of which a director is a partner; contributions made or pledged to charitable organizations with which a director has a relationship; certain familial relationships; and certain social and other relationships. In addition to the New York Stock Exchange's standard independence tests, the Nominating and Governance Committee applied the categorical standards of independence when making its recommendations regarding director independence to the Board of Directors. In making these independence recommendations, the Nominating and Governance Committee considered all relationships and transactions between the director and the Company as described in questionnaires completed by

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each director and in materials provided by management, which may include transactions discussed in this proxy statement and relationships not considered material under the categorical standards of independence approved by the Board.

#### **Committee Charters**

The Board's Audit, Compensation and Benefits, and Nominating and Governance Committees each operate under a written charter that is approved by the Board of Directors. Each committee charter satisfies the requirements of the New York Stock Exchange's corporate governance listing standards. Each committee reviews and reassesses the adequacy of its charter at least annually. Each committee will recommend any proposed changes to the Board of Directors for consideration and approval. The committee charters are posted on our website on the Corporate Governance page at *ir.ameriprise.com* and additional information about each committee is contained in the sections following this summary.

The Executive Committee also operates under a written charter that is approved by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee's charter is posted on our website at the same location as the other committee charters.

#### **Internal Audit Function**

The Company has an internal audit function that is supervised by our general auditor. The Audit Committee reviews the appointment and replacement of the general auditor. The Audit Committee also annually reviews the performance and compensation of the general auditor. The general auditor reports regularly to the Audit Committee, including in executive sessions where he is the only officer present.

#### **Audit Committee Financial Experts**

The Board has determined that Ms. Blixt and Messrs. Greenberg and Williams are "audit committee financial experts" as defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission regulations and that they have accounting or related financial management expertise, as the Board interpreted such qualification in its business judgment. The Board has also determined that all Audit Committee members are financially literate, as that term is interpreted by the Board in its business judgment.

## **Executive Sessions of Independent Directors**

The independent directors customarily meet in executive session without management present at each regularly scheduled meeting of the Board. The Board may decide, however, that such an executive session is not required at a particular Board meeting.

## **Presiding Director**

The Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines provide that the then serving chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee shall act as the Board's presiding director, with the following duties: preside over executive sessions of the non-management and independent directors; serve as the principal liaison between the Board and the Company's chairman and chief executive officer on sensitive issues; and preside at meetings of the Board of Directors in the event of the chairman's unavailability.

Mr. Sharpe currently serves as the Board's presiding director.

## **Communications from Shareholders and Other Interested Parties**

Shareholders and other interested parties may make their concerns known to the independent directors by communicating directly with the presiding director or another director via the Company's corporate secretary. You can find more information about how to communicate with our independent directors on page 14 of this proxy statement, under the caption "Communicating with Directors."

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#### **Our Board's Leadership Structure**

Our Board of Directors determines which leadership structure best serves its needs and those of our shareholders. Currently, Mr. Cracchiolo serves as both the chairman of the Board of Directors and the chief executive officer of the Company. Mr. Sharpe, the chairman of the Board's Nominating and Governance Committee, currently serves as the Board's presiding director.

The Board believes that Mr. Cracchiolo's service as both chairman and chief executive officer has the following advantages for the Company given the specific characteristics or circumstances of the Company: Mr. Cracchiolo provides proven leadership ability, strong communication skills, and a deep understanding of the Company, the financial services industry, and the Company's long-term strategic direction. The chairman is often required to speak on behalf of the entire Board to shareholders, regulators, and other stakeholders and therefore must engender the trust and respect of the entire Board. As the leader of the Board, Mr. Cracchiolo must also be able to maintain an atmosphere of collegiality, encourage open and vigorous discussion and debate during Board meetings, and promote fairness in considering the views and opinions of all directors.

Recognizing that the Company's or the Board's circumstances may change, the Board has no policy with respect to the separation of the roles of the chairman and chief executive officer. As stated in our Corporate Governance Guidelines, "The Board believes that this issue is part of the succession planning process, which is overseen by the Compensation and Benefits Committee, and that it is in the best interests of the Company to make a determination when it elects a new chief executive officer."

The Board recognizes that the Company's and Board's circumstances may change in the context of CEO succession planning and that having a separate chairman and CEO is an option that the Board will consider carefully in those circumstances.

The role of the Board's presiding director is an important part of the Board's leadership structure. At other companies, this role may be called a "lead director." Our Corporate Governance Guidelines assign the following duties to the presiding director: preside over executive sessions of non-management and independent directors; serve as principal liaison between the Board and the chairman and chief executive officer on sensitive issues; and preside at meetings of the Board of Directors in the event of the chairman's unavailability.

In addition to the presiding director, our Board has adopted a number of procedures and policies designed to preserve the effectiveness of the independent directors and the transparency of Board operations. For example, each Board agenda includes an executive session of the independent directors, although those directors may decide that one is not needed. Any director is free to suggest agenda items, to request additional time for an agenda topic, or to request information from management. The independent directors also have regular access to members of management other than the chief executive officer. In advance of each regular Board meeting, the corporate secretary asks the independent directors to submit any questions or topics that they would like the chairman and chief executive officer to address at the meeting.

## Our Board's Role in Risk Oversight

It is the job of our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, general counsel, and other members of our senior management to identify, assess, and manage our exposure to risk. Our Board plays an important role in overseeing management's performance of these functions. The Board of Directors has approved the charter of its Audit Committee, which lists the primary responsibilities of the Audit Committee. Those responsibilities require the Audit Committee to discuss with management, the general auditor, and the independent auditors the Company's enterprise-wide risk assessment and risk management processes, including major risk exposures, risk mitigants, and the design and effectiveness of the Company's processes and controls to prevent and detect fraudulent activity. Some aspect of risk

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management and oversight is discussed at virtually every Audit Committee meeting. The Audit Committee's charter is posted on our website on the Corporate Governance page at *ir.ameriprise.com*.

As a diversified financial services company, our business is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, which are described in detail in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018, which is included as part of our 2018 Annual Report to Shareholders. The Audit Committee and the Board as a whole receive regular reports from management and our independent auditors on prevailing material risks and the actions being taken to mitigate them. Management also reports to the Audit Committee and the Board on steps being taken to enhance our risk management processes and controls in light of evolving market, business, regulatory, and other conditions. Because four of our seven independent directors serve on the Audit Committee, a significant portion of the independent directors is closely and regularly involved in the risk oversight function.

Directors who do not serve on the Audit Committee have access to the committee's meeting materials, including draft minutes for each Audit Committee meeting. The chairman of the Audit Committee reports to the entire Board on the Audit Committee's activities and decisions. In addition, each presentation to the Audit Committee or the Board on any significant matter is preceded by an executive summary that includes a section devoted to risk management issues. This section is intended to focus the attention of the Audit Committee and the Board on key risk topics and management's related risk management strategies and processes. As part of its ongoing responsibilities, the Audit Committee reviews and assesses the quality and clarity of the risk management information provided to it and, if necessary, makes recommendations to management for improving this information reporting.

Because we are in a highly regulated industry, the Audit Committee and the Board receive regular reports of examination from our regulators. In part, these reports address risk management topics and, as needed, the Audit Committee and the Board will respond in writing to risk management or other issues raised in the reports. In order to confirm that it is receiving candid and complete information on risk management and other topics, the Audit Committee holds regular separate executive sessions with members of executive management, our independent auditors, and our general auditor.

The Board and the Audit Committee also play a role in the oversight of our cybersecurity risk management program. Our Executive Vice President- Technology and Chief Information Officer, our Chief Information Security Officer and other officers regularly review with our Board and the Audit Committee the cyber threat landscape; the design, effectiveness and ongoing enhancement of our capabilities to monitor, prevent and respond to cyber threats and events; and any incidents which merit discussion.

The Audit Committee also reviewed our identity theft prevention program and discussed, among other topics: mandatory training on fraud prevention to required staff; identity theft experience and trends; the effectiveness of existing controls and planned enhancements to those controls; and key areas of focus for the identity theft program during 2018.

In response to emerging best practices and regulatory guidelines, the Audit Committee and the Compensation and Benefits Committee also have received reports on risks related to our incentive compensation plans across the Company. The committees will continue to receive such reports as needed. These plans cover officers and employees who are not executive officers. We discuss this subject in more detail in the section of the Compensation Discussion and Analysis captioned "Risk and Incentive Compensation" beginning on page 59.

In the preceding section of the proxy statement, we explained our Board's leadership structure. Our chairman and chief executive officer is ultimately responsible for the effectiveness of the Company's risk management processes and is an integral part of our day-to-day risk management processes. He also attends each Audit Committee meeting, except in extraordinary circumstances unrelated to that meeting's agenda. As a result, his ability to lead our enterprise risk management program and to assist in the Board's oversight of that program improves the effectiveness of both the Board's leadership structure and its oversight of risk.

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#### **Our Board's Role in Strategic Planning**

Ameriprise has a strategic Long-Range Plan that guides how we lead the Company to maximize long-term shareholder value creation, deliver competitively differentiated value to our clients, and attract and retain talent. Each year, our executive team revisits and updates that plan as appropriate to address changes in the external and competitive environment, as well as internal capabilities. Our Board of Directors plays an important role in our strategic planning process as well. Each year, we hold detailed discussions with the Board on the Long-Range Plan at our annual long-range planning offsite meeting, as well as throughout the year as appropriate.

Our long-range strategy is to advise, manage, and protect assets and income for retail, high net worth, and institutional clients. By fulfilling our strategy, we believe that we are not only creating long-term value for our shareholders, but also enabling our clients and their families to achieve their financial goals, including a confident retirement.

In addition, the Long-Range Plan guides the development of our annual operating plan and budgets. Throughout the year, management and the Board hold regular discussion on the business performance and progress on the annual plan and what we are looking to accomplish in the context of our Long-Range Plan. Corporate and individual performance goals and metrics are defined and used to inform and determine executive long-term incentive awards by the Compensation and Benefits Committee, as explained in detail beginning on page 45 of this proxy statement.

#### Consideration of Director Candidates Recommended by Shareholders

The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider director candidates recommended by shareholders, provided that the requirements explained on page 18 under the caption "Director Nomination Process" are satisfied.

#### **Annual Performance Evaluation Process for the Board and its Committees**

The Nominating and Governance Committee oversees an annual performance evaluation process for the Board of Directors and the Audit, Compensation and Benefits, and Nominating and Governance Committees. The process is intended to determine whether the Board and its committees are functioning effectively.

### **Corporate Governance Guidelines**

The Board of Directors has approved Corporate Governance Guidelines. Among other topics, the Corporate Governance Guidelines address: director qualification standards; director responsibilities; director access to management and, as necessary and appropriate, independent advisors; director compensation; director orientation and continuing education; management succession; and the annual performance evaluation of the Board and its committees. The Corporate Governance Guidelines are posted on our website on the Corporate Governance page at *ir.ameriprise.com*.

#### **Codes of Conduct**

We have adopted a Global Code of Conduct to guide ethical business behavior and decision-making. The Code applies to all of our officers, employees, financial advisors, and their employees, and individuals conducting business on behalf of us and our subsidiaries. Following our Global Code of Conduct and all applicable laws, regulations, and Company policies is a condition of employment or association with the Company, except as otherwise provided by the laws of a foreign jurisdiction.

The Board of Directors has adopted a Code of Business Conduct for Members of the Board of Directors of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. This Code is intended to focus each director on areas of potential conflicts of interest and provide guidance relating to the recognition and handling of ethical issues. The Code also

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provides mechanisms to report potential conflicts of interest or unethical conduct and is intended to foster a culture of openness and accountability.

Both of these Codes are posted on our website on the Corporate Governance page at ir.ameriprise.com.

#### **Director Attendance at Annual Meeting of Shareholders**

Our Corporate Governance Guidelines state that directors are expected to attend the annual meeting of shareholders. The corporate secretary reminds each director of this policy in writing in advance of each annual meeting of shareholders. At our 2018 annual meeting of shareholders, all directors then serving were in attendance.

## **Majority Voting for Directors**

Our By-Laws provide for majority voting for directors in uncontested elections. The plurality standard will be used in the case of contested elections. We anticipate that the election of directors to be held at the meeting will be uncontested, and therefore the majority voting standard will apply. We have provided additional information about the By-Law provisions governing majority voting for directors beginning on page six of this proxy statement, in the table titled "Votes Required for Proposals."

#### **Director Qualifications and Board Policies**

The Board of Directors has determined that directors should be persons who have achieved prominence in their field and who possess significant experience in areas of importance to the Company, such as general management, finance, marketing, technology, law, business or public sector activities.

Directors should possess integrity, energy, forthrightness, analytical skills and the commitment to devote the necessary time and attention to the Company's affairs. Directors should possess a willingness to challenge and stimulate management and the ability to work as part of a team in an environment of trust.

The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider whether the candidate has served as the chief executive officer, chief financial officer or other executive officer of a public company with significant policy-making or operational responsibility. The committee also evaluates a candidate's manifest potential to significantly enhance the effectiveness of the Board and its committees. Experience in an area that is directly relevant to one or more of our business segments is also an important consideration.

The committee considers these specific qualities or skills as being necessary for one or more directors to possess:

A majority of directors must satisfy the independence standards established by the New York Stock Exchange;

Enough independent directors must be financially literate and have accounting or related financial management expertise so that the current and anticipated membership needs of the Audit Committee can be satisfied;

Directors are expected to possess the skills, experience, and professional background necessary to gain a sound understanding of our strategic vision, mix of businesses, and approach to regulatory relations and enterprise risk management; and

The Board as a whole must possess a mix and breadth of qualities, skills, and experience that will enable it and its committees to promote the best interests of the Company and its shareholders and to address effectively the risk factors to which the Company is subject.

Independent directors have access to individual members of management or to our employees on a confidential basis. Directors are authorized to conduct independent investigations and to hire outside consultants or experts at our expense. Directors also have access to our records and files, and directors may contact other directors without informing our management of the purpose or even the fact of such contact.

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We believe that each director should have a substantial personal investment in the Company. A personal holding of Company shares or deferred share units having a market value of five times the amount of the current annual cash retainer upon attainment is recommended for each director. A decrease in the price of a share of our common stock after a director has attained the required ownership threshold will not negate the director's satisfaction of this requirement. Directors are expected to attain this ownership threshold within five years of joining the Board. We disclose the dollar value of each outside director's equity holdings as of February 28, 2019, on page 21. All directors who have served on the Board for more than five years are in compliance with our ownership threshold.

## **Board Diversity**

Our Board of Directors does not have a formal written policy with regard to the consideration of diversity in identifying director nominees. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines, however, require the Board's Nominating and Governance Committee to review the qualifications of the directors and the composition of the Board as a whole periodically. This assessment includes not only the independence of the directors, but also consideration of required minimum qualifications, diversity, age, skills, and experience in the context of the needs of the Board. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines provide that the Board will establish the number of directors based on the recommendations of its Nominating and Governance Committee, which will consider, among other factors: the Board's current and anticipated need for directors with specific qualities, skills, experience or backgrounds; the availability of highly qualified candidates; committee workloads and membership needs; and anticipated director retirements.

Whenever the Nominating and Governance Committee engages a search firm to identify potential director candidates, the committee instructs the firm that diversity considerations are highly important. Similarly, whenever the committee considers candidates identified by other directors or shareholders, the same considerations apply. Because our Board of Directors is relatively small, it may not always be possible to recruit a director who has the skills and experience needed by the Board at that time and who also enhances the diversity of the Board. Nevertheless, considerations of gender, racial, and ethnic diversity will continue to be important factors in identifying and recruiting new directors. The Board of Directors believes that maintaining and enhancing the Board's diversity are important corporate governance goals.

## **Communicating with Directors**

The Board of Directors has provided a means by which shareholders or other interested parties may send communications to the Board or to individual members of the Board. Such communications, whether by letter, email or telephone, should be directed to the Company's corporate secretary, who will forward them to the intended recipients. However, unsolicited advertisements or invitations to conferences or promotional material, in the discretion of the Company's corporate secretary, may not be forwarded to the directors.

If a shareholder or other interested party wishes to communicate a concern to the chairman of the Audit Committee about our financial statements, accounting practices, internal controls or business ethics or corporate conduct, the concern should be submitted in writing to the chairman of the Audit Committee in care of our corporate secretary. If the concern relates to our executive compensation program, the concern should be submitted in writing to the chairman of the Compensation and Benefits Committee in care of our corporate secretary. If the concern relates to our governance practices, the concern should be submitted in writing to the chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee in care of our corporate secretary. If the shareholder or other interested party is unsure as to which category his or her concern relates, he may communicate it to any one of the independent directors in care of our corporate secretary. The contact information for the Company's corporate secretary is provided on page three under "General Information."

Our "whistleblower" policy prohibits us or any of our employees from retaliating or taking any adverse action against anyone for raising a compliance or ethical concern in good faith. If a shareholder, employee

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or other interested party nonetheless prefers to raise his or her concern in a confidential or anonymous manner, the concern may be directed to our ethics hotline, at (800) 963-6395. This is a confidential, independent service that allows individuals to report compliance or ethical issues and concerns they may have concerning Ameriprise Financial. An ethics specialist will forward accounting and auditing issues to our general auditor and our general counsel, who will confirm that the matter is properly investigated and, if deemed appropriate, report the results to the Audit Committee.

## **Board and Committee Meetings**

During 2018, the Board of Directors met six times. All of our directors attended 95% or more of the meetings of the Board and Board committees on which they served in 2018.

## **Membership on Board Committees**

This table lists our four standing Board committees, the directors who currently serve on them, and the number of committee meetings held in 2018

Mr. Williams(1)	Mr. Noddle(2)	Mr. Cracchiolo(2)	Mr. Sharpe(3)
Ms. Blixt(4)	Ms. Blixt	Mr. Noddle	Ms. DiGeso
Mr. Greenberg(4)	Ms. DiGeso	Mr. Sharpe	Mr. Noddle
Mr. Walter(5)	Mr. Greenberg	Mr. Williams	Mr. Walter(5)
	Mr. Sharpe		
11	7	0	2

- (1) committee chairman and audit committee financial expert. Mr. Williams was appointed chairman of the Audit Committee effective as of April 25, 2018.
- (2) committee chairman
- committee chairman and presiding director
- audit committee financial expert
- Mr. Walter was appointed as an Audit Committee member as of April 25, 2018, and a Nominating and Governance Committee member as of November 1, 2018.

### **Compensation and Benefits Committee**

Under its written charter, the Compensation and Benefits Committee's primary purposes are to: establish the philosophy and objectives that will govern our compensation and benefits programs; oversee and approve the compensation and benefits paid to our chief executive officer and other executive officers; recommend for approval by the Board of Directors or the shareholders incentive and equity-based compensation plans; promote the clear and complete disclosure to shareholders of material information regarding the compensation and benefits of our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, and our highest paid executive officers; confirm that appropriate chief executive officer and management succession plans are in place and regularly reviewed and discussed by the Board. Members of the committee and senior management regularly engage with our institutional investors and value their feedback on all matters within the committee's authority. A copy of the committee's charter is posted on our website on the Corporate Governance page at *ir.ameriprise.com*.

The committee is also responsible for oversight of the incentive compensation plans throughout the Company, to the extent and in the manner set forth in relevant regulatory guidance or rules and for recommendations to the Board on matters related to nonbinding advisory votes of shareholders to approve the compensation of the named executive officers, submitted as Item 2 of this proxy statement.

Among other matters, the committee exercises ultimate authority with respect to: the compensation and benefits of our chief executive officer and other executive officers; the approval of grants and awards of

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equity-based and other incentive awards to our chief executive officer and other executive officers and to employees below the executive officer level; and the engagement, oversight, compensation, and termination of the committee's compensation consultant.

While the Compensation and Benefits Committee oversees our executive compensation program, the Nominating and Governance Committee has the authority to oversee the compensation and benefits of non-management directors and make recommendations on such matters to the Board of Directors for approval. We provide information about the compensation of our outside directors beginning on page 21.

The Compensation and Benefits Committee has the authority under its charter to: retain independent legal or other advisors; ask us to provide the committee with the support of one or more of our officers or employees to assist it in carrying out its duties; and request any of our officers or employees or those of our outside counsel or independent auditors to attend a meeting of the committee or to meet with any members of, or consultants to, the committee.

The committee has the authority to determine the appropriate amount of funding to be provided by us for the payment of the compensation of any compensation consultant or other advisor engaged by the committee and for the payment of any administrative expenses of the committee that are necessary or appropriate in carrying out its duties.

The committee has the authority to delegate its authority to one or more subcommittees, including to the committee chairman, who may act on behalf of the committee during the intervals between meetings.

Depending on the nature of the authority being delegated, a subcommittee may have to consist of a minimum of two members due to certain federal securities and tax law requirements.

The committee may also delegate its authority to one or more of our officers or employees to the extent permitted by federal securities and income tax laws, Delaware law, the rules of the New York Stock Exchange or applicable governing compensation plan documents.

The committee has delegated certain administrative authority to our chief human resources officer to promote the efficient and timely administration of our compensation and benefits plans.

The Role of Executive Officers. Our executive officers play the following roles in recommending the amount or form of executive compensation: preparing committee meeting materials related to the performance of the committee's duties, including total compensation tally sheets and other summaries of executive officers' total compensation; proposing the adoption of new or amended compensation or benefits plans; the chief executive officer will make recommendations to the committee for consideration regarding compensation actions for executive officers other than himself; our chief human resources officer will discuss survey and benchmarking data related to executive compensation and other topics of interest to the committee; and our chief financial officer will discuss and explain the setting and calculation of financial performance goals for certain executive compensation plans. No executive officer has the authority to approve his or her compensation or to make equity-based grants to himself or herself, or to any other executive officer.

The Committee's Independent Compensation Consultant. The Compensation and Benefits Committee currently uses the firm of Frederic W. Cook & Co., Inc. ("FW Cook") as its independent compensation consultant. The committee maintains a Compensation Adviser Policy, which addresses the following topics: the relationship between the committee and its compensation advisers; the criteria that the committee uses to select its consultant; the consultant's duties; how the committee evaluates its compensation consultant; the factors that the committee will apply in determining whether its consultant is independent of the Company's management; and the related disclosure to be provided to our shareholders. We have posted the committee's Compensation Adviser Policy on our website on the Corporate Governance page at ir.ameriprise.com. You can request a copy of the Compensation Adviser Policy by writing to Thomas R. Moore, Vice President, Corporate Secretary and Chief Governance Officer, 1098 Ameriprise Financial

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Center, Minneapolis, MN 55474. You may also email him at thomas.r.moore@ampf.com. He will send you a copy of the policy without charge.

Under the committee's charter, the engagement letter between FW Cook and the committee, and the Compensation Adviser Policy, the committee is responsible for the appointment, oversight, amount of compensation, evaluation, retention, and termination of its compensation consultant. FW Cook works for and reports directly to the committee, not the Company's management, with respect to executive compensation matters. The committee recognizes that its consultant will necessarily work with representatives of management on executive compensation and other matters within the scope of the committee's responsibilities. When doing so, however, FW Cook will act as the committee's representative and solely on the committee's behalf.

In its capacity as the committee's consultant, FW Cook provided the following services, among others: advice and guidance with respect to trends and issues related to executive compensation; assisting the committee in benchmarking competitive compensation, including the composition of a peer group to be used as a market check or reference point in reviewing proxy compensation data; assisting the committee in developing an executive compensation philosophy and program suited to our business strategy and goals; and preparing reports and analyses for the committee's meeting materials. One or more representatives of FW Cook attend committee meetings as needed.

At a committee meeting held on February 26, 2019, the committee confirmed that FW Cook continues to be independent of the Company's management, in light of the independence standards established in the committee's Compensation Adviser Policy. Before reaffirming FW Cook's continued independence, the committee considered any other factors it deemed relevant and the following six specific factors contained in a Securities and Exchange Commission rule and the related New York Stock Exchange corporate governance listing standards: the provision of other services to Ameriprise by FW Cook; the amount of fees received during 2018 from Ameriprise by FW Cook as a percentage of FW Cook's 2018 total revenue; FW Cook's policies and procedures designed to prevent conflicts of interest; any business or personal relationship between a member of the FW Cook engagement team with a member of the committee; any Ameriprise Financial stock owned by FW Cook or by any member of its Ameriprise consulting team or their immediate family members; and any business or personal relationship of FW Cook or any other employee of FW Cook with an executive officer of Ameriprise Financial. Based on this review and FW Cook's responses, the committee determined that no conflict of interest exists that would preclude FW Cook from independently representing the committee.

At its meeting held on February 26, 2019, the committee also reviewed and discussed FW Cook's performance in executive session, without representatives of FW Cook present.

Finally, the committee reviewed written independence statements submitted by two law firms retained by management with respect to matters considered by the committee.

**Reporting to the Board.** The committee chairman reports to the entire Board regarding each committee meeting. When appropriate these reports and related discussion are conducted in executive session, without management present. Before the committee takes final action with respect to compensation actions affecting the chief executive officer, it first discusses its proposed actions with the other independent directors, without management present.

Management discusses the proposed agenda for each committee meeting with the committee chairman in advance and it is reviewed with the other committee members in advance as well. The committee has adopted a policy of including an executive session on the agenda of each committee meeting. The committee members may decide, however, that an executive session is unnecessary at a particular meeting. This executive session is held without management present. The committee chairman has the authority to add or delete items from any proposed agenda, and to call special meetings of the committee at any time.

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Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation. The Compensation and Benefits Committee members include Dianne Neal Blixt, Amy DiGeso, Lon R. Greenberg, Jeffrey Noddle, chairman, and Robert F. Sharpe, Jr. None of the members is a former or current officer or employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, or is an executive officer of another company where an executive officer of Ameriprise Financial is a director.

#### **Nominating and Governance Committee**

The Nominating and Governance Committee operates under a written charter that is posted on our website on the Corporate Governance page at *ir.ameriprise.com*. The committee's purposes are to: assume a leadership role in shaping the corporate governance of the Company; promote the effective functioning of the Board and its committees; advance the best interests of the Company and its shareholders through the implementation, oversight, and disclosure of sound corporate governance guidelines and practices; periodically review the compensation of outside directors and recommend changes to the Board for approval; and promote the clear and complete disclosure to shareholders of material information regarding the compensation and benefits of the Company's outside directors.

In 2017, the committee's charter, with the Board's approval, was revised to include oversight of the Company's Corporate Social Responsibility program. A copy of the 2018 Responsible Business Report is posted on the Responsible Business page of the Company's website at *ameriprise.com*. The committee's charter also includes oversight responsibility for corporate political spending and a Statement of Principles Governing Corporate Political Spending, approved by the Board based on the committee's recommendation, governs those contributions and expenditures, if any, made at the direction of the Company's officers with corporate funds. It is posted on the Corporate Governance page of our website at *ir.ameriprise.com* along with the Company's annual corporate political spending report.

In 2019, as a result of discussions with shareholders represented by Investor Voice, working on behalf of Newground Social Investment, and in light of emerging corporate governance trends, the Board approved an amended and restated Nominating and Governance Committee charter and an amended and restated Statement of Principles Governing Corporate Political Spending in order to enhance Board and management oversight of the Company's trade association memberships and its dues payments to those trade associations. Copies of both documents are posted on our website at the Corporate Governance page at *ir.ameriprise.com*.

The committee has adopted a policy of including an executive session attended by committee members only on the agenda of each committee meeting. The committee members may decide, however, that an executive session is unnecessary at a particular meeting.

Director Nomination Process. The Nominating and Governance Committee considers and recommends candidates for election or appointment to the Board. The committee also considers candidates for election to the Board submitted by shareholders. Each member of the committee participates in the review and discussion of director candidates. In addition, members of the Board of Directors who are not on the committee may meet with and evaluate the suitability of candidates. In making its selections of candidates to recommend for election or appointment, the committee will apply the standards and criteria set forth under the caption "Director Qualifications and Board Policies" beginning on page 13 of this proxy statement. The committee applies the same standards in considering candidates submitted by shareholders as it does in evaluating candidates submitted by members of the Board of Directors.

Shareholders who wish to submit nominees for election at an annual or special meeting of shareholders must follow the procedures described on page 80. Shareholders who wish to submit a candidate for consideration by the Nominating and Governance Committee may do so by sending the candidate's name and supporting information to Thomas R. Moore, Vice President, Corporate Secretary and Chief Governance Officer, at the address shown on page three under "General Information."

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#### **Audit Committee**

The responsibilities of the Audit Committee are described in its written charter and in the following required Audit Committee Report. A copy of the committee's charter is posted on our website on the Corporate Governance page at *ir.ameriprise.com*. The committee's purposes are to provide assistance to the Board of Directors by: monitoring the integrity of the consolidated financial statements of the Company; monitoring compliance by the Company with legal and regulatory requirements and the Company's Code of Conduct; evaluating and monitoring the independent auditors' qualifications and independence; evaluating and monitoring the performance of the Company's internal audit function and independent auditors, with respect to the parent company and its subsidiaries; and addressing the finance and risk management matters specified in its charter.

The committee has adopted a policy of including executive sessions on the agenda of each committee meeting. Such executive sessions may include committee members only, or may include separate executive sessions between the committee members and the general auditor, representatives of our independent auditors, or representatives of management, including our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, and general counsel. The committee members may decide, however, that executive sessions are not required at a particular meeting.

Audit Committee Financial Experts. The Board has determined that Ms. Blixt and Messrs. Greenberg and Williams are "audit committee financial experts" as defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission regulations and that they have accounting or related financial management expertise, as the Board interpreted such qualification in its business judgment. The Board has also determined that each Audit Committee member is financially literate, as that term is interpreted by the Board in its business judgment.

External Auditors. The Board of Director's Audit Committee is directly responsible for the appointment, compensation, retention and oversight of the independent external audit firm retained to audit the Company's financial statements. The Audit Committee has appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC as the Company's independent external auditor for fiscal year 2019. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC has been retained as the Company's external auditor continuously beginning with our 2011 fiscal year. The Audit Committee is responsible for the audit fee negotiations associated with the Company's retention of PricewaterhouseCoopers.

In order to assure continuing auditor independence, the Audit Committee periodically considers whether there should be a regular rotation of the independent external audit firm. In conjunction with the mandated rotation of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC's lead engagement partner, the Audit Committee and its chairperson are directly involved in the selection of the new lead engagement partner. The members of the Audit Committee and the Board believe that the continued retention of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC to serve as the Company's independent external auditor is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders.

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## **Report of the Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee's job is one of oversight as set forth in its charter. It is not the duty of the Audit Committee to prepare the Company's consolidated financial statements, to plan or conduct audits or investigations, or to determine that the Company's financial statements are complete and accurate and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Company's management is responsible for preparing the Company's consolidated financial statements and for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting. The Company's management is also responsible for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. The independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for the audit of the Company's consolidated financial statements and the audit of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. In addition, the independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for the audit of management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting.

In the performance of its oversight function, the Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed with management and the independent registered public accounting firm the Company's audited financial statements. The Audit Committee also has discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm the matters required to be discussed under the applicable rules and standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. In addition, the Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from its independent accounting firm required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accounting firm's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence and has discussed with the independent accounting firm its independence.

The Audit Committee discussed with the Company's general auditor and independent registered public accounting firm the overall scope and plans for their respective audits. The Audit Committee meets with the general auditor and independent registered public accounting firm, with and without management present, to discuss the results of their examinations, their evaluations of the Company's internal controls and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting. In addition, the Audit Committee meets with the chief executive officer and chief financial officer of the Company to discuss the Company's control environment and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors, and the Board has approved, that the Company's audited financial statements be included in the Company's 2018 Annual Report to Shareholders and, for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018.

#### MEMBERS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE:

Christopher J. Williams, Chairman Dianne Neal Blixt Lon R. Greenberg W. Edward Walter III 20 **Table of Contents** 

## **Compensation of Directors**

Our compensation philosophy for outside directors. We compete with other companies for executive talent, as we explain in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis later in this proxy statement. We must also compete with them for persons with the ability, integrity, experience, and judgment required to serve on the board of a public company. We need to attract and retain directors who meet the high qualification standards set by our Board of Directors. In order to do so, we must offer a compensation package that is both competitive and fair in view of the significant time commitment and responsibilities that come with a director's job. Only outside directors receive compensation for serving on our Board. Mr. Cracchiolo does not receive any additional compensation for his service as a director.

We believe that our outside directors should have a substantial personal financial stake in the Company. Accordingly, a significant portion of our directors' compensation package is equity-based. Also, a director is expected to have an equity holding in the Company with a market value of five times the amount of the current annual cash retainer upon attainment. The current annual cash retainer for the directors is \$100,000. A decrease in the price of a share of our common stock after a director has attained the required ownership threshold will not negate the director's satisfaction of this requirement. A director is expected to reach this goal within five years of joining our Board. Shares of our common stock and deferred share units both count toward this goal. Using a closing price of \$131.63 for a share of our common stock on February 28, 2019, the value of the common stock and deferred share units beneficially held by our outside directors on that date was as follows, rounded to the nearest dollar: Mses. Blixt (\$956,944); and DiGeso (\$845,848); and Messrs. Greenberg (\$2,727,735); Noddle (\$6,082,281); Sharpe (\$8,493,929); Walter (\$275,003); and Williams (\$619,969). As is true for our executive officers, we prohibit our directors from hedging against a decline in the value of our stock in any way.

How and why our outside directors' compensation was determined. The Board's Nominating and Governance Committee is responsible under its charter for overseeing the compensation and benefits paid to our outside directors. The committee will periodically review the appropriateness of the outside directors' compensation package.

The committee will discuss with an independent consultant any proposed changes to the compensation of outside directors. The committee will then recommend to the Board that it approve such changes as the committee believes are reasonable and appropriate, based in part on the consultant's report and findings. If the Board approves the committee's recommendations, and, as it relates to equity-based compensation, if the committee's recommendations are within the shareholder-approved limitation on director compensation under our Amended and Restated 2005 Incentive Compensation Plan, the new compensation package will become effective as of a date set by the Board.

At its meeting held on October 3, 2018, the Nominating and Governance Committee reviewed and discussed an analysis of non-management director compensation prepared by FW Cook, which also serves as the compensation consultant to the Compensation and Benefits Committee. FW Cook also submitted information to the committee to assist it in confirming that FW Cook is independent from the Company and the non-management directors serving on the committee and the other non-management directors serving on the Board.

Among other matters, FW Cook's report: reviewed the design and competitiveness of our non-management director compensation program; compared the program to the company peer group that is also used in connection with our executive compensation program; and recommended changes to the amount of certain components of the program. FW Cook concluded that the program's core design is aligned with our peer group and general market best practices, but recommended certain changes in order to align compensation with peer group competitive levels. Acting in reliance on FW Cook's report, the committee recommended that the Board approve one change to the program that is detailed in the following paragraph.

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Changes to the outside directors' compensation program, beginning effective January 1, 2019. At its meeting held on October 3, 2018, the Board, acting upon the recommendation of its Nominating and Governance Committee, approved one change to be effective as of January 1, 2019: the dollar amount of the annual retainer for the chairman of the Audit Committee is increased from \$20,000 to \$25,000. In all other respects the Company's compensation program for non-management directors remains unchanged.

The chart below summarizes the compensation program for our outside directors during 2018. We do not pay meeting fees or grant stock options or restricted stock to our outside directors.

Annual Cash Retainer \$100,000

Annual Equity Retainer \$150,000 in the form of Deferred Share Units

Board Meeting Fees No board meeting fees

Committee Meeting Fees No committee meeting fees

Committee Member Annual Retainer Committee members receive an annual retainer as follows:

Audit Committee \$15,000

Compensation and Benefits Committee \$10,000

Nominating and Governance Committee \$10,000

There is no committee member retainer for the members of the Executive Committee.

Committee Chairman Annual Retainer Committee chairmen receive an annual retainer in addition to the committee member

retainer, as follows:

Audit Committee chairman \$20,000 (\$35,000 total committee retainer)

Compensation and Benefits Committee chairman \$20,000 (\$30,000 total committee

retainer)

Nominating and Governance Committee chairman \$20,000 (\$30,000 total committee

retainer)

Charitable Matching Gift Program Up to \$1,500 annually

**Perquisites and Personal Benefits.** Our outside directors receive occasional perquisites or personal benefits of reasonable value, such as: commemorative items in connection with their Board service; welcoming gifts at the hotel where they stay during Board meetings or events; holiday gifts; and recreational or other services and amenities when attending an off-site Board long-range planning meeting. We do not provide our directors with a tax gross-up amount on any gifts or other items given to them.

We pay for or reimburse our outside directors for their reasonable travel, lodging, food and other expenses related to their attendance at Board, committee or annual shareholder meetings. Our outside directors may use our corporate aircraft for Board-related travel, subject to the aircraft's

availability and other restrictions. In extraordinary or unusual circumstances, such as a family emergency, we may make our corporate aircraft available to our outside directors on an exception basis.

Our outside directors are eligible to participate in our charitable gift matching program on the same basis as our employees. We will match a director's personal contributions to one or more qualifying charitable organizations subject to an annual aggregate limit, which is currently \$1,500. Directors' requests for matching gifts are processed by the same outside vendor that we use for employee matching gift requests.

Other Assistance and Payments. As is true at many other public companies, our in-house counsel and other employees, as well as outside counsel, assist our outside directors in satisfying their legal reporting

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obligations under Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. We pay for the fees and expenses related to the preparation and filing of Securities and Exchange Commission Forms 3, 4 and 5 for our outside directors, but only for transactions in our securities.

A director's Section 16(a) reporting obligations for transactions in our securities are imposed solely due to his or her service on our Board. Therefore, we do not consider such assistance and related payments to be perquisites or personal benefits. Nevertheless, we have provided this information to you in the interests of full and transparent disclosure.

## **Compensation Paid to Outside Directors in 2018**

This table shows the total compensation earned by or paid to our outside directors during 2018.

Dianne Neal Blixt	\$ 100,000 \$	0 \$	25,000 \$	150,000 \$ 275,000
Amy DiGeso	\$ 100,000 \$	0 \$	20,000 \$	150,000 \$ 270,000
Lon R. Greenberg	\$ 100,000 \$	0 \$	25,000 \$	150,000 \$ 275,000
Siri S. Marshall*	\$ 31,868 \$	0 \$	6,374 \$	0 \$ 38,242
Jeffrey Noddle	\$ 100,000 \$	20,000 \$	20,000 \$	150,000 \$ 290,000
H. Jay Sarles*	\$ 31,868 \$	6,374 \$	7,967 \$	0 \$ 46,209
Robert F. Sharpe, Jr.	\$ 100,000 \$	20,000 \$	20,000 \$	150,000 \$ 290,000
W. Edward Walter III**	\$ 68,407 \$	0 \$	11,919 \$	150,000 \$ 230,326
Christopher J. Williams(2)***	\$ 100,000 \$	13,681 \$	15,000 \$	150,000 \$ 278,681

Ms. Marshall and Mr. Sarles retired from the Board of Directors effective as of April 25, 2018. The dollar amounts of their cash retainers were prorated to reflect their service on the Board from January 1, 2018 to April 25, 2018.

Mr. Walter joined the Board and became a member of the Audit Committee as of April 25, 2018. He became a member of the Nominating and Governance Committee as of November 1, 2018. The dollar amounts of his cash retainers were prorated to reflect his service on the Board effective as of April 25, 2018 to December 31,

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2018.

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Mr. Williams was appointed as chairman of the Audit Committee as of April 25, 2018. The dollar amounts of his cash retainer were prorated to reflect his service as the Audit Committee chairman effective as of April 25, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

- The dollar amounts in this column show the grant date fair value of the annual grant of deferred share units. For 2018, the number of deferred share units credited to a director's account is calculated as follows: the dollar value to be received by the director is divided by the closing price of a share of our common stock on the date of our annual meeting of shareholders. The aggregate incremental cost of perquisites and personal benefits is less than \$10,000 for each director. As a result, the Securities and Exchange Commission does not require us to disclose those costs.
- In 2018, Mr. Williams elected to defer 100% of his cash retainers under the Ameriprise Financial Deferred Share Plan for Outside Directors, with 70% allocated into the Ameriprise Common Stock Fund and 30% allocated into the Moody's Corporate Bond Yield Index. In lieu of cash, Mr. Williams received an aggregate total of 624.7530 deferred share units of Ameriprise Financial in his deferred compensation accounts.

**Deferred Share Plan for Outside Directors.** All of our outside directors participate in the Ameriprise Financial Deferred Share Plan for Outside Directors. Each outside director receives an annual grant of deferred share units immediately following the annual meeting of shareholders. A deferred share unit is a phantom share of our common stock that tracks the value of our common stock. A deferred share unit receives deemed dividends in the same amount paid on a share of our common stock, but it has no voting rights. Outside directors may also choose to defer part or all of their annual cash retainer and any committee retainer under the plan.

**Deferred share units issued to outside directors in 2018.** This table shows the number of deferred share units issued to outside directors during 2018. In order to simplify the presentation, we have

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rounded the numbers shown to the nearest unit. Directors' accounts were credited with deemed dividends on the deferred share units at the same rate as the dividends paid on a share of our common stock. These deemed dividends were reinvested in additional deferred share units.

	Annual Equity Grant	Retainer Deferral	Total DSUs	Annual Equity Grant	Reinvested Deemed Dividends	Retainer Deferral	Total DSUs	Annual Equity Grant	Retainer Deferral	Total DSUs
Dianne Neal Blixt	5,018	0	5,018	1,060	149	0	1,209	6,227	0	6,227
Amy DiGeso	5,018	0	5,018	1,060	149	0	1,209	6,227	0	6,227
Lon R. Greenberg	11,267	0	11,267	1,060	309	0	1,369	12,636	0	12,636
Siri S. Marshall*	28,050	0	28,050	0	512	0	512	0	0	0
Jeffrey Noddle	28,050	15,164	43,214	1,060	1,123	0	2,183	29,847	15,550	45,397
H. Jay Sarles*	28,050	1,239	29,289	0	533	0	533	0	0	0
Robert F. Sharpe, Jr.	28,050	4,017	32,067	1,060	839	0	1,899	29,847	4,120	33,967
W. Edward Walter III	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,060	21	0	1,081	1,081	0	1,081
Christopher J. Williams	2,101	593	2,694	1,060	100	624	1,784	3,236	1,242	4,478

Includes deemed dividends invested in additional Deferred Share Units.

Ms. Marshall and Mr. Sarles retired from the Board as of April 25, 2018. They each received a distribution of shares of common stock following the end of their service to the Board as provided by the Deferred Share Plan for Outside Directors.

#### **Outside Directors Deferred Share Plan for 2018**

#### **Amount**

\$150,000

Outside directors whose first term is less than one year long will receive a pro-rata grant based on their length of service between their appointment to the Board and the next annual meeting of shareholders Before the beginning of each calendar year, a director may elect to defer up to 100% of the annual cash retainer and any committee chairman or member retainer, in 25% increments

#### **Investment Options**

Only investment option is Ameriprise deferred share units, credited to a separate annual equity grant deferred share unit account Director may choose to invest deferred amounts in one or both of these options: Ameriprise deferred share units or a cash account that receives a market rate of interest, credited on the last day of each month

# Number of Deferred Share Units Credited

The number of deferred share units is determined by dividing the dollar amount awarded by the closing price of a share of our common stock on the date of our annual shareholders meeting, or for a director who joins the Board after the date of the most recent annual meeting, closing price of a share of our common stock on the third trading day following the public release of our financial statements during the quarter the director joins

The number of units credited is determined by dividing the quarterly deferral amount by the closing price of a share of our common stock on for the third trading day following the public release of our financial statements for the quarter

# Dividend Equivalent Reinvestment

Account is credited with additional

Deemed dividends on deferred share units

deferred share units on each dividend payment date for our common stock

are reinvested in the same manner used for the annual equity grant account

Number of additional units is calculated by first multiplying the number of units held on the dividend record date by the dividend payable on a share of our common stock; that number is then divided by the closing price of a share of our common stock on the dividend payment date

#### **Distribution**

Single payment in shares of our common stock following the director's end of service

A director makes a distribution election at the same time he or she makes a deferral election, and that election applies to that year's deferrals. A director makes a new distribution election each year. A director has three distribution choices:

Lump sum on March 31 of a specified year

Lump sum following the director's end of service

Two to five or ten annual installments following the director's end of service

# **Change in Control**

Upon a change in control, the entire account will be immediately distributed in shares of our common stock

Upon a change in control, all amounts held in either account will be immediately distributed in cash, or in shares of our common stock to the extent invested in Ameriprise deferred share units

# **Ownership of Our Common Shares**

The table below shows how many Ameriprise common shares certain individuals and entities beneficially owned on February 28, 2019. These individuals and entities include: (1) owners of more than 5% of our outstanding common shares; (2) our current directors and director nominees; (3) the five executive officers named in the compensation tables included in subsequent sections of this proxy statement; and (4) all current directors and executive officers as a group. A person has beneficial ownership over shares if the person has or shares voting or investment power over the shares or the right to acquire such power within 60 days of February 28, 2019. Investment power means the power to direct the sale or other disposition of the shares. Each person has sole voting and investment power over the shares, except as we describe below.

The column captioned "Deferred Share Units and Restricted Stock Units" shows DSUs and RSUs owned by non-management directors through the Outside Directors Deferred Share Plan and phantom units owned by the executive officers under the Company's Supplemental Retirement Plan and Deferred Compensation Plan. The information in this column is not required by the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission because these units carry no voting rights and will be settled in shares of common stock that the recipient does not have the right to acquire within 60 days of February 28, 2019. Nevertheless, we believe that this information provides a more complete picture of the financial stake that our directors and executive officers have in the Company.

The Vanguard Group 100 Vanguard Blvd. Malvern, PA 19355	12,600,989(3)	9.3%	12	2,600,989
BlackRock, Inc. 55 East 52nd Street New York, NY 10055	10,303,080(4)	7.6%	10	),303,080
Dianne Neal Blixt	1,000	*	6,270	7,270
Amy DiGeso	156	*	6,270	6,426
Lon R. Greenberg	8,000	*	12,723	20,723
Jeffrey Noddle	500	*	45,707	46,207
Robert F. Sharpe, Jr.	30,330(5)	*	34,199	64,529
W. Edward Walter III	1,000	*	1,089	2,089
Christopher J. Williams	200	*	4,510	4,710
James M. Cracchiolo	194,387 904,748	*	198,675 1	,297,810
Walter S. Berman	25,702 306,501	*	62,012	394,215

William F. Truscott	50,753 268,035	*	18,275	337,063
Colin Moore	43,741 238,506	*	12,706	294,953
Joseph E. Sweeney	19,479 138,673	*	10,844	168,997
All current directors and executive officers (16 individuals)	451,87 <b>2</b> ,122,686	1.9%	%439,901 3	3,014,460

<sup>\*</sup> Less than 1%.

Our executive officers and directors are prohibited from hedging in any way against a decline in the value of the Ameriprise common stock they own. Executive officers are also prohibited from pledging their Ameriprise common stock in any manner, whether as collateral for a loan, in a margin account held at a broker, or otherwise. Our directors are permitted to pledge their Ameriprise common stock in this manner, provided that they first pre-clear the pledge with our corporate secretary or another Company lawyer. A pledge will not be approved if it is significant in relation to the average trading volume of our common stock for the five trading days immediately preceding the pre-clearance request.

The shares of common stock subject to a pledge will not be counted in determining the satisfaction of the equity ownership requirement then applicable to our outside directors.

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(1) This column includes shares held in employee benefit plan accounts on February 28, 2019, as follows:

James M. Cracchiolo	1,577
Walter S. Berman	333
William F. Truscott	281
Colin Moore	0
Joseph E. Sweeney	272
All executive officers, including those named above	3,250

- Executive officers hold restricted shares that we include in this column. The executive may vote the restricted shares, but may not sell or transfer them during the restricted period. These restrictions lapse over a period of years. The named executive officers hold restricted stock units rather than restricted shares. Other executive officers hold a total of restricted shares.
- Based on information contained in a report on Schedule 13G/A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 11, 2019, by The Vanguard Group which contained information as of December 31, 2018.
- (4)
  Based on information contained in a report on Schedule 13G/A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 4, 2019, by BlackRock, Inc. which contained information as of December 31, 2018.
- (5) Includes 17,500 shares held in a trust, 3,000 shares held in an Individual Retirement Account, and 1,650 shares held in an irrevocable trust.
- (6) These are shares that the named individuals have the right to acquire within 60 days of February 28, 2019, upon the exercise of stock options that they hold.

# Items to Be Voted on by Shareholders Item 1 Election of the Eight Director Nominees Named Below

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the election of the eight director nominees. Proxies will be voted "FOR" each director nominee unless otherwise specified.

All of our directors are elected annually and the directors elected at this annual meeting will be elected for a one-year term ending at the 2020 annual meeting.

Our Board of Directors has fixed the number of directors at eight. At this year's annual meeting, the terms of all directors now serving will expire.

The Board has appointed Walter S. Berman, Karen Wilson Thissen, and Thomas R. Moore as proxies who will vote your shares for which proxies have been submitted. Their names appear on the proxy card. Proxies will be voted "FOR" the election of each of the eight nominees unless you indicate on the proxy card or voting instructions that you vote "AGAINST" or "ABSTAIN" from voting with respect to, any or all of the nominees. The telephone and Internet proxy submission procedures will include instructions on how to abstain from voting with respect to any or all nominees. We expect that each nominee will be able to serve if elected as a director. However, if any nominee is not able to serve, the persons named as proxies may vote for another person nominated by the Nominating and Governance Committee. Alternatively, the Board of Directors, at its option, may reduce the number of directors.

We currently expect that the election of directors will be uncontested and therefore the nominees for director will be subject to a majority voting standard, as explained in more detail on page six. Proxies will be voted "FOR" the election of all nominees unless otherwise specified.

The nominees for election as director have provided the following information about themselves.

The Securities and Exchange Commission's rules require us to discuss briefly the specific experience, qualifications, attributes or skills that led the Board to conclude that each director or nominee for director should serve on our Board of Directors. We've provided this discussion in a separate paragraph immediately below the biographical information provided by each director in the following section.

All of our directors and nominees possess the minimum qualities and skills described in the section of the proxy statement captioned "Director Qualifications and Board Policies", beginning on page 13. In addition, one or more of our directors and nominees possess the specific qualities or skills considered necessary by the Nominating and Governance Committee, also described in that section.

As you read the disclosures, please keep these points in mind. First, if a specific qualification, attribute or skill is ascribed to one or more directors and nominees, that does not necessarily imply that other directors and nominees do not possess that qualification, attribute or skill. Second, this disclosure does not impose on the director any duties, obligations or liability that are greater than the duties, obligations, and liability imposed on each member of the Board of Directors. Third, the disclosure does not affect the duties, obligations, or liability of any other member of the Board of Directors.

# Directors Nominees for Terms Ending in 2020

#### James M. Cracchiolo

Age 60, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since September 30, 2005

Jim Cracchiolo has been Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ameriprise Financial since 2005, when the Company, American Express Financial Advisors, completed its spin-off from the American Express Company. Mr. Cracchiolo has guided Ameriprise for more than a decade as a public company with a strong, client-centric culture and a record for generating meaningful, long-term shareholder value. Prior to his current role, Mr. Cracchiolo held a number of executive level positions at American Express, including leading businesses with significant domestic and global operations. Mr. Cracchiolo served as Group President American Express Global Financial Services from 2000-2005 and held the following roles: Chairman and CEO of American Express Financial Advisors; Chairman of American Express International Bank; and CEO of Travel Related Services International. In addition, Mr. Cracchiolo was President and CEO of Travel Related Services International from 1998-2000; President of Global Network Services from 1997 to 1998; Senior Vice President of Travel Related Services Quality, Global Reengineering and Strategy from 1993-1997; and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Shearson Lehman Brothers (then a unit of American Express) from 1990-1993.

Mr. Cracchiolo has 38 years of experience in the financial services industry and a record of proven leadership in running global businesses with large scale operations and thousands of employees. Mr. Cracchiolo brings to the Board valuable executive leadership experience, a strong financial background, and effective long-term strategic planning and risk management expertise. He has built new businesses, restructured significant lines of businesses, and negotiated and integrated a number of successful acquisitions.

Mr. Cracchiolo is a member of the Business Roundtable. He previously served on the boards of directors of the American Council of Life Insurers, the Financial Services Roundtable and on the board of advisors to the March of Dimes Foundation. Mr. Cracchiolo holds a bachelor's degree in accounting and economics and a master's of business administration degree in finance, both from New York University. He also holds a Certified Public Accountant designation in New York State and is certified as a General Securities Representative and General Securities Principal in the United States.

#### **Dianne Neal Blixt**

Age 59, director since February 26, 2014

Ms. Blixt was a director of Lorillard, Inc., a tobacco company, from January 2011 to June 2015. She served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Reynolds American Inc. from July 2004 until her retirement in December 2007. Prior to that, she had served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Holdings, Inc. from July 2003 to June 2004. She also served in various roles of increasing responsibility with Reynolds American Inc. and its subsidiaries since 1988. Ms. Blixt is a consultant with small businesses and a principal with C&D Ventures. Ms. Blixt joined the board of directors of Scandinavia Tobacco Group as of February 2016. Ms. Blixt previously served on the board of directors of LandAmerica Financial Group, Inc. from 2006 to 2009, Metavante Technologies, Inc. from 2007 to 2009 and NatureWorks Organics, LLC from 2011 to 2017. She serves on the Reynolda House Museum of

American Art Board of Trustees. She also serves as chair of the National Sports Media Association.

Ms. Blixt has proven her abilities in financial operations and controls as the executive vice president and chief financial officer of a large public company. In that role, she was closely involved in merger and acquisition activity, expense management, and regulatory relations. She also demonstrated her appreciation for setting the proper tone at the top in terms of integrity and legal and regulatory compliance. A previous position as the vice president of investor relations at the same company gave her experience in clearly communicating corporate strategy and financial and business results to investors and analysts. Ms. Blixt's background and experience, especially as a director at other companies, is valuable to the Board as it considers potential acquisitions, monitors balance sheet management, and oversees Ameriprise's enterprise risk management program.

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#### Amy DiGeso

Age 66, director since February 26, 2014

Ms. DiGeso was Executive Vice President, Global Human Resources, at The Estée Lauder Companies, Inc., one of the world's leading manufacturers and marketers of quality skin care, makeup, fragrance and hair care products, until retiring from the position in September 2013. Ms. DiGeso remained with the company as Executive Vice President, Senior Advisor to William P. Lauder, Executive Chairman and Fabrizio Freda, President and Chief Executive Officer through June 30, 2014. Prior to rejoining The Estée Lauder Companies in May 2005, Ms. DiGeso was Managing Partner, Human Capital, responsible for global human resources at PricewaterhouseCoopers, a worldwide professional services firm with over 125,000 employees in 142 countries. She has also served as President of Popular Club, Inc., a direct marketing and sales subsidiary of Macy's, Inc., and held a number of executive management positions at Mary Kay Inc., including that of Chief Executive Officer. Earlier in her career she held positions of increasing responsibility at Bankers Trust Company, the American Express Company and Olivetti Corporation of America. She worked previously at The Estée Lauder Companies as Executive Director of Human Resources. Ms. DiGeso is a

Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) Alumni Fellow. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Penn State and an MBA from Fordham University.

Ms. DiGeso has enjoyed a career that includes being the chief executive officer of a global company and managing the complex human capital needs of large multinational companies. As a result, she has developed a strong understanding of: global operations; marketing and brand management; and strategic planning in the consumer products, financial services and direct selling industries. In addition, she has extensive experience with: executive compensation programs; succession planning; talent recruitment and development; and corporate governance. Ms. DiGeso's background and experience is valuable to the Board as it oversees Ameriprise's operations abroad, responds to developments in executive compensation, and continues to enhance its corporate governance framework. In particular, Ms. DiGeso's deep experience with human capital issues helps the Board advise management on talent recruitment and development, both at the corporate level and with experienced advisor recruitment.

#### Lon R. Greenberg

Age 68, director since June 7, 2011

Mr. Greenberg is the Chairman Emeritus and former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of UGI Corporation. UGI Corporation is an international distributor and marketer of energy products and services including propane, butane, natural gas and electricity. Mr. Greenberg joined UGI in 1980 and held various positions until he became CEO in 1995, a position he held through April 2013. Mr. Greenberg retired as Chairman of UGI Corporation and AmeriGas Propane, Inc. (a subsidiary of UGI Corporation) in January 2016.

Mr. Greenberg received his B.S. in Economics from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He continued his education at Villanova Law School and the Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program. After clerking for the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, he joined the law firm of Morgan Lewis. Mr. Greenberg also serves on the board of directors of

AmerisourceBergen Corporation. In addition, Mr. Greenberg serves on the boards of these organizations: Temple University; United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southeastern New Jersey; and The Philadelphia Foundation. Mr. Greenberg is a former Chairman and board member of the World LP Gas Association and previously served on the board of directors of Aqua America, Inc.

Mr. Greenberg, who is an attorney-at-law, served as the chairman and chief executive officer of a public company for 20 years. He has broad experience with the financial, risk management, operational, regulatory and corporate governance issues affecting a public company and its shareholders. Mr. Greenberg also has significant experience in mergers and acquisitions, both in the United States and abroad, which will enable him to provide valuable advice and insights on future transactions to the Board and management.

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#### Jeffrey Noddle

Age 72, director since September 20, 2005

Mr. Noddle served as Chairman of the board of directors of SUPERVALU INC. from 2002 until he retired in 2010. Previously, Mr. Noddle also served as Chief Executive Officer of SUPERVALU since 2001. Prior to that time, Mr. Noddle held a number of other leadership positions at SUPERVALU, including President and Chief Operating Officer from 2000 to 2001, Corporate Executive Vice President and President and Chief Operating Officer of SUPERVALU's distribution food companies, Corporate Vice President merchandising and President of the company's Fargo and former Miami divisions. Mr. Noddle was a member of the board of The Clorox Company until 2018 and Donaldson Company, Inc. from 2000 to 2017. He is also a former chairman of the Food Marketing Institute.

Mr. Noddle's service as the chairman and chief executive officer of a Fortune 500 company provided him with valuable experience in a number of areas that are important to the Company, including: mergers and acquisitions, including integration planning and execution; shareholder relations and communications; corporate governance issues; executive officer succession planning; balance sheet management; financial reporting; and long-range planning. He also has contributed to the Board's knowledge of the director recruitment process as it continues to review the current composition and needs of the Board.

#### Robert F. Sharpe, Jr.

Age 67, director since September 30, 2005

Mr. Sharpe retired in November 2010, having most recently served as a senior advisor to ConAgra Foods, Inc. Previously he had served in a variety of senior positions with ConAgra since November 2005, including President of Commercial Foods since 2008 and Chief Administrative Officer since 2009. From 2002 until joining ConAgra, Mr. Sharpe was a partner at the Brunswick Group LLC, an international financial public relations firm. Prior to that, he served as Senior Vice President Public Affairs, Secretary and General Counsel for PepsiCo, Inc. from 1998 to 2002. Previously, Mr. Sharpe was Senior Vice President and General Counsel for RJR Nabisco, Inc. Mr. Sharpe is chairman of the board of directors of New Frontier foods, Inc., a private corporation. Mr. Sharpe is a former member of the board of directors of Swedish Match AB.

Mr. Sharpe, who is an attorney-at-law, has been responsible for a wide range of functions as an executive officer and general counsel of Fortune 500 companies. His day-to-day experience with the current financial, legal, regulatory and operational issues facing public companies has been valuable to the Board. Mr. Sharpe offers an informed perspective on executive compensation programs to the Board and has advised it on communications with our institutional shareholders. In addition, he has a sound understanding of risk management, financial reporting and disclosure and corporate governance issues.

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#### W. Edward Walter

Age 63, director since 2018

Mr. Walter has been the Global Chief Executive Officer and member of the Global Board of Directors of the Urban Land Institute since June 2018. He also serves on the board of the Urban Land Institute Foundation, which supports the activities of the Institute. He previously served as the Robert and Lauren Steers Chair in Real Estate at the Steers Center for Global Real Estate at Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business from November 2014 until June 2018. Mr. Walter served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Host Hotels & Resorts, Inc., a publicly traded premier lodging real estate company, from 2007 through 2016. From 2003 until 2007, he served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Host and from 1996 until 2003, he held various senior management positions with Host, including Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Walter was a member of the Board of Directors of Host from October 2007 through December 2016. Prior to joining Host, Mr. Walter was a partner

with Trammell Crow Residential Company and the president of Bailey Capital Corporation. Mr. Walter currently serves on the board of Avalon Bay Communities, Inc, is the Chairman of the Federal City Council, a member of the Board of Visitors of the Georgetown University Law Center and a member of the Executive Committee of the Steers Center for Global Real Estate. Walter is also a past Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Kidney Foundation and the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts.

Mr. Walter brings to the Board a wide range of experience, including as chairman and chief executive officer, chief financial officer and chief operating officer of a public company. With his background in real estate and investments and his leadership in the academic world, he provides constructive advice and adds new insights to our Board.

#### **Christopher J. Williams**

Age 61, director since September 6, 2016

Mr. Williams is chairman, chief executive officer and founder of The Williams Capital Group, L.P., a financial services firm that provides equity, fixed income, corporate finance and financial advisory related services to corporations and governmental entities. He established the firm in 1994 after holding senior investment banking and capital markets roles at Lehman Brothers and Jefferies & Company. Mr. Williams serves as a director for The Clorox Company and Cox Enterprises. He also previously served on the boards of Caesar's Entertainment Corporation and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. Mr. Williams served as the chairman of the Board of Overseers for the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College until June 2018 and serves on the board of the Lincoln Center for the

Performing Arts. Mr. Williams holds a Bachelor of Architecture from Howard University and a Masters in Business Administration from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College.

Mr. Williams has extensive experience in investment banking and finance. He provides the Company with a valuable perspective both as the chairman and chief executive officer of an investment management firm and as a current and former director of several public and private companies, including service as the chairman of an audit committee for a Fortune 100 company. Mr. Williams offers the Company insights on business planning, finance, and long-term strategy.

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# Item 2 To Approve the Compensation of the Named Executive Officers by a Nonbinding Advisory Vote

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the following nonbinding advisory resolution. Proxies will be voted "FOR" the resolution unless otherwise specified:

**RESOLVED**, that the Company's shareholders hereby approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Summary Compensation Table, and the other related tables and disclosure.

The Compensation and Benefits Committee will review the results of the vote on this proposal carefully with the aid of its independent compensation consultant. Depending upon the results of that review, the committee will take such action, if any, as it deems appropriate. Because this vote is advisory, however, it is not binding on us, our Board of Directors, or the Board's Compensation and Benefits Committee. Also, a negative vote will not overrule any decision made by the Compensation and Benefits Committee.

Before you vote on the resolution below, please read the entire Compensation Discussion and Analysis beginning on page 38 carefully. The Compensation Discussion and Analysis contains important information about our executive compensation program. It also explains how and why the Compensation and Benefits Committee made specific decisions about the named executive officers' compensation for their 2018 performance. The final section of the Compensation Discussion and Analysis on page 61 describes the committee's consideration of the results of the vote on this proposal at our 2018 annual meeting.

You should also carefully review the tables that immediately follow the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, together with the related narrative disclosure and footnotes.

# Item 3 Ratification of Audit Committee's Selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company's Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm for 2019

The Board of Directors recommends a vote "FOR" the following resolution. Proxies will be voted "FOR" the following resolution unless otherwise specified:

**RESOLVED**, that the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors' selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, to audit the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries for 2019 is ratified.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP was our independent accounting firm for the 2018 fiscal year and the Audit Committee has engaged the firm for our 2019 fiscal year. We disclose the fees paid to PricewaterhouseCoopers for their services in our 2017 and 2018 fiscal years in this section.

In 2018, the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors conducted a periodic evaluation of external audit firms through a competitive proposal process. Upon conclusion of the process, the Audit Committee elected to retain PricewaterhouseCoopers as the independent accounting firm for Ameriprise Financial, Inc. for a three-year term beginning with the 2019 fiscal year.

We provide important additional information about the Audit Committee's oversight of PricewaterhouseCoopers in the "External Auditors" section on page 19. We are asking shareholders to ratify the committee's engagement of PricewaterhouseCoopers, subject to the limitation stated in the last sentence of the following paragraph.

The members of the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors believe that the continued engagement of PricewaterhouseCoopers as our independent registered public accounting firm is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders. In the event the shareholders do not ratify the appointment, the Audit Committee will consider other accounting firms for 2019. The Audit Committee will be under no obligation, however, to appoint new independent auditors.

One or more representatives of PricewaterhouseCoopers will be present at the meeting with the opportunity to make a statement if he or she desires to do so and will be available to respond to appropriate questions.

#### **Independence**

As our independent accountant, PricewaterhouseCoopers must meet regulatory requirements relating to independence, including the SEC's auditor independence rules which prohibit accounting firms from having certain financial relationships with their audit clients and affiliated entities. Specifically, as interpreted by SEC staff, under Rule 2-01(c)(1)(ii)(A) of Regulation S-X (the "Loan Rule"), an accounting firm would not be considered independent if it receives a loan from a lender or an affiliate of a lender that is a "record or beneficial owner of more than ten percent of the audit client's equity securities." In connection with the SEC's application of the Loan Rule, PricewaterhouseCoopers has advised us that certain relationships between PricewaterhouseCoopers (and certain of its affiliates) and its lenders who also are record owners of various funds in the Columbia Threadneedle family of funds (collectively, the "Columbia Threadneedle Funds") or certain other entities within the Ameriprise Financial, Inc. investment company complex, may implicate the Loan Rule. On June 20, 2016, the Staff of the SEC issued a "no-action" letter confirming that it would not recommend that the SEC commence enforcement action against a fund that continued to fulfill its regulatory requirements under the federal securities laws by using audit services performed by an audit firm that was not in compliance with the Loan Rule in certain specified circumstances. The SEC Staff stated that the relief under the letter was temporary and would expire 18 months after the issuance of the letter and then on September 22, 2017, the SEC issued a

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letter extending the no-action relief until the SEC amends the Loan Rule to address the concerns expressed in the no-action letter. On May 2, 2018, the SEC proposed amendments to the Loan Rule, which, if adopted as proposed, would refocus the analysis that must be conducted to determine whether an audit firm is independent when the audit firm has a lending relationship with certain shareholders of an audit firm client at any time during an audit or professional engagement period. However, these amendments have not yet been finalized.

PricewaterhouseCoopers has also affirmed to us that they are able to exercise objective and impartial judgment with respect to the issues encompassed within its engagement and their audits of us, our affiliates and the Columbia Threadneedle Funds, are independent accountants within the meaning of PCAOB Rule 3520 and in their view can continue to serve as our independent registered public accounting firm. The Company has considered disclosures made to it by PricewaterhouseCoopers of lending relationships described by PricewaterhouseCoopers, PricewaterhouseCoopers's representation that it is independent within the meaning of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Rule 3520 *Auditor Independence*, and representations made to the Company's Audit Committee by PricewaterhouseCoopers that PricewaterhouseCoopers believes that a reasonable investor possessing all the facts regarding the lending relationships and audit relationships would conclude that PricewaterhouseCoopers is able to exhibit the requisite objectivity and impartiality to report on the Company's financial statements as the independent registered public accounting firm. Based on the foregoing, the Company does not believe that PricewaterhouseCoopers is incapable of exercising objective and impartial judgment with respect to the audit services to us, our affiliates or the Columbia Threadneedle Funds.

#### **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm Fees**

The following presents the aggregate fees billed for professional services by PricewaterhouseCoopers, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the year beginning January 1, 2018, in fiscal year 2018, and for the year beginning January 1, 2017, in fiscal year 2017, for these various services:

Audit Fees	\$10,020,000	\$9,403,000
Audit-Related Fees	\$3,002,000	\$3,095,000
Tax Fees	\$497,000	\$975,000
All Other Fees	\$38,000	\$363,000
Total	\$13,557,000	\$13,836,000

**Audit Fees.** The audit fees set forth above consist of fees for professional services during each fiscal year in connection with the audit of the Company's annual financial statements, review of financial statements included in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and services that were provided in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements.

**Audit-Related Fees.** The audit-related fees set forth above consist of fees for attest, assurance and related services that were reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Company's internal controls, including custody rule examinations, service organization control reports, comfort letters, employee benefit plan audits and agreed upon procedures engagements.

Tax Fees. The tax fees set forth above consist of fees for tax services during each fiscal year. Of the \$497,000 in 2018 tax fees, \$452,000 was paid for tax planning and consulting services and \$45,000 was paid for tax preparation services.

All Other Fees. All other fees set forth above consist of fees for miscellaneous advisory and consulting services other than audit, audit-related or tax services.

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#### **Services to Associated Organizations**

PricewaterhouseCoopers also provided other services to associated organizations of the Company that were charged directly to those organizations. These amounts included \$11,422,000 and \$10,934,000 for services provided by PricewaterhouseCoopers in 2018 and 2017, respectively, primarily for performing audits and tax compliance services for mutual funds, collective funds, and alternative investment funds.

#### Policy on Pre-Approval of Services Provided by Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Pursuant to the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the terms of the engagement of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm are subject to the specific pre-approval of the Audit Committee. All audit and permitted non-audit services to be performed by the Company's independent registered public accounting firm require pre-approval by the Audit Committee in accordance with pre-approval procedures established by the Audit Committee.

The procedures require all proposed engagements of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for services of any kind to be directed to the Company's general auditor and then submitted for approval to the Audit Committee or to the Audit Committee chairman prior to the beginning of any services. The Audit Committee has delegated such approval authority to its chairman, to be exercised in the intervals between committee meetings.

In 2018, 100% of the services provided by PricewaterhouseCoopers for the Company and its subsidiaries were pre-approved by the Audit Committee or its chairman.

# **Compensation of Executive Officers Compensation and Benefits Committee Report**

Dear Fellow Shareholders:

The Compensation and Benefits Committee (the "Committee") decided that it was important to expand this year's Committee report beyond what the SEC requires. The Committee members and all other directors were concerned about the results of the vote on management's Say on Pay proposal at our 2018 annual meeting. It was the first time the proposal did not receive majority support, after the average of 91% support that we have enjoyed since 2011.

The Committee reviewed and discussed with the Company's management the Compensation and Discussion Analysis that accompanies this report, and we focused on being sure that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis clearly explains several important points to our shareholders:

The broad scope of the shareholder engagement effort by senior management and members of the Committee in response to the vote;

The careful attention that the Committee gave to detailed summaries of shareholder comments and suggestions;

The significant changes the Committee, with the advice of its independent compensation consultant, made to the executive compensation program in response to the concerns of our shareholders; and

The resulting adjustments to the compensation of our named executive officers for the 2018 performance year, as compared to the 2017 performance year.

Based on that review and discussion, the Committee believes that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis accomplishes those and other goals and the Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018, and in this proxy statement.

In closing, the Committee would like to express its sincere appreciation to the shareholders who shared their concerns and suggestions with us. All of our shareholders, including those who voted for the 2018 Say on Pay proposal, spoke with candor and an evident desire to help the Committee respond effectively to the 2018 Say on Pay vote. Jeff Noddle, the Committee Chairman, and Rob Sharpe, a Committee member, Chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee, and Presiding Director, participated in calls with several of our largest investors and found them to be invaluable in guiding the Committee's deliberations.

The entire Board also appreciated the many positive comments of our long-term shareholders about the performance of the Company, the quality of executive management, the fundamental design of our executive compensation program, and the Company's corporate governance. The Committee and the Board look forward to continuing this dialogue with our shareholders in the years ahead.

### MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Jeffrey Noddle, Chairman Dianne Neal Blixt Amy DiGeso Lon R. Greenberg Robert F. Sharpe, Jr.

# **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

In this section of the proxy, we describe our philosophy and material elements of our executive compensation program and explain how our Board's Compensation and Benefits Committee ("Committee") makes compensation decisions, including the changes we made based on engagement with our shareholders during 2018.

The terms used herein are explained in the Glossary on page 61 and the following are our named executive officers, or NEOs.

James M. Cracchiolo	Walter S. Berman	William F. Truscott	Colin Moore	Joseph E. Sweeney
Chairman and	Executive Vice	Chief Executive	Executive Vice	President,
Chief Executive	President and Chief	Officer, Global	President and Global	Advice & Wealth
Officer ("CEO")	Financial Officer	Asset Management	Chief Investment	Management
			Officer	Products and
				Service Delivery

#### Introduction

The goal of our executive compensation program is to deliver pay for performance while attracting and retaining an exceptional leadership team and incenting performance at levels that create sustained shareholder value.

Given our history of receiving consistently favorable shareholder Say on Pay support, our Board was concerned that our 2018 Say on Pay vote did not receive favorable support despite near-record results and the highest total shareholder return among our executive compensation peer group in 2017. Our Board views the results of the vote and the feedback we received as important signals related to our executive compensation program.

As part of our ongoing dialogue with shareholders, we expanded our outreach in 2018 and actively sought feedback to better understand our shareholders' voting decisions and the actions we could take to address their concerns. While expressing strong support for management and the overall performance of the Company, investors provided constructive input on executive compensation. Based on this feedback, we have made substantial changes that have been implemented within our 2018 executive compensation program and are reflected in the Committee's 2018 compensation decisions.

In 2018, we again achieved strong operational results that exceeded plan targets. However, as a result of the changes to our executive compensation program, our CEO compensation decreased by 23%. In addition to the executive compensation program changes, which included reducing the CEO's target incentive by \$1.8 million, we have also enhanced disclosure in this Compensation Discussion and Analysis ("CD&A") to increase the transparency of our incentive determination process and better explain the manner in which the Committee assesses results under our long-standing performance scorecard.

We remain committed to regular annual dialogue with shareholders to ensure that our executive compensation program reflects best practices, supports our business and strategic objectives, and is viewed by shareholders as appropriately aligned with performance.

Shareholder input from these conversations resulted in direct changes to our compensation program for 2018 as detailed in the table on the next page.

# **Changes to Our 2018 Compensation Program**

	Reduced the maximum leverage applied to total incentive pool from 200% to 175%	Reduces total pay opportunity	Fiscal year 2018 and beyond
Quantum of CEO Pay	Reduced CEO target incentive by \$1.8 million	Reduces total pay opportunity	Fiscal year 2018
	Eliminated perquisite allowance for Executive Leadership Team	Decreases fixed pay element	Fiscal year 2019 and beyond
	No base salary increases for NEOs in 2018 or 2019	No increases to pay opportunity for 2018	Fiscal year 2018 and 2019
Transparency of CEO Pay Targets	Reduced and disclosed CEO target incentive, as distinct from incentive pool for all NEOs	Improves transparency into CEO pay determination	Fiscal year 2018 and beyond
Significant CEO Cash Incentive Payout	Decreased CEO cash incentive to 30% of total incentives, increasing equity to 70% (cash decreased from 40% in 2017 and 2016); half of equity remains performance share units ("PSUs")	Increases alignment of executives' interests with those of long-term shareholders	Fiscal year 2018 and beyond
More Detail on Metrics	Improved disclosure to emphasize all metrics have pre-set targets	Improves transparency	Fiscal year 2018 and beyond
Ownership Thresholds	Increased ownership threshold for CEO from 6x to 10x base salary, and NEOs from 3x to 4x base salary	Further aligns executives' interests with those of long-term shareholders	Fiscal year 2018 and beyond

# **Impact on 2018 CEO Compensation**

As a direct result of the changes implemented, 2018 CEO earned cash incentives decreased by more than 40% while CEO total direct compensation decreased by 23%, despite another year of strong operational performance. In addition to the reduction of \$1.8 million in the CEO target incentive and lowering the maximum performance payout level, the Company is also providing additional disclosure.

\$	FY	Salary	Target	Earned	YOY	Target	Earned	<b>Total Direct</b>	<b>Total Direct</b>	YOY
'housands)			Incentive	Cash	Change	Incentive	Long-Term	Compensation	Compensation	Change
			Cash	Incentive	%	Equity	Incentive	(Target)	(Earned)	%

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1		Portion		Portion	Awards	
ames M.	2018	1,025 3,870	6,386 (43%)	9,030	14,899 13,925	22,310 (23)%
Cracchiolo						
Chairman nd CEO	2017	1,025 Previously ND*	11,190	Previously ND*	16,785 Previously ND*	29,000

\*

While not disclosed, in 2017, the Chairman and CEO's total target incentive was \$14.7 million. The target cash portion was \$5.9 million, and the target equity portion was \$8.8 million.

#### Shareholder Engagement and Responsiveness

Following our disappointing 2018 Say on Pay vote, we reached out to all shareholders who owned in excess of 0.5% of outstanding shares, which in aggregate represented nearly 60% of outstanding shares.

Substantive discussions were held with 16 of the largest shareholders holding 36% of outstanding shares.

Our Presiding Director and Compensation and Benefits Committee Chair participated in discussions with certain of our largest shareholders, and feedback received from all discussions was conveyed to the entire Board.

The Committee approved multiple changes to our 2018 compensation in direct response to feedback received.

#### **Executive Compensation Philosophy**

The Board is focused on aligning executives' interests with those of long-term shareholders by rewarding actions that create long-term shareholder value.

We believe the creation of significant shareholder value since inception as a stand-alone company in 2005 (average annual shareholder return of 10.6% compared to 2.1% for the S&P Financial Index) is validation that our executive compensation philosophy and deliberative approach are effective.

Stability of the executive team is particularly important for a diversified financial services firm, where our employees, advisors and customers have many opportunities to work for or do business with a range of traditional and emerging competitors.

#### Performance Scorecard Approach to Incentive Pay

We use a Performance Scorecard where performance against pre-set goals drives annual and long-term incentives awarded each year.

Scorecard focuses on annual financial performance (70%) and long-term business and strategic metrics (30%).

Over the past three years, based on shareholder feedback, we have decreased the cash proportion of incentive pay for the Chairman and CEO to 30% from 40% with the remainder

paid in long-term equity.

50% of long-term equity awards are granted as PSUs with vesting contingent on a further three-year performance period, thereby strengthening alignment of the interests of management with those of long-term shareholders. The remaining 50% is granted as stock options and restricted stock awards ("RSAs") that vest based on continued service over a multi-year period.

#### 2018 Executive Compensation is Aligned with 2018 Company Performance

2018 was another year of strong operational performance. Revenue and earnings per share ("EPS") grew at 5% and 18%, respectively, and return on equity ("ROE") increased to 37%, however, notwithstanding these record operating results, consistent with the unfavorable results within our industry, our short-term stock price performance was negative for the year, after being up significantly in 2017.

95% of CEO compensation is at-risk and determined under a robust performance-based program to ensure close alignment between shareholder value creation and executive pay.

2018 CEO total direct compensation was 23% lower than 2017 (*i.e.*, \$22,310,000 versus \$29,000,000 for 2017) as a result of this alignment and the changes made to the executive compensation program based on shareholder feedback.

#### Why You Should Vote FOR 2019 Say on Pay

Changes made to the executive compensation program, as well as the Committee's executive pay decisions for 2018, reflect the feedback received from our shareholders.

The use of a Performance Scorecard requires a clear assessment of management performance against pre-set targets, which drives the amount of both annual and long-term earned incentives.

The metrics chosen by the Board ensure that executives focus on both near- and long-term performance as well as the mitigation of financial risk.

Once performance is assessed, only 30% of the CEO incentives are awarded as cash, with 70% of incentives awarded as equity; half of equity awards are granted as PSUs which are earned at the end of a further three-year performance period, hence aligning the interests of management with those of long-term shareholders.

For the CEO 95%, and for the remaining NEOs 91% on average, of total compensation is at risk. Nearly two-thirds of total compensation vests over four fiscal years, closely aligning executives' interests with those of long-term shareholders. We believe this structure has created significant value for shareholders.

Our pay program has ensured stability of management who have executed our business and strategic initiatives, creating value for shareholders through long-term stock price growth and return of capital to shareholders. We believe this validates our executive compensation philosophy and pay program as effective and warrants shareholder support.

# **Shareholder Engagement and Responsiveness**

We believe shareholder insight and recommendations should be an integral part of Board discussions on many matters. The input we receive from shareholders as part of our regular engagement efforts significantly impacts our compensation and corporate governance policies. The Board, senior management, our investor relations team and subject matter experts from the Company maintain a year-round dialogue with investors to gain their perspectives on current issues and address any questions or concerns.

In discussions over the past several years, shareholders have conveyed support for the Board, management team, the Company's performance, compensation philosophy and overall compensation design.

In addition to input on current corporate governance and executive compensation topics, we invite dialogue about any other topics or trends shareholders may wish to discuss. The Board considers feedback from these conversations during its deliberations, and our engagement activities have produced valuable feedback that informs our decisions and our strategy.

### Shareholder Feedback We Heard You. We Took Action.

The changes below are specific examples of how our compensation program and governance policies have evolved in great part due to feedback the Board has received from shareholders.

In the last ten years, as a result of shareholder engagement, Ameriprise has made several changes to the compensation program and governance policies as outlined in the tables below:

Reduced the maximum leverage applied to total incentive pool from 200% to 175%

Reduced CEO target incentive by \$1.8 million

Modified the incentive mix to reduce cash to 30% of 2018 total incentives for the Chairman and CEO, increasing equity to 70% (35% cash and 65% equity for the other NEOs), down from 40% in 2017 and 2016; half of equity remains PSUs

Disclosed CEO target incentive, as distinct from incentive pool for all NEOs

Improved disclosure to emphasize all metrics have pre-set targets

Increased ownership threshold for CEO from 6x to 10x base salary, and NEOs from 3x to 4x base salary

Maintained total incentive pool for 2018 flat and initiated no base salary increases for NEOs

Eliminated perquisite allowance for Executive Leadership Team

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Maintained a refreshed and diverse Board: two new directors in the last three years; women comprise 25% of Board

Established a majority vote standard for director elections, with a plurality carve-out for contested elections, and a director resignation policy

Increased CEO stock ownership requirements

Eliminated supermajority vote requirements to amend the bylaws/charter, and approve mergers

Reduced severance and change-in-control benefits

Increased the weight on financial metrics in evaluating performance

Introduced performance-conditioned equity

Eliminated a classified Board structure

#### What We Do and What We Don't Do

We are committed to ensuring that our executive compensation program and practices reflect principles of good governance as demonstrated by the following key aspects comprising our program and by those practices that we do not engage in.

Adhere to independence for the Committee and its consultant No employment agreements Incorporate sound risk management and risk avoidance in our incentive No gross ups for potential excise taxes plan design Require executives to hold a significant portion of stock once vested No repricing of stock options without shareholder approval Require a "double trigger" to vest in long-term awards following a change No hedging against the decline in the value of our stock in control Regularly review the governance of our programs and make revisions to No pledging our stock as security for a align with market best practices loan

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# **Executive Compensation Philosophy**

Our executive compensation philosophy is to align the interests of executives with those of shareholders by designing incentives that are directly tied to actions which create sustainable long-term shareholder value. We believe that strong senior leadership is a critical driver of success for our business and for the financial services industry more broadly. The executive compensation program must be designed to attract, reward and retain executive officers who create continual near- and long-term shareholder value by achieving the Company's strategic goals. We also believe that stability at the executive level signals strength and is particularly significant in the financial services industry, where our employees, customers and advisors have many opportunities to work for or do business with a range of traditional and emerging competitors.

# **Key Principles of Executive Compensation Philosophy**

#### **Ongoing Assessment and Review**

Compensation is not a once-a-year discussion for the Board. The Compensation and Benefits Committee closely monitors executive performance throughout the year to ensure pay continues to be aligned with long-term value creation goals. The Committee and Board focuses on business, strategic and leadership performance to ensure a holistic view.

#### **Necessity of Multiple Levers & Metrics**

Over the past decade Ameriprise has transformed into a diverse financial services organization with a very high return on equity and few, if any, directly comparable peers. Our detailed and balanced assessment of performance incorporates the multifaceted nature of our businesses and the unique drivers and challenges of each of our business segments.

#### **Evolving Structure Reflecting Shareholder Input**

Our executive compensation program has evolved over the years as a direct result of our regular and robust engagement with shareholders. We remain open to continued input and discussion from our shareholders.

#### **Stability of Leadership Team**

In the financial services industry, talent and stability are key concerns of retail and institutional clients and partners. With performance drivers being paramount, our compensation program supports stability of management and enhances our ability to recruit and retain top talent.

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#### **Philosophy in Practice**

**Significant At-Risk Compensation:** Against the backdrop of the diverse businesses at Ameriprise and our executive compensation philosophy, we have designed a structure that requires threshold performance for *both* annual *and* long-term incentives. Hence, should the Company and/or executives not achieve certain minimum levels of performance, there would be marginal or no awards of *either* cash *or* equity incentives under the plan. For the CEO, at-risk pay represented 95% of total compensation in 2018, while it represented between 88 and 92% of total compensation for the other NEOs as shown in the charts below.

Alignment of Long-Term Interests: Ameriprise utilizes a Performance Scorecard approach to determine incentive payouts. Once the appropriate performance is assessed and payout determined, 70% (for the CEO) of the earned incentive is denominated in equity. PSUs account for 50% of equity grants while time-vested equity in the form of stock options and RSAs account for the remaining 50%. Hence, nearly two-thirds of total compensation is long-term incentive, ensuring executives' interests are closely aligned with those of shareholders. The PSUs are contingent upon ROE, EPS growth and relative total shareholder return ("TSR") measured over a three-year performance period.

#### **Conclusion**

We are committed to delivering long-term sustainable shareholder value. While our financial results can be affected by global capital conditions beyond our control, our compensation program concentrates on the areas where management has the ability to truly influence the key drivers of shareholder value.

Since Ameriprise's spin-off from American Express in 2005, the Company's TSR has outperformed the S&P 500 Index and the S&P 500 Financials Index, outpacing the indices by 113 and 250 percentage points, respectively. This includes returning \$18.6 billion since 2005 as dividends and share repurchases.

We believe that this creation of significant shareholder value since inception is validation that our executive compensation philosophy and deliberative approach are effective. Over the years, the executive compensation program has ensured the stability of the management team, which in turn has delivered excellent performance on the execution of the business and strategic initiatives and created sustainable value for shareholders.

# **Transparent Performance Scorecard Approach to Incentive Pay**

#### Overview

#### Step 1: Set Benchmarks

Each fiscal year, the Committee establishes the pay program based on our executive compensation philosophy. At the beginning of the year, the Committee establishes the performance metrics taking into consideration the prior year's performance and the Company's business and strategic plans.

#### Step 2: Determine Target Incentive Pool

Following its market assessment each year, the Committee, with input from its executive compensation consultant, FW Cook, determines the target incentive pool based on companies included in our peer group. While Ameriprise has few, if any, directly comparable peers, the peer group analysis includes companies with business lines that are similar to Ameriprise's lines of business.

#### Step 3: Evaluate Performance

Based on verified financial results, performance is then evaluated against pre-set goals to finalize the Incentive Leverage multiplier applicable in a given year.

#### Step 4: Determine Earned Incentive Pool

Finally, this Incentive Leverage is multiplied by the Target Incentive Pool to estimate the Earned Incentive Pool. The Committee assesses business and strategic performance against established metrics and pre-set target goals, as well as the performance of each named executive officer. In circumstances not contemplated at the beginning of the year, however, such as major tax legislation, significant market dislocation, or an acquisition/divestiture, the Committee may factor these unanticipated circumstances into account.

#### Reduction in Maximum Incentive Leverage Following Shareholder Feedback

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The Committee establishes the Incentive Leverage scale which details the actual funding multiplier as a percentage of the Target Incentive Pool.

The Committee then assesses total year performance and determines a rating based on scorecard results. This rating determines the leverage percentage, that up until 2017 ranged from 0% from 200%, that is applied to the incentive target pool to determine the actual incentive pool earned.

In response to shareholder feedback on the quantum of executive compensation (described in the section titled "Shareholder Engagement and Responsiveness"), the Committee reduced the maximum leverage from 200% of target to 175% of target, effectively reducing the potential incentive pool maximum each year going forward. Hence, the revised leverage percentage applicable for 2018 and onwards now ranges from 0% to 175%.

# **Target Incentive Pool Not Increased**

Following shareholder feedback and concerns on the quantum of executive pay, the Committee decided not to increase the Target Incentive Pool for 2018, despite the market assessment results indicating that pay had increased at 11 of the 15 companies in the Ameriprise peer group.

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# Incentive Pool Includes Both Annual and Long-Term Awards; Additional Disclosure and CEO Targets Provided

Certain shareholder feedback to the Board focused on a desire for additional visibility into the CEO's target incentives. To facilitate a better understanding of the target incentive and how the Company delineates targets between the CEO and other NEOs, Ameriprise has provided the following additional detail.

Decreasing CEO target incentive by \$1.8 million

Reducing cash from 40% to 30% of total incentives for CEO (35% for other NEOs) for 2018 and beyond

**Disclosing CEO** incentive targets

Disclosing separate cash and equity portions of incentive pool

Additionally, in response to positive shareholder feedback about the enhanced focus on long-term incentives, we amended the incentive mix so that 70% of incentive pay for the CEO and 65% of incentive pay for the other NEOs is now comprised of long-term incentives.

Target Equity Portion set at \$19.5 million for all NEOs

Target Cash Portion set at \$9.5 million for all NEOs

Included in these were:

\$9.0 million
CEO's Equity Incentive Target

\$3.9 million CEO's Annual Incentive Target

#### **CEO Cash-to-Equity Balance over Time**

Further, as a result of the increased focus on equity as the primary incentive vehicle, the amount of cash paid out each year has successively decreased. In lieu of cash, the equity awards granted vest over a further three-year period, effectively creating a 4-year performance cycle for at least 70% of incentives in the 2018 cash-equity mix.

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#### Peer Group Methodology Remains Consistent with Prior Years

Ameriprise Financial is a leader in each of our core businesses: Advice & Wealth Management, Asset Management, and Protection & Annuities. With respect to the competitive environment, there is no single company that is comparable to us in every respect, primarily because most companies are focused on a single business line whereas Ameriprise is comprised of three separate businesses.

During 2018, FW Cook provided competitive market data to the Committee, including a target total incentive pool with competitive range information above and below the market median. The market median and market competitive ranges provided by FW Cook are based primarily on proxy disclosures for the competitive peer group shown below. Market data is also supplemented from time to time based on published survey data from third-party data providers such as McLagan and Mercer.

The competitive peer group is evaluated by the Committee on an annual basis taking into account the advice of its compensation consultant to confirm the peer companies are appropriate given the size of our Company, type and mix of business lines, and the industries we compete in for executive talent. Collectively, the competitive market data provides an important reference point and market check for the Committee in determining how to position pay and is an important input to the consultant's recommendation when determining the size of the target total incentive pool.

The peer group used for 2018 was reviewed and updated by the Committee in February 2018 to remove MetLife. The Committee agreed with the consultant's recommendation that MetLife was no longer as close a business comparable following the spin-off of Brighthouse Financial.

Asset Management $(n = 5)$	Advice & Wealth Management (n = 5)	Protection & Annuities $(n = 5)$
Affiliated Managers	Bank of New York Mellon	Hartford Financial
BlackRock	Charles Schwab	Lincoln Financial
Franklin Resources	Northern Trust	Principal Financial
Invesco	PNC Financial	Prudential Financial
T. Rowe Price	State Street	Unum Group

The peer group is one of a number of inputs and reference points used by the Committee. The Committee also reviews and considers historical compensation levels for the executive officers and guidance provided by the Committee's compensation consultant. The actual total compensation paid to NEOs is based on the officer's individual performance, in addition to the Company's financial results and business and strategic accomplishments.

#### **Non-Disclosure of Certain Metrics and Targets:**

Ameriprise believes in transparency and strives to disclose as much information to shareholders as possible except in situations where we believe that providing full, or even limited, disclosure would be detrimental to the interests of shareholders. That potential for competitive harm is why we are not providing the components and individual targets incorporated in the Balance Sheet Quality and the Business and Strategic Performance objectives. We believe this disclosure could provide our competitors with insight regarding confidential business strategies without meaningfully adding to shareholders' understanding of the metric. Furthermore, we also determined it was prudent not to disclose the three-year goals for ROE and EPS growth used for PSUs on a prospective basis. However, Ameriprise does disclose the goals and actual performance on a retrospective basis for PSUs that vest each year.

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# **Elements of Executive Compensation**

In making its compensation decisions each year, the Committee reviews the total direct compensation for each of our NEOs, as well as the aggregate value of the total incentives being awarded, ensuring that each component is contingent upon Company and executive performance and is in line with the marketplace. Total direct compensation for each of our NEOs includes the following elements outlined below.

Base Salary	Provide competitive retainer to attract quality executive talent	Market assessment and periodic review
Annual Cash Incentive	Motivate executive to achieve annual and strategic plans	Based 100% on Performance Scorecard  Total of cash award = (Incentive Leverage X Target Cash  Portion)
	Incentivize actions that create long-term value creation	Equal to 50% of equity awards.
LTIA: PSUs	TSR modifier further aligns executives' interests with those of long-term shareholders	Total of PSU award = (Incentive Leverage X Target Equity Portion X 50%)
LTIA: Options and RSAs	Align executives' interests with those of long-term shareholders	Equal to 50% of equity awards, denominated in Options and RSAs
	Retention	Total of Option and RSA award = (Incentive Leverage X Target Equity Portion X 50%)

# **CEO Pay Mix by Elements**

# Other NEOs Average Pay Mix by Elements

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#### **Performance Scorecard Weightings Maintained from Prior Years**

Consistent with prior years, the Committee approved the 2018 Performance Scorecard consisting of a Financial Performance component (weighted 70%) and Business and Strategic Performance component (weighted 30%), with the weighting unchanged from the prior year.

Financial performance is weighted at 70% to reflect the Committee's view that these objective measures are the most important indicators of the Company's success. Business and Strategic performance is weighted at 30% because the Committee believes it is important to assess key accomplishments that contribute to the achievement of our long-range plan.

#### **Financial Performance Metrics**

The Committee evaluates financial performance based on the five metrics shown below.

Net Revenues	15%
Earnings	25%
EPS (diluted)	20%
ROE ex. AOCI	20%
<b>Balance Sheet Quality</b>	20%

The **Balance Sheet Quality** metric ensures the viability of the Company's capital structure to enable financial flexibility through all kinds of market cycles to capitalize on growth opportunities and achieve its multi-year business objectives while returning capital to shareholders. The metric measures the Company's ability to be operationally flexible and is critical for the long-term viability of the Company's balance sheet. Balance Sheet Quality measures evaluated by the Committee include but are not limited to: liquidity, excess capital position, investment quality, hedge effectiveness and free cash flow.

# **Business and Strategic Performance Metrics**

The Committee evaluates non-financial performance based on the five strategic objectives shown below.

Profitably Grow our Advice & Wealth Management Business	30%	Advisor Productivity, Client Assets, Net Wrap/Client Flows, Advisor Recruiting and Retention
Profitably Grow our Asset Management Business	15%	Net Flows, Fund Performance, Regulatory Change Compliance, New Product Rollout, Enhanced Operating Infrastructure
Prudently Grow our Protection & Annuities Businesses	15%	Protection and Annuity Product Sales, Retention Rates
Invest in Growth and Re-engineering for Efficiency	15%	Investment in Strategic Initiatives, Re-engineering savings
Human Capital Management	25%	Employee Engagement, High Performer Retention, Leader Effectiveness

# **Evaluating 2018 Performance**

#### No Increases to Base Salary

As disclosed in the "Shareholder Engagement and Responsiveness" section, beginning on page 41, base salaries for all the NEOs in 2018 were unchanged from the previous year.

#### **Performance Scorecard Results**

Following the tabulation of financial results, the Committee evaluated actual performance against the pre-set targets and determined the performance rating for each of the financial performance metrics<sup>(1)</sup>. The Board has established a 1 to 5 rating system with 5 being the highest, 1 being the lowest, and a rating of "3" representing performance at target<sup>(2)</sup>. The Committee also evaluated the business and strategic metrics to assess the progress the Company made toward achieving those pre-set goals. The Committee reviews both financial performance and business and strategic accomplishments on an annual basis to ensure alignment with the Company's annual and long-range business plans.

Based on actual 2018 performance compared to plan/budget, the Committee determined the Performance Rating for each metric therein.

#### Financial Performance Component (weighted 70%)

Overall financial performance for Ameriprise was quite strong in 2018, with results favorable to our planned expectations across all financial dimensions including revenue, net income, and earnings per share.<sup>(1)</sup>

Financial performance is evaluated on an adjusted operating basis, which excludes: net realized investment gains or losses, net of the related deferred sales inducement costs ("DSIC") and deferred acquisition costs ("DAC") amortization, unearned revenue amortization and the reinsurance accrual; the market impact on variable annuity guaranteed benefits, net of hedges, and the related DSIC and DAC amortization; the market impact on indexed universal life benefits, net of hedges and related DAC amortization, unearned revenue amortization and the reinsurance accrual; the market impact on fixed index annuity benefits, net of hedges and the related DAC amortization; the market impact of hedges to offset interest rate changes on unrealized gains or losses for certain investments; integration and restructuring charges; income (loss) from discontinued operations; and the impact of consolidating consolidated investment entities ("CIEs"). See the reconciliation of certain non-GAAP measures in the appendix to this proxy statement.

(2)

Each metric is scored on the 1 to 5 rating system described above, and then corresponding leverage is applied (from 0% to 175%) based on the aggregate rating e.g., a 5.0 would result in funding leverage of 175% of target.

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**Balance Sheet Quality** was very strong in 2018 with above target performance. Key highlights include: improved and maintained already strong foundational components, excellent risk management, improved liquidity position, achieved high levels of hedge effectiveness despite volatile markets, maintained high quality investment portfolios and strong excess capital position as we continued to evolve our business mix.

		Overall Weighted Financial Rating				
<b>Balance Sheet Quality</b>	20%	Various	Various	Various	4.5	
ROE ex. AOCI	20%	32.3%	32.3%	36.6%	5.0	
EPS (diluted)	20%	\$12.27	\$12.79	\$14.45	5.0	
Earnings	25%	\$1,923	\$1,983	\$2,135	4.9	
<b>Net Revenues</b>	15%	\$12,044	\$12,489	\$12,694	4.3	

<sup>\*2017</sup> Actual results exclude the one-time impact associated with the enactment of federal tax reform in December 2017.

**Business and Strategic Performance Component (weighted 30%)** 

4.9 out of 5 for client satisfaction

2018 was another year of strong operational results that exceeded targets. Importantly, the Company made strong progress in achieving our long-term strategy.

Drive Profitable Growth of Advice & Wealth Management Business	Profitably Grow Global Asset Management Business
Drove record level client net flows of over \$21 billion into fee-based investment advisory accounts	Delivered consistently competitive investment performance against benchmarks
Recognized in the industry for service and integrity <sup>(1)</sup> :	Strengthened our global operating platform
<pre>* #1 in trust</pre>	Enhanced and further developed our data capabilities in distribution and investments
<pre>* #1 in customer service **</pre>	Though below target, managed outflows in challenging industry environment
#1 in customer loyalty	
»	
#1 in customer forgiveness	
»	Invest in Growth and Re-engineer for Efficiency

Invested \$280 million in major strategic initiatives to drive future growth and meet regulatory requirements Exceeded all objectives on advisor productivity, recruiting and results Re-engineering efforts delivered \$80 million in expense savings Continued significant investment, including enhancing digital and financial planning capabilities and developing our fee-based investment advisory platform **Prudently Grow Protection & Annuities Businesses Human Capital Management** Drove sales in insurance and annuities which exceeded target Annual engagement survey results continue to be strong on all dimensions, strongly exceeding financial services industry objectives benchmarks Increased net written premiums and improved combined ratio while continuing to transform our Property Casualty business Achieved high performer retention of 95% in a challenging year and competitive environment (1) For more details and source information, visit ameriprise.com/recognition 51

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For 2018, these Business and Strategic Performance metrics were evaluated by the Committee against pre-set targets to determine the final performance rating. The specific targets for these metrics are not disclosed due to their sensitive nature and potential harm to shareholder interests. However, in the table below, we have included some of the key metrics evaluated to determine the final performance rating.

Profitably Grow our Advice & Wealth Management Business	30%	Advisor Productivity, Client Assets, Net Wrap/Client Flows, Advisor Recruiting and Retention	4.25
Profitably Grow our Global Asset Management Business	15%	Net Flows, Fund Performance, Regulatory Change Compliance, New Product Rollout, Enhanced Operating Infrastructure	2.75
Prudently Grow our Protection & Annuities Businesses	15%	Protection and Annuity Product Sales, Retention Rates	3.75
Invest in Growth and Re-engineering Efficiency	15%	Investment in Strategic Initiatives, Re-engineering savings	4.00
Human Capital Management	25%	Employee Engagement, High Performer Retention, Leader Effectiveness	5.00
	Overal	l Weighted Business and Strategic Objectives Rating	4.1

Based upon the assessment above, the Committee evaluated the Performance Scorecard rating as disclosed in the table below.

The Committee's assessment of the Company's performance determines the extent to which the target total incentive pool is funded below, at or above target.

Financial Performance	4.8	X	70%	=	3.4
<b>Business and Strategic Performance</b>	4.1	X	30%	=	+ 1.2
Total Calculated Rating				=	4.6

#### **Incentive Leverage Grid**

#### **Effect of Changes on 2018 Earned Incentive Pool**

As described in the sections above, there were three key changes made in response to shareholder feedback regarding the quantum of CEO compensation including the quantum of cash received:

Reducing the CEO target incentive by \$1.8 million,

Reducing the cash portion of target incentives to 30% (thereby increasing the equity component to 70%), and

Reducing the maximum payout under the Incentive Leverage Grid from 200% to 175%.

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As shown below, each of these changes resulted in significant changes to 2018 CEO compensation. Despite strong performance on financial and business and strategic metrics, CEO cash compensation decreased by 43% while total CEO compensation decreased by 23%.

#### **Performance Share Units**

As disclosed, 50% of equity awards each year are granted in the form of PSUs. PSUs are designed to ensure executives' focus on the sustainability of profits and efficiency in the use of capital, using average ROE and EPS growth rates over the three-year performance period weighted 50% each.

PSU grants focus on sustainability of profits and efficiency in use of capital

In addition, the PSUs have a TSR modifier to ensure that the eventual vesting of the awards is in sync with the creation of shareholder value; especially critical is the downward adjustment designed to parallel the change in relative shareholder value over the performance period. Relative TSR is measured against the S&P Financial Index. If the Company's TSR is in the top quartile, the awards vested would increase by 25 percentage points; however, if the Company's TSR is in the bottom quartile, the awards vested would be reduced by 25 percentage points.

TSR modifier ensures PSU grants are aligned with relative, in addition to absolute, share performance

Currently and going forward the minimum award under the plan is 0% of target, and the maximum award is 175% of target. As previously disclosed, this maximum was lowered from 200% of target for awards effective from the 2017 performance year onwards.

In February 2019, the NEOs were granted PSUs that vest based on this design for the 2019-2021 performance period.

NEOs received payouts corresponding to the PSU awards that were granted in February 2016 for the three-year performance period ended December 31, 2018. The terms of these awards were substantially identical to the PSUs granted in 2018, with the exception of the lower maximum payout going forward.

#### 2016-2018 PSU Award Earnout

The final award leverage for the PSU awards for the 2016-2018 performance period is 175% of target. The resulting awards are described below. Further details regarding these awards will be reported in next year's proxy statement in the "Option Exercises and Stock Vested in 2019" table on page 66.

Ameriprise has determined that disclosing the forward-looking goal underpinning PSUs granted each year is not in the best interests of shareholders; however, we provide the retrospective information following the completion of each performance period as shown on the next page for the PSU award covering the 2016-2018 performance period.

Performance goals were set at the beginning of the three-year period for average ROE and the EPS compound annual growth rate. Since TSR is a relative measure, there are no goals necessary for that

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component of the plan. The table below includes the ROE and EPS goals and how they correlate to Target, Maximum and Minimum award payouts (i.e., 100% equals 1x target). Results in between those points are interpolated. Actual performance resulted in the awards being earned at the maximum rating of 200% of target before application of the TSR modifier.

Maximum (200%)	24.9% or above	14.1% or above
Target (100%)	23.0	8.1%
Minimum (0%)	Below 19.6%	Below 0.1%
2016-2018 Actual	30.4%	15.8%
Performance Rating	200%	200%

In evaluating the performance goals at the end of each period, the Committee adjusted for certain approved predefined modifiers under the plan that were unknown or uncontrollable at the time goals were set. For the 2016-2018 period, the Committee adjusted for annual insurance and annuity unlocking impacts, equity market performance above established ranges, certain regulatory driven project costs and benefits associated with tax reform.

Ameriprise's TSR performance for the 2016-2018 period was below the S&P Financials index, which led to a decrease in the final award calculation by 25 percentage points.

#### **PSUs Earned for Performance Period 2016-2018**

James M. Cracchiolo	29,707 shares	51,987 shares
Walter S. Berman	9,750 shares	17,062 shares
William F. Truscott	8,224 shares	14,392 shares
Colin Moore	8,543 shares	14,950 shares
Joseph E. Sweeney	4,134 shares	7,234 shares

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#### **CEO Incentive Mix Progression Over Last 4 Years**

For each year based on the Performance Scorecard assessment, executives are awarded incentives that are paid out in cash and equity, with the equity award being granted the following fiscal year. For example, in January 2019 the Committee approved equity awards for 2018 performance. This staggered equity grant ensures that a significant portion of annual incentives earned per the Performance Scorecard each year are effectively subject to a four-year vesting period, with 50% of the equity granted being subject to further performance hurdles.

# **Supplemental Total Direct Compensation Table for our Named Executive Officers**

The Securities and Exchange Commission's rule for when equity awards are reported in the Summary Compensation Table results in a one-year lag between the time the equity awards are granted and when they are reported. As a result of the time lag, the equity awards granted in 2019 won't appear in the Summary Compensation Table (see page 62) until our 2020 annual meeting proxy statement.

We believe that the supplemental table below more clearly reflects our pay for performance philosophy and the compensation decisions made by the Committee for the NEOs for each performance year shown.

James M. Cracchiolo,	2018	1,025,000	6,386,000	14,899,000	22,310,000
Chairman and Chief Executive	2017	1,025,000	11,190,000	16,785,000	29,000,000
Officer	2016	1,025,000	6,258,000	9,388,000	16,671,000
Walter S. Berman,	2018	675,000	2,879,000	5,346,000	8,900,000
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Executive Vice President and	2017	675,000	3,770,000	5,655,000	10,100,000
Chief Financial Officer	2016	675,000	2,243,000	2,893,000	5,811,000
William F. Truscott,	2018	675,000	2,265,000	4,205,000	7,145,000
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Chief Executive Officer,	2017	675,000	2,890,000	4,335,000	7,900,000
Global Asset Management	2016	675,000	1,764,000	2,570,000	5,009,000
Colin Moore,	2018	475.000	1,986,000	3,689,000	6,150,000
Executive Vice President and	2017	,			, ,
		475,000	2,610,000	3,915,000	7,000,000
Global Chief Investment Officer	2016	475,000	1,912,000	2,588,000	4,975,000
Joseph E. Sweeney, President,	2018	550,000	1,409,000	2,616,000	4,575,000
Advice & Wealth Management	2017	550,000	1,700,000	2,550,000	4,800,000
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Products and Service Delivery	2016	550,000	1,000,000	1,320,000	&nb