Apex Fintech Brokerage Services Use and Risk Disclosures

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE FOLLOWING RISKS OF TRADING AND INVESTING IN YOUR SELF-DIRECTED APEX FINTECH BROKERAGE ACCOUNT

Use of Self-Directed Trading Accounts

All customer accounts are self-directed. Accordingly, unless Apex Fintech Brokerage Services clearly identifies a communication as an individualized recommendation, customers are solely responsible for any and all orders placed in their accounts and understand that all orders entered by them are based on their own investment decisions or the investment decisions of their duly authorized representative or agent. Consequently, any customer of Apex Fintech Brokerage Services agrees that, unless otherwise agreed to in writing, neither Apex Fintech Brokerage Services nor any of its employees, agents, principals, or representatives do the following:

- Provide investment advice in connection with a customer account;
- Recommend any security, transaction, or order;
- Solicit orders;
- Act as a market maker in any security;
- Make discretionary trades; or
- Produce or provide research.

To the extent research materials or similar information are made available through Apex Fintech Brokerage Services or its affiliates, these materials are intended for informational and educational purposes only and do not constitute a recommendation to enter into any securities transactions or to engage in any investment strategies.

General Risks of Trading and Investing

All securities trading, whether in stocks, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), options, or other investment vehicles, is speculative in nature and involves a substantial risk of loss. Apex Fintech Brokerage Services encourages its customers to invest carefully and to utilize resources available at the websites of the SEC (http://www.sec.gov) and FINRA (http://FINRA.org). Customers can review public companies' filings at the SEC's EDGAR page. FINRA has also published information on how to invest carefully on its website. Apex Fintech Brokerage Services may share similar information on its website for educational purposes. It is critical that every customer understands the risks of trading and investing before engaging in such activities. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results. By investing money in securities through Apex Fintech Brokerage Services, customers assume full responsibility for all trading actions and should make every effort to understand the risks involved

1. **You may lose money trading and investing.**
   Trading and investing in securities is inherently risky. For this reason, customers should trade or invest only with money they can afford to lose. Trading in stocks, ETFs, and stock options involves HIGH RISK, and YOU CAN LOSE a significant amount of money. Margin

trading involves interest charges and additional risks, including the potential to lose more than the amount deposited or the need to deposit additional collateral during market declines. Before using margin, customers should determine whether this trading strategy aligns with their specific investment objectives, experience, risk tolerance, and overall financial situation.

2. **Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results.**
   All investments carry risk. Individual trading decisions remain the sole responsibility of the investor. There is no guarantee that systems, indicators, or trading signals will generate profits or avoid losses. All customers are advised to fully understand the risks associated with any kind of trading or investing they choose to engage in
3. **Apex Fintech Brokerage Services is an online brokerage website and may be affiliated with non-brokerage informational websites.**
   Apex Fintech Brokerage Services does not provide investment advice. All Apex Fintech brokerage accounts are self-directed, and unless Apex Fintech Brokerage Services clearly identifies a communication as an individualized recommendation, all investment decisions are self-directed, the sole responsibility of the customer, and made at the customer's own risk. Customers must depend on their own understanding of trading and investing to handle any problematic situations that arise, consulting their financial or legal advisors as necessary.
4. **Stop orders may reduce, but not eliminate, your trading risk.**
   A stop market order is an instruction to buy or sell a particular stock at the market price once its value hits a specified level. It should be noted that a Stop Order becomes a Market Order once the stop price is reached. Traders often use such orders in an effort to limit potential losses. When the market price reaches the designated level, the stop order becomes an order to execute the trade at the best available price. However, there is no guarantee that stop orders will be executed at the stated price during periods of market volatility. In rapidly changing markets, the actual execution price may differ significantly from the stop price. Therefore, stop orders may reduce, but cannot completely eliminate, trading risk.

Risks of Investing in Stocks and ETFs

A stock is a security that represents fractional ownership of the specific issuing company. Publicly traded stocks trade on stock market exchanges, like the New York Stock Exchange or Nasdaq.

An Exchange-Traded Fund (ETF) is an investment fund that is listed and traded on a stock exchange similar to an individual stock. An ETF typically holds multiple underlying assets that can seek to replicate the performance of an underlying index, sector, commodity, or other benchmark.

When you buy shares of an ETF, you own a fraction of the underlying pool of investments, similar to buying shares of a mutual fund. The net asset value (NAV) of an ETF represents the per-share value of the fund's assets less any liabilities.

Investments in stocks and ETFs inherently involve risk, including but not limited to:

- Some stock investments may not be easily liquidated or converted into cash. It is important to understand any penalties or charges that might apply if forced to sell.
- Investing in stocks issued by companies with limited operating histories or publicly available information involves heightened risk compared to well-established public companies.
- Stock investments are not federally insured, and their market value may decline entirely.
- Stocks may be impacted by corporate events, including tender offers, mergers, reorganizations, or other third-party actions. Investors should carefully review all materials provided about such transactions and seek to fully understand the terms before participating. Inaction in some cases (e.g., certain tender offers) could have negative impacts on investment positions.
- The value of a stock can fall to zero in certain situations. Short selling, meanwhile, poses additional risks, as investors are liable for any increase in price of the shorted stock.
- ETFs: Investors should fully understand the unique objectives and risks associated with ETFs before trading. Leveraged and inverse ETFs are particularly complex and may magnify volatility through leverage or derivative strategies. Although ETFs are structured to track the performance of specific indices, they may not perfectly replicate those results due to factors such as fees. All investors should review the prospectus of any ETF to understand potential tax consequences, rebalancing gains, and other structural considerations.
- Stocks and ETFs are not the only security types that carry risk or potential loss of capital.