

### **Equity Trust Appointment of IRA Trustee and Instructions**

I appoint Equity Trust Company to serve as Trustee. Once my IRA account is opened, Equity Trust will serve in the role as trustee. By making the appointment, I agree to and acknowledge the following:

1. I have read and understand the Trust Agreement, Disclosure Statement, and Schedule of Trustee Fees, I agree to abide by the terms of the account documents listed above and confirm all information above is accurate.
2. I understand Equity Trust Company is not an investment advisor and does not supervise or control my investment representative. Equity Trust Company does not endorse any particular investment. I agree to use independent judgment in making my investment decisions.
3. I understand that Equity Trust does not conduct, and has not conducted, a due diligence review of any investment, the issuer or sponsor of such investment, or any officer, director, person, or entity affiliated with such investment. I further understand that Equity Trust does not review, and has not reviewed, the merits of any investment or account transaction or whether it is acceptable under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) or any other applicable laws, including securities laws.
4. I represent that I will obtain and read all pertinent information relating to my investments, as applicable (i.e. prospectus, annual reports). I understand that Equity Trust is not responsible for obtaining, providing or retaining this information.
5. I agree to consult with an attorney, tax advisor, and investment advisor to review the suitability of any investment I purchase in the self-directed account, if necessary.
6. I understand that certain transactions are prohibited under IRC §4975 and ERISA §406 and that I am responsible for ensuring that account investments or transactions do not constitute a prohibited transaction.

7. I understand that if an investment cannot be liquidated, it is my responsibility to ensure that I can satisfy any mandatory distribution requirements with other investments.

8. I understand that Equity Trust is a non-depository trust company and will not hold negotiable certificates. I also understand that I cannot hold the certificates. I agree that, if an investment issues certificates, I will have established an account with a brokerage firm to hold the certificates and that I have verified with the brokerage firm that it can hold the certificates for this investment. I further agree that if I change brokerage firms it will be my responsibility to ensure the new firm can also hold the certificates and notify Equity Trust of the change.

9. I agree to pay all fees that may be charged by the brokerage firm or investment sponsor to liquidate and/or re-register the account in the event the Equity Trust resigns for any reason.

10. I hereby agree to indemnify and hold Equity Trust and its respective officers, directors, employees, agents, affiliates, successors, and assigns, harmless from, and against, any and all claims, liabilities, penalties, costs or expenses (including, without limitation, attorney fees and court and legal costs) of any nature whatsoever arising directly or indirectly by reason of, or resulting from, the purchase of the investment(s).

### **Instructions for IRAs**

The attached application is the basic legal document through which you open an IRA with Equity Trust Company. It should be carefully considered. Please consult with your attorney or tax advisor if you are thinking about opening an IRA trust account. Before you complete any forms, carefully read the enclosed information, including the Disclosure Statement and Trust Agreement in their entirety.

To help the government fight the funding of terrorism and money laundering activities, Federal law requires Equity Trust to obtain, verify, and record information

that identifies each person who opens an account. Your brokerage firm will perform these activities on behalf of Equity Trust Company.

Individual accounts will be opened by your brokerage firm. The title of the account will include Equity Trust Company as Trustee. (Note: Equity Trust Company's Federal Tax ID is 05-0552743.) It is your responsibility to direct the investment of your IRA account through the services of your registered investment advisor. Investment confirmations will be sent to you by your brokerage firm.

Forward all contributions to your brokerage firm. If no year is designated, the contribution will be considered made in the tax year in which it is deposited. Note: With the exception of rollovers, contributions in excess of the allowable amount per year (as indexed), plus excess of allowable catch-up contributions (as indexed) (or such limits as may be established by law) cannot be accepted. Do not over-invest as this will cause a debit balance and may disqualify your IRA.

As a non-depository directed trustee, Equity Trust is required to submit the December 31 fair market value of your account to the Internal Revenue Service each year. Equity Trust requests this information annually from your brokerage firm/investment firm and provides it to the IRS. If your brokerage firm/investment firm does not provide this information, Equity Trust will request this information from you. In the event that Equity Trust does not receive the fair market value of your account, Equity Trust will report the last value reported to them to the IRS. Equity Trust strongly recommends that you carefully monitor your account at all times and contact your brokerage firm/ investment firm if you do not receive a statement with the December 31 fair market value of your account by January 31.

It is extremely important for you to keep good records covering your contributions and investments. Remember that you assume the responsibility for filing all Federal and State tax returns and forms required as an Account Holder of a Traditional, Roth, Rollover, SEP or SIMPLE IRA.