



Dear Shareholders,

Pekin Singer Strauss Asset Management and three of its associated persons recently reached a settlement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. We take our role as adviser to the Appleseed Fund very seriously, and we have worked hard over the past several years to raise our compliance function to a high standard.

The settlement involves compliance shortcomings that occurred primarily in 2009 and 2010, when we did not conduct timely internal annual compliance reviews and failed to implement certain compliance policies and procedures. Appleseed Fund investors were not adversely affected financially by these compliance deficiencies, which were remediated years ago.

Since 2011, our firm has made significant investments to enhance our compliance function, including:

- Appointing a new chief compliance officer and a dedicated compliance officer,
- Hiring outside compliance consultants,
- Increasing the use of outside legal counsel for compliance matters, and
- Completing comprehensive ongoing compliance testing and timely annual compliance reviews.

We want to be clear that the settlement covers a share class matter that *only* affected shareholders in the Fund who were Pekin Singer Strauss wealth management clients. Since the launch of the Fund, we have waived our wealth management fees on these clients' Appleseed Fund holdings and will continue to do so, but we did not convert their holdings of Appleseed Fund to the institutional share class as soon as the institutional share class became available. When we converted their ownership interest in the investor shares of Appleseed Fund (APPLX) to an equal value of institutional shares of Appleseed Fund (APPIX), we also notified the Commission and proactively reimbursed affected clients for the expense ratio difference, which averaged less than \$91 per client portfolio per year.

Our firm operates today with a robust culture of compliance and has significantly benefited from the numerous improvements made to its compliance program in recent years. We have also implemented several Appleseed Fund product enhancements in recent years, not the least of



which was a net expense rate reduction implemented in 2014. We are also strong believers in eating our own cooking as shareholders ourselves, and, in the past six months, the portfolio managers and Pekin Singer Strauss associates have added to their existing investments in Appleseed Fund.

With a strong and well-aligned investment team, improved operating procedures, and this matter behind us, we look forward to continuing to serve our shareholders as adviser to the Appleseed Fund.

If you have any further questions or wish to discuss this matter please do not hesitate to contact Colin Rennich at 312-896-9660.

Sincerely,

Pekin Singer Strauss Asset Management  
Adviser to the Appleseed Fund

***You should carefully consider the investment objectives, potential risks, management fees, and charges and expenses of the Fund before investing. The Fund's prospectus contains this and other information about the Fund, and should be read carefully before investing. You may obtain a current copy of the Fund's prospectus by calling 1-800-470-1029.***

*The Appleseed Fund is distributed by Unified Financial Securities, 2960 N. Meridian St., Suite 300, Indianapolis, Indiana 46208-4715. (Member [FINRA](#))*