



# PERSPECTIVES THAT DRIVE ENTERPRISE SUCCESS

FIRST QUARTER 2017

## FCERA Compliance Evaluation Report

[VERUSINVESTMENTS.COM](http://VERUSINVESTMENTS.COM)

SEATTLE 206-622-3700

LOS ANGELES 310-297-1777

SAN FRANCISCO 415-362-3484

## **Executive Summary**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017**

The purpose of this report is to summarize Verus' evaluation of investment strategies managed on behalf of the Fresno County Employees Retirement Association ("The Association"). Specifically, the purpose of this report is to communicate the ongoing monitoring of compliance with stated investment guidelines.

The Association's portfolio is comprised of both commingled vehicles and separately managed accounts. All separate account investments have specific language within the guidelines for which each manager has committed to follow when managing the Association's investments. In order to obtain assurance that these separate accounts are managed in accordance with respective guidelines for each account, Verus obtains assurances from the compliance department at each investment manager. Enclosed are copies of such assurances.

Investments that are held in a commingled vehicle are typically governed by a partnership agreement or prospectus. The reason for this is that since commingled investment vehicles are designed to accommodate many different investors, only one common document may govern the strategy. For commingled investments Verus verifies compliance with investment guidelines through review of quarterly and/or annual reports, for which they are independently verified by third party accounting firms.

As of March 31, 2017, all managers reported compliance with their respective guidelines.



Jeffrey MacLean  
Chief Executive Officer & Senior Consultant

#### **Disclaimer**

Verus has exercised all reasonable professional care in the evaluation of each investment manager's compliance to the Investment Policy and Guidelines of the Association as of March 31, 2017. This report is provided to the Board of Trustees in conjunction with our responsibilities under the investment consulting agreement. Our professionals necessarily relied on data provided by third parties to perform our evaluation. Verus makes no claims as to the accuracy of the data used in this evaluation and shall not be held liable for damages caused by errors or omissions in content, except to the extent arising from our sole gross negligence.

## Exhibit A

Investment Manager	Investment Vehicle	General Asset Class	Enforcable Guidelines
Aronson + Johnston + Ortiz	Separate Account	Public Market (Equity)	Yes
Artisan Partners	Separate Account	Public Market (Equity)	Yes
Kalmar Investments Inc.	Separate Account	Public Market (Equity)	Yes
Ivy	Separate Account	Public Market (Equity)	Yes
State Street Global Advisors	Commingled Fund	Public Market (Equity)	No
Systematic Financial Management	Separate Account	Public Market (Equity)	Yes
Mondrian Investment Partners Limited (ISC & EM)	Commingled Fund	Public Market (Equity)	No
Research Affiliates	Separate Account	Public Market (Equity)	Yes
Brandywine	Separate Account	Public Market (Fixed Income)	Yes
PIMCO Emerging Markets Debt	Separate Account	Public Market (Fixed Income)	Yes
Loomis Sayles	Separate Account	Public Market (Fixed Income)	Yes
Western Asset Management Company	Separate Account	Public Market (Fixed Income)	Yes
Eaton Vance Senior Loan	Commingled Fund	Public Market (Fixed Income)	No
Northern Trust Aggregate Index	Commingled Fund	Public Market (Fixed Income)	No
State Street Global Advisors TIPs	Commingled Fund	Public Market (Fixed Income)	No
INVESCO	Commingled Fund	Commodities	No
TA Associates IX	Commingled Fund	Real Estate	No
INVESCO	Commingled Fund	Real Estate	No
Kennedy Wilson	Commingled Fund	Real Estate	No
Gerding Elden Green Cities III	Commingled Fund	Real Estate	No
IFM	Commingled Fund	Infrastructure	No
Colony Capital Partners DC I & III	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
The Blackstone Group IV	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
Angelo Gordon	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
Landmark	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
Lonestar	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
New Mountain I & III	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
TCW Fund III	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
Warburg Pincus I, VIII, X, XII	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
Grosvenor Institutional Partners (Hedge Fund of Funds)	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
Hamilton Lane VI and IX	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
Oaktree Opportunities IX	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
KKR	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
TSSP Adjacent Opportunities Partners	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
GSO European Senior Debt Fund	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
CarVal Credit Value Fund III	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
OHA Strategic Credit Fund II	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No
GCM Better Futures Fund	Commingled Fund	Private Market	No



230 SOUTH BROAD STREET, 20TH FLOOR | PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102-4102 | 215.546.7500/7506 FAX | [AJOPARTNERS.COM](http://AJOPARTNERS.COM)

April 18, 2017

Mr. Michael Kamell  
Verus  
2321 Rosecrans Avenue  
Suite 2250  
El Segundo, California 90245

Re: **FRESNO COMPLIANCE**

Dear Michael:

We're pleased to certify:

The portfolio managed for the Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association remained in compliance with all investment guidelines from January 1, 2017, to March 31, 2017.

We welcome your questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Dietrick', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Joseph F. Dietrick  
[dietrick@ajopartners.com](mailto:dietrick@ajopartners.com)

srl (EMAIL)

cc: Conor Hinds

**COMPLIANCE WITH INVESTMENT GUIDELINES**

Investment Manager Name: Artisan Partners Limited Partnership

Account Name: Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association

Quarter Ending: March 31, 2017

This is to confirm that, to the best of our knowledge, all of Artisan Partners' investment activity during the quarter noted above, on behalf of the Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association (FCERA) non-U.S. growth account has been consistent with the investment policies and restrictions set forth in the Investment Advisory Agreement, Investment Guidelines and Investment Policy Statement effective as of March 13, 2013, as amended March 4, 2015, and that the portfolio is in compliance with those policies and restrictions.

By:

Name: Jane E. Lisher

Title: Compliance Manager

Date: April 4, 2017



Brandywine Global Investment Management LLC  
2929 Arch Street, 8th Floor / Philadelphia, PA 19104  
800 348 2499 / 215 609 3500 / fax 215 609 3501  
[brandywineglobal.com](http://brandywineglobal.com)

**Date: April 6, 2017**

**To: Verus Advisory, Inc., Investment Consultant to FCERA**

**From: Brandywine Global Investment Management**

**RE: FCERA Quarterly Compliance Affirmation**

We hereby certify that to the best of our knowledge, the Fresno County Employees Retirement Association's Global Investment-Grade Sovereign portfolio was managed in accordance with investment policies set forth in the Investment Management Agreement dated November 5, 2014 for the quarter ended March 31, 2017, with the exception of any items listed below:

- None.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean Brooks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sean Brooks  
Portfolio Compliance



**Lynne Goodwin**

VP Institutional Relationship Management

Ivy Investment Management Company

Waddell & Reed Investment Management Company

DIRECT 913 236 3731

FAX 913 236 1888

lgoodwin@waddell.com

6300 Lamar Avenue

Overland Park, KS 66202

April 5, 2017

Zeca Cardoso

Verus Investments

2321 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 2250

Los Angeles, CA 90245

RE: Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association

Dear Zeca:

Pursuant to the Agreement between Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association and Waddell & Reed Investment Management Company, Waddell & Reed stands in compliance with mutually agreed upon guidelines as of the first quarter of 2017.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lynne Goodwin".

Lynne Goodwin

Vice President

Institutional Relationship Management

Cc: Donald Kendig



**Fresno County Employees Retirement Association  
Investment Guidelines Certification Statement**

**Certification of Investment Manager**

To the best of our knowledge, the undersigned investment manager certifies that its investment decisions have stayed within the restrictions outlined in accordance with the provisions of the Board's Investments Policy Statement and Investment Guidelines agreed upon on May 27, 2004 including the addendum dated 2/18/14.

Signature: Nancy Romito

By: Nancy Romito

Title: Client Services Director

Firm: Kalmar Investments Inc.

Date: April 12, 2017

Reporting Period: First Quarter 2017





## COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION

**DATE:** 04/04/2017

**LOOMIS ACCOUNT(S):** Fresno County Employees' Ret Assn

HY05N1 Fresno County Employees Retirement Association

**PERIOD UNDER REVIEW:** 1/1/2017 - 3/31/2017

We, Loomis, Sayles & Company, L.P., in our capacity as Investment Manager for the account(s) listed above, hereby attest that during the period under review, to the best of our knowledge and beliefs, the account(s) listed above was (were) in compliance with its (their) investment guidelines and restrictions ("Guidelines") and any other requirements listed below, if applicable, except as noted below.

**Additional certification requirements:**

HY05N1: Compliance with the Fresno County Employees Retirement Association Investment Policy.

**Guideline Violations:**

HY05N1 Fresno County Employees Retirement Association - None

**The electronic signatures below demonstrate approval of the representations made in this Compliance Certification for the period under review.**

Compliance Approval

Mary Ellen Logee

Vice President, Sr. Portfolio Compliance Manager

04/04/2017

Portfolio Manager(s) Approval

HY05N1

Matthew Eagan

Vice President, Portfolio Manager

04/04/2017

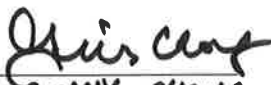
**Mondrian Emerging Markets Equity Fund, L.P. (the "Fund")**

**Certification of Compliance with Investment Strategy**

**for the period from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017**

The Fund has been in compliance with its Investment Strategy, as fully set forth in the Confidential Information Memorandum of the Fund, during the period described above. Each item of the Investment Strategy is described in the Appendix and initialed as being in compliance.

Mondrian Investment Partners Limited  
(as Investment Manager to the Fund)

By:   
Name: GINNY CHONG  
Title: SENIOR PORTFOLIO MANAGER  
Date: 5 APRIL 2017

## Mondrian Emerging Markets Equity Fund, L.P.

Investment Strategy Detail	Initial
<p><u>Securities, Approach and Markets</u></p> <p>The Fund pursues its investment objective primarily by investing in equity securities of emerging market companies, as described below, that, in the Investment Manager's opinion, are undervalued at the time of purchase based on fundamental value analysis employed by the Investment Manager. Equity securities in which the Fund may invest include, but are not limited to, common stocks, preferred stocks, convertible securities, index related securities, certain non-traditional equity securities, 144A securities and warrants. The Fund may purchase securities of non-U.S. issuers directly or indirectly in the form of American, European or Global depository receipts or other securities representing underlying shares of non-U.S. issuers. The Fund may also purchase other investment funds, including, but not limited to registered funds, unregistered funds and REIT's. Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its assets in investments of emerging market issuers.</p> <p>The Investment Manager's approach in selecting investments for the Fund is primarily oriented to individual stock selection and is value driven. In selecting stocks for the Fund, the Investment Manager identifies those stocks that it believes will provide capital appreciation over a market cycle, taking into consideration movements in the price of the individual security and the impact of currency fluctuation on a United States domiciled, dollar-based investor. The Investment Manager conducts fundamental research on a global basis in order to identify securities that, in the Investment Manager's opinion, have the potential for long-term capital appreciation. This research effort generally centers on a value-oriented dividend discount methodology with respect to individual securities and market analysis that isolates value across country boundaries. The approach focuses on future anticipated dividends and discounts the value of those dividends back to what they would be worth if they were being received today. In addition, the analysis typically includes a comparison of the values and current market prices of different possible investments. The Investment Manager's general management strategy emphasizes long-term holding of securities, although securities may be sold in the Investment Manager's discretion without regard to the length of time they have been held.</p>	Gyc
<p><u>Emerging Markets Equity Securities</u></p> <p>The Fund considers an emerging country to be any country that is included in the MSCI EM Index. In addition, any country which is generally recognized to be an emerging or developing country by the international financial community, including the World Bank, as well as any country that is classified by the United Nations or otherwise regarded by its authorities as developing will be considered an emerging country. Almost every nation in the world is included within this group of developing or emerging countries except the United States, Canada, and those in the Morgan Stanley Capital International EAFE Index.</p> <p>In considering possible emerging countries in which the Fund may invest, the Investment Manager places particular emphasis on certain factors, such as economic conditions (including growth trends, inflation rates and trade balances), regulatory and currency controls, accounting standards and political and social conditions.</p>	Gyc

Although this is not an exclusive list, the Investment Manager considers an emerging country equity security to be one that is issued by a company that exhibits one or more of the following characteristics: (1) its principal securities trading market is in an emerging country, as defined above; (2) while traded in any market, alone or on a consolidated basis, the company derives 50% or more of its annual revenues or annual profits from either goods produced, sales made or services performed in emerging countries; (3) the company has 50% or more of its assets located in an emerging country; or (4) it is organized under the laws of, and has a principal office in, an emerging country. The Investment Manager determines eligibility based on publicly available information and inquiries made of the companies.

Currently, investing in many emerging countries is not feasible, or may, in the Investment Manager's opinion, involve unacceptable political or governance risks. The Fund focuses its investments in those emerging countries where the Investment Manager considers the economies to be developing and where the markets are becoming more sophisticated.

#### Currency, Debt Securities and Cash

Currency considerations carry a special risk for a portfolio of international securities. The Fund may invest in securities issued in any currency and may hold foreign currency. Securities of issuers within a given country may be denominated in the currency of another country or in multinational currency units, including the euro. The Investment Manager primarily uses a purchasing power parity approach to evaluate currency risk. In this regard, the Fund may carry out hedging activities, and may invest in forward foreign currency contracts to hedge currency risks associated with the purchase of individual securities denominated in a particular currency. Under normal circumstances, hedging is undertaken defensively back into the base currency of the Fund.

Under normal circumstances, no more than 10% of the Fund's assets will be invested in debt securities issued by governments or by their agencies, instrumentalities or political subdivisions, or by corporate entities, all of which may be high-yield, high-risk fixed income securities rated lower than BBB by S&P and Baa by Moody's or, if unrated, considered to be of equivalent quality. In addition, for temporary defensive purposes, the Fund may invest in high-quality debt instruments.

To facilitate investment activities, the Fund will generally hold a small portion of its assets in cash or cash equivalent instruments.

Gyc

*The Investment Manager manages the Fund's assets in accordance with the investment objective and guidelines described in the Confidential Information Memorandum and not in accordance with the individual guidelines of any one investor.*

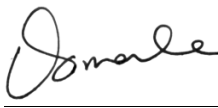
**Mondrian International Small Cap Equity Fund, L.P. (the “Fund”)**

**Certification of Compliance with Investment Strategy**

**for the period from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017**

The Fund has been in compliance with its Investment Strategy, as fully set forth in the Confidential Information Memorandum of the Fund, during the period described above. Each item of the Investment Strategy is described in the Appendix and initialed as being in compliance.

Mondrian Investment Partners Limited  
(as Investment Manager to the Fund)


By: 



Name: Ormala Krishnan

Title: CIO of Small Cap

Date: April 6<sup>th</sup> 2017

**Mondrian International Small Cap Equity Fund, L.P.**

Investment Strategy Detail	Initial
<p><u>Securities, Approach and Markets</u></p> <p>The Fund pursues its investment objective primarily by investing in equity securities of non-U.S. small capitalization companies that, in the Investment Manager's opinion, are undervalued at the time of purchase based on fundamental value analysis employed by the Investment Manager. Equity securities in which the Fund may invest include, but are not limited to, common stocks, preferred stocks, convertible securities, index related securities, certain non-traditional equity securities, 144A securities and warrants. The Fund may purchase securities of non-U.S. issuers directly or indirectly in the form of American, European or Global depository receipts or other securities representing underlying shares of non-U.S. issuers. The Fund may also purchase other investment funds, including, but not limited to registered funds, unregistered funds and REIT's.</p> <p>For purposes of investments to be made by the Fund, small capitalization companies will be defined to mean issuers that have a market capitalization of less than approximately \$3.5 billion at the time of initial purchase. This level is subject to market movements and is regularly reviewed by the Investment Manager. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 50% of its assets in equity securities of small capitalization companies.</p> <p>The Investment Manager's approach in selecting investments for the Fund is primarily oriented to individual stock selection and is value driven. In selecting stocks for the Fund, the Investment Manager identifies those stocks that it believes will provide capital appreciation over a market cycle, taking into consideration movements in the price of the individual security and the impact of currency fluctuation on a United States domiciled, dollar-based investor. The Investment Manager conducts fundamental research on a global basis in order to identify securities that, in the Investment Manager's opinion, have the potential for long-term capital appreciation. This research effort generally centers on a value-oriented dividend discount methodology with respect to individual securities and market analysis that isolates value across country boundaries. The approach focuses on future anticipated dividends and discounts the value of those dividends back to what they would be worth if they were being received today. In addition, the analysis typically includes a comparison of the values and current market prices of different possible investments. The Investment Manager's general management strategy emphasizes long-term holding of securities, although securities may be sold in the Investment Manager's discretion without regard to the length of time they have been held.</p> <p>Investments will be made mainly in marketable securities of companies located in developed countries which may include but are not limited to Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.</p> <p>The Fund may hold up to 20% of its assets measured at the time of purchase in securities of emerging market companies.</p>	

<p><u>Emerging Markets Equity Securities</u></p> <p>The Fund considers an emerging country to be any country that is included in the MSCI EM Index. In addition, any country which is generally recognized to be an emerging or developing country by the international financial community, including the World Bank, as well as any country that is classified by the United Nations or otherwise regarded by its authorities as developing will be considered an emerging country. Almost every nation in the world is included within this group of developing or emerging countries except the United States, Canada, and those in the MSCI EAFE Index.</p> <p>In considering possible emerging countries in which the Fund may invest, the Investment Manager places particular emphasis on certain factors, such as economic conditions (including growth trends, inflation rates and trade balances), regulatory and currency controls, accounting standards and political and social conditions.</p>	
<p><u>Currency, Debt Securities and Cash</u></p> <p>Currency considerations carry a special risk for a portfolio of international securities. The Fund may invest in securities issued in any currency and may hold foreign currency. Securities of issuers within a given country may be denominated in the currency of another country or in multinational currency units, including the euro. The Investment Manager primarily uses a purchasing power parity approach to evaluate currency risk. In this regard, the Fund may carry out hedging activities, and may invest in forward foreign currency contracts to hedge currency risks associated with the purchase of individual securities denominated in a particular currency. Under normal circumstances, hedging is undertaken defensively back into the base currency of the Fund.</p> <p>Under normal circumstances, no more than 10% of the Fund's assets will be invested in debt securities issued by governments or by their agencies, instrumentalities or political subdivisions, or by corporate entities, all of which may be high-yield, high-risk fixed income securities rated lower than BBB by S&amp;P and Baa by Moody's or, if unrated, considered to be of equivalent quality. In addition, for temporary defensive purposes, the Fund may invest in high-quality debt instruments.</p> <p>To facilitate investment activities, the Fund will generally hold a small portion of its assets in cash or cash equivalent instruments.</p>	

*The Investment Manager manages the Fund's assets in accordance with the investment objective and guidelines described in the Confidential Information Memorandum and not in accordance with the individual guidelines of any one investor.*

# PIMCO

April 13, 2017

Mr. Michael Kamell, CPA, CFA  
Senior Consulting Associate  
Wurts & Associates  
2321 Rosecrans Ave, Suite 2250  
El Segundo, CA 90245

Dear Mr. Kamell:

As of quarter-end, March 31, 2017 the portfolio we manage was in compliance with the investment guidelines and policies set forth in your Investment Management Agreement with PIMCO.

**Fresno County Employees' Retirement (Account 7967)**

- No issues were discovered.

Please contact me at (949) 720-4589 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Art Hastings  
Senior Vice President, Head of U.S. Trade and Portfolio



# PIMCO

April 10, 2017

Mr. Michael Kamell, CFA  
Wurts & Associates  
2321 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 2250  
El Segundo, CA 90245

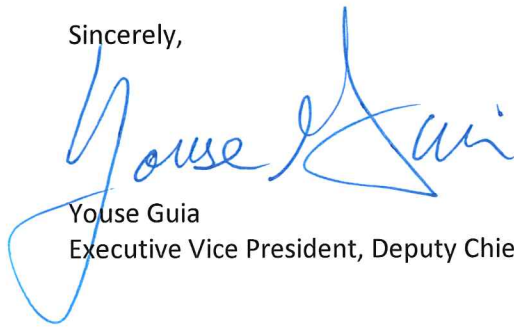
Dear Mr. Kamell:

As requested, Pacific Investment Management Company, LLC ("PIMCO") hereby certifies that to the best of our knowledge and belief, the Research Affiliates Equity Fundamental International portfolio managed on behalf of the Fresno County Employees Retirement Association ("FCERA") complied with all investment guidelines in place as of March 31, 2017.

In addition, PIMCO will continue to provide notification of any known compliance exceptions in the management of the FCERA investment portfolio.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly at (949) 720-7634 or [Youse.Guia@pimco.com](mailto:Youse.Guia@pimco.com).

Sincerely,



Youse Guia  
Executive Vice President, Deputy Chief Compliance Officer



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[www.sfmpl.com](http://www.sfmpl.com)

April 13, 2017

Verus  
2321 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 2250  
Los Angeles, CA 90245

Re: Fresno County Employees Retirement System (Account) Investment Guidelines dated  
September 8, 2010

Dear Sir or Madam:

Systematic Financial Management, L.P. is writing in fulfillment of its responsibility to certify compliance with the Investment Guidelines for the above-referenced Account managed by Systematic.

Systematic is pleased to confirm that it has maintained compliance with the Account's Investment Guidelines during this past calendar quarter. Should you effect any changes to the Investment Guidelines in the coming months, please forward a copy of the revisions at your earliest convenience. For further information regarding Systematic's implementation and monitoring of clients' investment guidelines, as well as other policies and procedures related to our management of clients' accounts, please refer to our Form ADV Part 2A.

Systematic would like to thank you again for the opportunity to provide investment management services to the Account. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact your client service representative.

Sincerely,

Systematic Financial Management, L.P.