# **EquityCompass Strategies Factical Total Core Portfolio - Municipal**



As of June 30. 2018

- Seeks to effectively capture market returns while minimizing volatility
- Allocates the fixed income component to municipal bonds appropriate for tax-sensitive investors



# **Portfolio Manager Commentary**

The Municipal Tactical Total Core Portfolio (MTTCP) advanced in the second quarter as markets battled over implications of a trade war. The Dow Jones Industrial Average (Dow) has advanced off the 10% correction level in the first quarter despite observable tightening in yield spreads, trade jitters, and emerging market debt concerns. The spread between 2and 10-year Treasuries along with the high yield spread have continued to tighten and are nearing inversion. Conversely, equity markets have swung widely as investors attempt to digest daily news on new imposed tariffs. As the summer rolls on, investors look to the next catalyst to keep last quarter's momentum moving. MTTCP advanced 2.37% (2.03% net) versus the benchmark performance of 1.62%. Although stocks advanced this quarter, bonds have declined for two consecutive quarters which hasn't happened since mid-2013.

# **Portfolio Outlook**

Fundamentally, we are seeing a continuation of last guarter's momentum despite market worries. Our forward 12-month earnings estimate continued to rise to a new all-time high at the end of the quarter to \$167.14 and has advanced for 16 consecutive months. From a fundamental perspective, market expectations are healthy and Fiscal Year 2019 estimates remain untouched despite many of Wall Street's top strategists touting that 2019 will be the year for an economic recession. Energy, Telecom, and Health Care sectors saw the biggest one-year forward EPS gains this quarter.

Despite similar threats from last quarter, technical conditions have improved and the market has recovered enough from its 10% correction level to restore tactical equity exposure in the second quarter. As a result, MTTCP is now fully invested in equities (60%) up from 52% in April.

# Performance

### Annualized Returns

	Q2 2018	2018 YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Inception <sup>(2)</sup>
Municipal Tactical Total Core (Gross)	2.37%	0.62%	7.08%	6.54%	8.25%	8.56%
Municipal Tactical Total Core (Net)	2.03%	-0.05%	5.65%	5.07%	6.72%	7.02%
Benchmark <sup>(1)</sup>	1.62%	0.81%	7.39%	6.04%	7.28%	7.29%

### **Calendar Year Returns**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Municipal Tactical Total Core (Gross)	10.96%	2.10%	13.02%	17.80%	8.71%	1.17%	4.40%	15.38%
Municipal Tactical Total Core (Net)	9.43%	0.61%	11.35%	16.09%	7.12%	-0.26%	2.91%	13.82%
Benchmark <sup>(1)</sup>	8.95%	1.75%	10.47%	13.99%	7.46%	0.84%	5.26%	13.28%

### **Risk Statistics**

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		Standard	Batting	Sharpe			Up	Down
	Alpha	Deviation	Average	Ratio	Beta	R <sup>2</sup>	Capture	Capture
Municipal Tactical Total Core	0.23	5.60	52.78	1.03	1.05	91.88	104.72	100.05
Benchmark <sup>(1)</sup>	0.00	5.10	100.00	1.03	1.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



**General Information:** 

How to Invest: Wrap program

Minimum Initial Investment: \$150,000

Inception: December 2009

Category: Global Balanced All-Cap Core

Risk/Reward: Moderate

## **Highlights:**

- Stock and bond portfolio designed to be the foundation of an investor's overall portfolio to pursue long-term financial objectives
- Strategic stock/bond allocation is reviewed annually, and adjusted if necessary, to better respond to changing market conditions
- Tactically allocated equity (using Equity Risk Management Strategy) seeks to potentially provide downside protection and volatility control
- Portfolio is diversified across asset classes, active and passive investment approaches, domestic and international stocks, investment styles, and market capitalizations
- The actively managed U.S. equity component seeks to outperform by opportunistic stock selection and portfolio tactics
- Adheres to a research-based, rules-driven investment process implemented using quantitative models to impose discipline and consistency to investment decisions

### **Portfolio Managers:**



**Richard Cripps, CFA** Chief Investment Officer & Senior Portfolio Manager



Tim McCann Senior Portfolio Manager

# About EquityCompass:

EquityCompass Strategies is a registered investment adviser and a wholly owned subsidiary of Stifel Financial Corp. We offer a broad range of portfolio strategies based on its research-driven, rules-based investment process, which merges traditional investment theory with quantitative techniques. SMA portfolios and equity linked instruments based on EquityCompass Strategies model portfolios are available primarily through affiliated broker dealer, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated. As of June 30, 2018, EquityCompass Strategies provided portfolio strategies with respect to total assets (Assets Under Management and Assets Under Advisement) over \$4.0 billion.

(1) Benchmark = 32% Russell 3000 Index, 8% MSCI World Ex-USA Index, 40% Barclays Municipal Bond Index, 20% HFRI Equity Hedge Index (2) December 2009

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Time Period: 7/1/2015 to 6/30/2018

# EquityCompass Strategies Tactical Total Core Portfolio - Municipal As of June 30, 2018

60%

# Equity Allocation

- Emphasizes diversification, volatility control, and excess return potential
- 20% of the fully invested equity is allocated to international stocks (equally between developed and emerging markets)
- The actively managed All-Cap Blend Portfolio represents the U.S. equity portion
  - Equal-weight positions in 50 stocks across 10 sectors
  - Uses EquityCompass' quantitative models to identify stocks with favorable relative value, price momentum, quality, and mispriced as a result of investor over/ under-reaction
  - Rebalanced monthly to attempt to optimize exposure to drivers of excess returns
- Allocations to U.S. and international equities are reviewed annually and adjusted if necessary

### **Equity Characteristics**

### **Key Portfolio Stats**

,	
Number of Holdings	53
Market Cap - Geometric (\$Billion)	\$27.8
Dividend Yield	2.1%
Price / Earnings (Trailing 12-Month)	17.5

#### Holdings by Market-Cap

67.8%
25.9%
6.3%

### Sector Allocation

Information Technology	17.0%
Consumer Discretionary	12.7%
Industrials	12.1%
Financials	11.2%
Healthcare	11.1%
Energy	10.5%
Materials	7.2%
Utilities	7.0%
Consumer Staples	6.0%
Real Estate	4.0%
Telecommunications	1.2%

#### Municipal Bond Allocation

MTTCP

- Uses ETFs and closed-end funds that invest in municipal bonds, thus providing liquidity, cost efficiency, and diversification across securities and maturities
- The income produced by muni bonds is exempt from federal taxes, and in some cases, state and local taxes
- Muni bonds used in the portfolio have historically been high quality, with a low default rate and low volatility compared to other bonds
- Munis may help diversify a portfolio because they have a low or negative correlation to other asset classes

#### Credit Stats — Fixed Income

	MTTCP	Barclays Muni MM
Maturity	14.4	13.8
Coupon	4.3%	4.8%
Duration	6.7	6.6
Yield	3.3%	2.2%
Investment Grade	100.0%	100.0%

### **Tactical Equity: Equity Risk Management Strategy**

The Equity Risk Management Strategy (ERMS) is a rules-based tactical allocation strategy designed to reduce MTTCP's equity exposure when near-term market conditions are deemed unfavorable and to restore exposure when factors become favorable. The ERMS analyzes fundamental and technical indicators to determine the market condition. Under favorable conditions, the Strategy will be fully invested to track the S&P 500. When conditions are deemed unfavorable, the ERMS reduces equity exposure by shifting an amount to cash or inverse (short) an investment tracking the S&P 500. The strategy may invest in inverse ETFs.

Market Indicators	Market Condition	ERMS Action	MTTCP Equity Exposure	MTTCP Allocation Fully invested Equity : 40% Fixed Income : 40% Tactical Equity 20% (ERMS )
<ul> <li>Earnings expectations (fundamentals) rising</li> <li>Technical conditions positive</li> </ul>	Favorable	Fully Invested	60%	Tactical Equity: Long S&P 500
Either fundamental <u>OR</u>	Caution	Reduce Equity	Maximum: 59%	Tactical Equity:
technical conditions are negative		Exposure	Minimum: 40%	Cash
Both fundamental <u>AND</u>	Unfavorable	Hedge Equity	Maximum: 29%	Tactical Equity:
technical conditions are negative		Exposure	Minimum: 22%	Short S&P 500

#### Tactical Family of Portfolios: TTCP, MTTCP, and TCE

Products

TRATEGIES





40%

# EquityCompass Strategies Tactical Total Core Portfolio - Municipal As of June 30, 2018





# Description of Terms

#### Alpha

A manager's contribution to return performance that cannot be attributed to market performance. How the manager performed if the market has no gain or loss. *Standard Deviation* 

Standard Deviation is a gauge of risk which measures the spread of the difference of returns from their average. The more a portfolio's returns vary from its average, the higher the standard deviation is a gauge of risk which measures the spread of the difference of returns affect the standard deviation just as lower-than-average returns. Thus, it is not a measure of downside risk. Since it measures total variation of return, standard deviation is a measure of total risk, unlike beta, which measures market risk. Batting Average

A measure of a manager's ability to beat the market consistently, the Batting Average is calculated by dividing the number of quarters in which the manager beat or matched an index by the total number of quarters in the period. For example, a manager who meets or outperforms the market every quarter in a given period would have a batting average of 100. A manager who beats the market half of the time would have a batting average of 50.

#### Sharpe Ratio

Sharpe Ratio is one of two alternative, yet similar, methods of measuring excess return per unit of risk. (The other method is the Treynor Ratio.) In the case of the Sharpe Ratio, risk is measured using the standard deviation of the returns in the portfolio. The Sharpe Ratio relates the difference between the portfolio return and the risk-free rate to the standard deviation of that difference for a given time period.

#### Beta

Beta measures the risk level of the manager. Beta measures the volatility, or systematic risk, of a security or a portfolio in comparison to the market as a whole. In contrast, alpha measures the nonsystematic return of the portfolio, and standard deviation measures the volatility of a portfolio's returns compared to the average return of the portfolio. A beta equal to one indicates a risk level equivalent to the market. Higher betas are associated with higher risk levels, while lower betas are associated with lower risk levels. Beta is calculated using regression analysis, and can be summarized by the tendency of a security's returns to respond to swings in the market. A beta of 1 indicates that the security's price will move with the market. A beta of less than 1 means that the security will be less volatile than the market. A beta of greater than 1 indicates that the security's price will be more volatile than the market. For example, if a stock's beta is 1.2, it's theoretically 20% more volatile than the market. A beta of greater than 1 offers the possibility of a higher rate of return, but also poses more risk.

#### R<sup>2</sup>

R-squared is a statistical measure that represents the percentage of a fund or security's movements that can be explained by movements in a benchmark index. *Up-Market Capture Ratio* 

Up-Market Capture Ratio is a measure of managers' performance in up markets relative to the market itself. An up market is one in which the market's quarterly return is greater than or equal to zero. The higher the manager's up-market capture ratio, the better the manager capitalized on a rising market. For example, a value of 110 suggests that the manager captured 110% of the up market (performed 10% better than the market) when the market was up. A negative up-market capture ratio indicates that a manager's returns fell while the market rose. For example, if the market gained 8% while a manager's returns fell 2%, the up-market capture ratio would be -25%.

#### Down-Market Capture Ratio

Down-Market Capture Ratio is a measure of managers' performance in down markets relative to the market itself. A down market is one in which the market's quarterly return is less than zero. The lower the manager's down-market capture ratio, the better the manager protected capital during a market decline. A value of 90 suggests that a manager's losses were only 90% of the market loss when the market was down. A negative down-market capture ratio indicates that a manager's returns rose while the market declined. For example, if the market fell 8% while the manager's returns rose 2%, the down-market capture ratio would be -25%.

#### IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

The information contained herein has been prepared from sources believed to be reliable but is not guaranteed and is not a complete summary or statement of all available data nor is it considered an offer to buy or sell any securities referred to herein. There is no assurance that any securities discussed herein will remain in any available data nor is it considered an other to buy or self any securities referred to nerein. There is no assurance that any securities obscussed nerein will remain in any account's portfolio at the time you receive this report or that securities sold have not been repurchased. Data represented in this report have been provided by EquityCompass Strategies and Bloomberg. EquityCompass Strategies is a research and investment advisory unit of Choice Financial Partners, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary and affiliated SEC registered investment adviser of Stifel Financial Corp. 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All investments involve risks, including the risk of a possible loss of principal. Rebalancing may have tax consequences, which should be discussed with your tax advisor. The specific securities identified and described herein do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended to advisory clients, and the reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable. A complete list of all recommendations made by the firm is available upon request. Foreign investments are subject to risks not ordinarily associated with domestic investments, such as currency, economic and political risks, and different accounting standards. There are special considerations associated with international investing, including the risk of currency fluctuations and political risks, and different accounting the risk of currency fluctuations and political risks. and economic events. Investing in emerging markets may involve greater risk and volatility than investing in more developed countries. Small company stocks are typically more volatile and carry additional risks, since smaller companies generally are not as well established as larger companies. The market risk associated with small-cap and mid-cap stocks is generally greater than that associated with large-cap stocks because small-cap and mid-cap stocks, particularly during bear markets. Due to their narrow focus, sector-based investments typically exhibit greater volatility and are generally associated with a high degree of risk. When investing in bonds, it is important to note that as interest rates rise, bond prices will fall. In addition, duration risk measures a debt security's price sensitivity to interest rate changes. Bonds with higher duration carry more risks and have higher price volatility than bonds with lower duration. Therefore, if interest rates are very low at the time of purchase of the bonds, when interest rates eventually do rise, the price of such lower interest rate bonds will decrease and anyone needing to sell such bonds at that time, rather than holding them to maturity, could realize a loss, and may trade for less than their net asset value. When investing in real estate, it is important to note that property values can fall due to environmental, economic, or other reasons, and changes in interest rates can negatively impact the performance of real estate companies. Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) represent a share of all stocks in a respective index. ETFs trade like stocks and are subject to market risk, including the potential for loss of principal. The value of ETFs will fluctuate with the value of the underlying securities. Inverse ETFs are considered risky and are not suitable for all investors. Inverse ETFs are constructed by using various derivatives for the purpose of profiting from a decline in the value of an underlying benchmark. Investing in inverse ETFs is similar to holding various short positions, or using a combination of advanced investment strategies to profit from falling prices. Typically, these products have one-day investment objectives, and investors should monitor such funds on a daily basis. Investors should review the prospectus and consider the ETF's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses carefully before investing. Prospectuses are available through your Financial Advisor and include this and other important information. Closed-end funds are subject to market risk, and the amount you receive upon sale may be more or less than the amount you paid. Investors should consider a fund's investment objective, risks, charges, and expenses carefully before investing. The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is an unmanaged, price-weighted index that consists of 30 blue chip U.S. stocks selected for their history of successful growth and interest among investors. The price-weighted arithmetic average is calculated with the divisor adjusted to reflect stock splits and occasional stock switches in the index. The Russell 3000 Index measures the performance of the largest 3000 U.S. companies representing approximately 98% of the investable U.S. equity market. The MSCI World ex USA All Cap Index captures large, mid, small and micro cap representation across 22 of 23 Developed Markets countries (excluding the United States). With 8,138 constituents, the index covers approximately 99% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country. HFRI Equity Hedge (Total) Index (HFRIEHI) is a fund-weighted index of strategies that maintain positions both long and short in primarily equity and equity derivative securities. A wide variety of investment processes can be employed to arrive at an investment decision, including both quantitative and fundamental techniques, strategies can be broadly diversified or narrowly focused on specific sectors and can range broadly in terms of levels of net exposure, leverage employed, holding period, concentrations of market capitalizations and valuation ranges of typical portfolios. The Barclays Municipal Bond Index is an unmanaged index that is considered representative of the broad market for investment grade, tax-exempt bonds with a maturity of at least one year. The volatility of the indices identified in this report may be materially different from the volatility of the model portfolios presented by EquityCompass Strategies. Indices are unmanaged, do not reflect fees and expenses, and it is not possible to invest directly in an index

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#### To learn more about the Tactical Total Core–Municipal Bond Strategy, please contact your Stifel Financial Advisor.

