# CalPERS Personal Trading Regulation Amendment

Presented to
Risk and Audit Committee
June 20, 2018



# Roadmap | Background

Background

**Summary Assessment** 

Proposed Changes



## **Background** | Why does CalPERS have Personal Trading Regulations?

Federal and state laws require organizations like CalPERS to have processes in place to detect and prevent the misuse of material, non-public information (i.e., insider trading).

Personal Trading policies are consistent with investment industry standards, and aim to:

Detect and prevent insider trading

Avoid potential conflicts of interest

Help ensure CalPERS meets its fiduciary duty

Prevent "front running"

Protect
CalPERS team
members

CalPERS Personal Trading Regulations (Title 2 CCR § 558.1) became effective December 1, 2012. Currently, CalPERS has more than 650 "Covered Persons," and monitors approximately 525 Covered Securities transactions each month.

# **Roadmap** | Summary Assessment

Background

Summary Assessment Proposed Changes



## **Summary Assessment**

CalPERS current Personal Trading Regulations meet many of the industry standards identified in SEC Guidance:<sup>1</sup>

Pre-Clearances Restricted Lists Blackout Periods Holding Periods Designated Brokerages Data Feeds

However, there are opportunities for improvement. The following slides outline changes recommended for the CalPERS Personal Trading Regulations.

The goals for these recommendations are:

- To align the CalPERS Regulations with recent SEC guidance.
- To align the CalPERS Regulations with industry standards.
- To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of CalPERS Personal Trading oversight.

<sup>1</sup>SEC Release Nos. IA-2256, IC-26492; File No. S7-04-04



## **Roadmap** | Proposed Changes

Background

**Summary Assessment** 

**Proposed Changes** 



## **Proposed Changes** | Covered Persons

The Personal Trading Regulations' current definition of Covered Persons may not align with SEC recommendations or with functional re-orgs throughout the years.

#### **Current State**

CalPERS Covered persons are broader than SEC recommendations.

## **Proposed Changes**

Eliminate "Covered Persons" not involved in the investment decisionmaking process.

### **Expected Benefits**

Reduce the administration and allow for greater focus on individuals with investment access.

## **Proposed Changes** | Exchange Traded Funds

SEC guidance<sup>1</sup> recommends inclusion of Exchange Traded Funds as a covered security. Additionally, our current Regulations cause confusion around which exchange traded securities are covered.

#### **Current State**

Includes only indexbased ETFs as Covered Securities, which creates unintentional violations.

## **Proposed Changes**

Add all types of ETFs to the list of Covered Securities.

#### **Expected Benefits**

Standardized and clear process for all ETF types aligned with current SEC recommendations.

<sup>1</sup> SEC No Action Letter, National Compliance Services, Inc., File No. 132-3 (Nov. 2005)

## **Proposed Changes** | Clarification of Regulations

Areas of frequent confusion will be clarified in the Regulations, leading to increased ease of understanding by Covered Persons and effectiveness of CalPERS Personal Trading oversight.

#### **Current State**

Five years into implementation, common addressable questions have been identified in the Regulations.

#### **Proposed Changes**

Clarify guidance around Derivative Holding Periods, Non-Designated Brokerages & Managed Account Certifications.

#### **Expected Benefits**

FAQs will be addressed in the Regulations, leading to increased ease of compliance.

