PLACEMENT AGENT DISCLOSURE POLICY

This amended policy is effective immediately upon adoption. This policy is intended to supplement any applicable provisions of state or federal law, which shall govern in the event of any inconsistency.

I. PURPOSE

This Policy is adopted pursuant to the requirements set forth in Government Code Section 7513.85 to help ensure that the San Mateo County Employees’ Retirement Association (SamCERA) investment decisions are made solely on the merits of the investment opportunity. This Policy requires broad, timely, and updated disclosure of all Placement Agents, as that term is defined by Government Code section 7513.8, their relationships, compensation and fees.

II. APPLICATION

This Policy applies broadly to every type of SamCERA investment managers including general partners, sponsors of hedge funds, private equity funds, real estate funds and infrastructure funds, as well as public market investment managers.

This Policy as amended applies to all agreements with External Managers that are entered into after the date this Policy is adopted and all existing agreements if, after the date this amended Policy is adopted, the agreement is amended to continue, terminate, or extend the term of the agreement or the investment period, increase the commitment of funds by SamCERA or increase or accelerate the fees or compensation payable to the External Manager (Referred to hereafter as “Amendment”). In the case of an Amendment, the disclosure provisions of this Policy shall apply to the Amendment and not to the original agreement.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The Board is responsible for:
1. Not entering into any agreement with an External Manager that does not agree in writing to comply with this policy.

2. Not entering into any agreement with an External Manager who has violated this policy within the previous five years. However, this prohibition may be reduced by a majority vote of the Board at a public session upon a showing of good cause.

B. Each External Manager is responsible for:

1. Executing an agreement that provides the External Manager will comply with this policy.

2. Providing the following information to SamCERA Investment Staff within 45 days of the time investment discussions are initiated by the External Manager, but in any event, prior to the completion of due diligence. In the case of Amendments, the Placement Agent Information Disclosure is required prior to execution of the Amendment.

   a. Disclosure of payments or compensation by the External Manager or any of its principals, employees, agents or affiliates, directly or indirectly, to any person or entity to act as a Placement Agent in connection with SamCERA investments.

   b. A resume for each officer, partner, principal of the Placement Agent detailing the person’s education, professional designations, regulatory licenses and investment and work experience. If any such person is a current or former SamCERA Board Member, employee or Consultant or a member of the immediate family of any such person, this fact shall be specifically noted.

   c. A description of any and all compensation of any kind provided or agreed to be provided to a Placement Agent, including the nature, timing and value thereof. Compensation to Placement Agents shall include, but not be limited to, compensation to third parties as well as employees of the External Manager who solicit or market investments to SamCERA or who are paid based upon investment commitments secured by such employees.

   d. A description of the services to be performed by the Placement Agent and a statement as to whether the Placement Agent is utilized by the External Manager with all prospective clients or only with a subset of the External Manager’s prospective clients.
e. A written copy of any and all agreements between the External Manager and the Placement Agent.

f. A statement whether the placement agent, or any of its affiliates, are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Financial Industry Regulatory Association, or any similar regulatory agent in a country other than the United States, and the details of that registration or explanation as to why no registration is required.

g. A statement whether the placement agent, or any of its affiliates, is registered as a lobbyist with any state or national government.

h. The names of any current or former SamCERA Board Members, employees, or Consultants who suggested the retention of the Placement Agent.

3. Providing an update of any changes to any of the information provided pursuant to section B.2 above within 30 calendar days of the date that the External Manager knew or should have known of the change in information.

4. Representing and warranting the accuracy of the information described in section B.2 above.

5. Causing its engaged Placement Agent to disclose, prior to acting as a Placement Agent to SamCERA:

a. All campaign contributions made by the Placement Agent to any publicly elected SamCERA Board Member during the prior 24-month period. Additionally, any subsequent campaign contribution made by the Placement Agent to any publicly elected SamCERA Board Member during the time the Placement Agent is receiving compensation in connection with a SamCERA investment shall also be disclosed.

b. All gifts, as defined in Government Code Section 82028, given by the Placement Agent to any SamCERA Board Member during the prior 24-month period. Additionally, any subsequent gift made by the Placement Agent to any SamCERA Board Member during the time the Placement Agent is receiving compensation in connection with a SamCERA investment shall also be disclosed.

6. SamCERA reserves the right to deem the failure to disclose the information required by 5(a) and 5(b) as a material breach of the agreement with the External Manager.
C. SamCERA Investment Staff ("Staff") are responsible for:

1. Providing External Managers with a copy of this Policy at the time that discussions are initiated with respect to a prospective investment or engagement.

2. Confirming that the information in section B above has been received within 45 days of the time the execution of the investment contract or Amendment.

3. For new contracts and amendments to contracts existing as of the date of the initial adoption of this Policy, securing the agreement of the External Manager in the final written agreement between SamCERA and the External Manager to provide in the event that there was or is an intentional material omission or inaccuracy in the Placement Agent Information Disclosure or any other violation of this Policy, SamCERA reserves the right to reimbursement of any management or advisory fees paid by SamCERA from the date of violation to the date of the imposition of the fees.

4. Prohibiting any External Manager or Placement Agent from soliciting new investments from SamCERA for five years after they have committed a material violation of this Policy; provided, however, that SamCERA’s Board, by majority vote at a noticed, public meeting, may reduce this prohibition upon a showing of good cause.

5. Providing the Board with Placement Agent information relating to each investment at the time the investment is brought to the Board for its decision.

6. Maintaining Placement Agent Information Disclosures as a public record and reporting to the Board any a material violation of this Policy.

Adopted December 14, 2010
Amended October 25, 2011
Amended March 28, 2017