

**Annual  
Shareholder Report**  
September 30, 2023



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Share Class | Ticker

A | FMUUX

Institutional | FMUSX

R6 | FMULX

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# Federated Hermes Municipal Ultrashort Fund

*Fund Established 2000*

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A Portfolio of Federated Hermes Fixed Income Securities, Inc.

Dear Valued Shareholder,

We are pleased to present the Annual Shareholder Report for your fund covering the period from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023. This report includes Management's Discussion of Fund Performance, a complete listing of your fund's holdings, performance information and financial statements along with other important fund information.

As a global leader in active, responsible investment management, Federated Hermes is guided by our conviction that responsible investing is the best way to create wealth over the long term. The company provides capabilities across a wide range of asset classes to investors around the world.

In addition, [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://www.federatedhermes.com/us) offers quick and easy access to valuable resources that include timely fund updates, economic and market insights from our investment strategists and financial planning tools. You can also access many of those insights by following us on Twitter (@FederatedHermes) and LinkedIn.

Thank you for investing with us. We hope you find this information useful and look forward to keeping you informed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Christopher Donahue".

J. Christopher Donahue, President

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**Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee**

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# Management’s Discussion of Fund Performance (unaudited)

The total return of Federated Hermes Municipal Ultrashort Fund (the “Fund”), based on net asset value for the 12-month reporting period ended September 30, 2023, was 3.02% for the Class A Shares, 3.07% for the Institutional Shares, and 3.20% for the R6 Shares. The 3.20% total return for the R6 Shares for the reporting period consisted of 2.79% of tax-exempt dividend income and price appreciation of 0.41% in the net asset value of the shares.<sup>1,2</sup> The total return of the Bloomberg 1-Year U.S. Municipal Bond Index (B1MBI),<sup>3</sup> the Fund’s broad-based securities market index, was 2.29% and the total return of the Lipper Short Municipal Debt Funds Average (LSMDFA),<sup>4</sup> a peer group average of short-term bond funds with durations of less than three years, was 2.43% during the same period. The total return of a 50/50 blend of the B1MBI and the Lipper Tax-Exempt Money Market Funds Average (Blended Index),<sup>5</sup> which would approximate a 0.75-year average duration, was 2.49% during the same period. The Fund’s and the LSMDFA’s total returns for the most recently completed fiscal year reflected actual cash flows, transaction costs and expenses that were not reflected in the total return of the B1MBI.

During the reporting period, the most significant factors affecting the Fund’s performance relative to the B1MBI were: (a) the sensitivity of the portfolio to changing interest rates, including both portfolio duration and the allocation of securities across the municipal yield curve (the level of interest rates across maturities);<sup>6,7</sup> (b) the allocation of the portfolio among securities of similar issuers (referred to as sectors); (c) the credit quality of portfolio securities (credit quality);<sup>8</sup> and (d) security selection. These were the most significant factors affecting the Fund’s performance relative to the B1MBI during the period.

The following discussion will focus on the performance of the Fund’s R6 Shares relative to the B1MBI.

## **MARKET OVERVIEW**

Historically high inflation rates which first appeared and accelerated in 2022 began to abate during the reporting period but remained an issue for fixed-income markets. Following seven rate increases totaling 4.25% in 2022, the Federal Reserve (the “Fed”) raised rates four more times for an additional 1.00% during the first nine months of 2023. The short part of the Treasury yield curve responded sharply, with the yield on 2-year Treasuries increasing 77 basis points to 5.05% over the fiscal year. The rest of the yield curve saw similar increases, with 5-year and 10-year yields rising by 52 and 74 basis points, respectively, and the 30-year yield increasing by 92 basis points over the same period.

The municipal yield curve also shifted upward with the very front end of the curve reflecting the Fed moves, and the very long end (30 years) reflecting increased expectations for structural inflation and higher term premiums. Municipal yields on AAA-rated securities with 2-, 5-, 10- and 30-year maturities as reported by Bloomberg Evaluation Services increased by 58, 25, 18 and 47 basis points, respectively, over the period.

Municipals cheapened relative to Treasuries late in the period, with yield ratios increasing from a period average of 62% and 66% for the 2- and 5-year tenors to end the fiscal year at 73% and 74%, respectively. Yield ratios of 70% and higher are considered attractive for investors in the higher tax brackets. The municipal curve inverted during the fiscal year. As of the end of the period, yields on 1- and 2-year AAA-rated bonds were higher than those with 13 years to maturity.

Municipal credit spreads narrowed slightly over the period. Underlying credit generally remained good over the reporting period. State and local governments, as well as other issuers, continued to benefit from the considerable federal aid that came their way during and after the pandemic. For the first half of 2023, Moody's upgrades outnumbered downgrades by nearly four to one.

Higher rates continued to depress new issuance and supply. According to The Bond Buyer, total issuance for the 12 months ended August 31, 2023 was 18% lower than the prior 12 months, and 25% lower than the 12 months ending August 31, 2021. Refunding issuance remained at low levels as higher rates made fewer refundings economical.

## **DURATION AND YIELD CURVE**

The Fund is an ultrashort tax-exempt municipal bond fund and pursues a low price volatility strategy. As such, the Fund's typical dollar-weighted average duration is limited by its prospectus to one year or less with the typical operating range from four months to one year. As determined at the end of the fiscal year, the Fund's dollar-weighted duration was 0.64 years. The duration of the B1MBI (which contains only bonds with maturities from one to two years) was 1.34 years at the end of the fiscal year.

Active management of fund duration and allocation of portfolio holdings along the municipal yield curve had a significant and positive impact on performance relative to the B1MBI during the reporting period.

In order to pursue an ultrashort duration strategy, the Fund adheres to a barbell structure consisting of: 50% to 65% weighting in very short-term maturity securities such as daily and weekly reset municipal variable-rate demand notes (MVRDNs) and municipal floating-rate notes (MFRNs), combined with 35% to 50% weighting in tender option bonds, tax-exempt fixed-rate municipal notes, and fixed-rate municipal bonds with maturities generally from three months to three years.

The seven-day SIFMA rate, a proxy for weekly MVRDN yields held in the Fund and the base coupon index for most MFRNs held in the Fund, averaged 3.06% over the reporting period and ended the fiscal year at 3.98%. During the fiscal year, the municipal yield curve inverted as yields on shorter maturities (1 to 4 years) rose more than for intermediate bonds (5 to 15 years).

The Fund maintained significant weightings to MVRDNs and MFRNs over the period (55% to 65%) to improve the interest rate responsiveness of the portfolio's coupon income stream and dampen price volatility. As the yield curve inverted, this allocation decision helped the total return performance of the Fund as variable/floating-rate notes significantly outperformed (higher income as rates rose with little to no price volatility) the B1MBI. These securities helped the total return performance of the Fund versus the B1MBI as they are excluded from the index.

The B1MBI holds only bonds in a narrow band with maturities greater than one year but less than two years, and it does not include MVRDNs and MFRNs. While the Fund's 80% allocation to securities in the 0-to-2-year maturity range significantly outperformed the B1MBI 100% allocation in this bucket, so did the Fund's 20% allocation to the two to four year maturity range, which is not included in the B1MBI. This also contributed to the outperformance of the Fund relative to the B1MBI.

#### **SECTOR ALLOCATION**

During the reporting period, the Fund's sector allocations had a slight but positive impact on Fund performance relative to the B1MBI. The Fund's positioning and security selection relative to the B1MBI in sectors such as local general obligation, housing and corporate-backed revenue bonds generated positive excess returns due to outperformance within the Fund and relative to the B1MBI.

The Fund was significantly underweight compared to the B1MBI in pre-refunded bonds (which are bonds for which the principal and interest payments are secured or guaranteed by cash or U.S. Treasury securities held in an escrow account), and as this sector was a slight underperformer in the one to two year maturity range and a 26% weight within the B1MBI, this decision positively affected Fund performance relative to the B1MBI during the reporting period.

#### **CREDIT QUALITY**

During the reporting period, investor appetite for lower credit quality debt and additional yield spread remained strong as the supply of new issuance was limited and the economy remained robust. Credit spreads narrowed in the overall market, but less so for bonds with short maturities.

The Fund's overweight position compared to the B1MBI in A- and BBB-rated debt added slightly positive excess return as these securities supplied incremental income and yield carry over the period. Conversely, the Fund's underweight position compared to the B1MBI in AAA- and AA-rated (or unrated bonds of comparable quality) debt during the reporting period had a positive impact on the Fund's performance as bonds in these rating categories underperformed within the B1MBI.

## **SECURITY SELECTION**

Individual security selection added to performance compared to the B1MBI during the reporting period, as the Fund's relative total return was stronger than could be explained by duration, yield curve, sector allocation and credit quality characteristics. For instance, the decision to allocate greater amounts to MVRDNs and MFRNs, which are not included in the narrow B1MBI, added to relative performance. Conversely, with rising rates, the weak performance of lower coupon securities with maturities inside five years and the timing of certain sales of securities in weak market conditions due to redemptions detracted from relative performance.

- 1 Bond prices are sensitive to changes in interest rates, and a rise in interest rates can cause a decline in their prices. The Fund is not a "money market" mutual fund. Some money market mutual funds attempt to maintain a stable net asset value through compliance with relevant Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules. The Fund is not governed by those rules, and its shares will fluctuate in value.*
- 2 Income may be subject to the federal alternative minimum tax, as well as state and local taxes.*
- 3 Please see the footnotes to the line graph under "Fund Performance and Growth of a \$10,000 Investment" below for the definition of, and more information about, the B1MBI.*

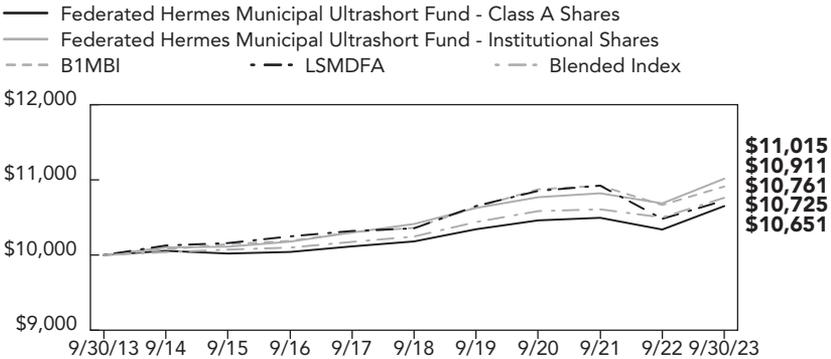
- 4 Please see the footnotes to the line graph under "Fund Performance and Growth of a \$10,000 Investment" below for the definition of, and more information about, the Lipper peer group.
- 5 Please see the footnotes to the line graph under "Fund Performance and Growth of a \$10,000 Investment" below for the definition of, and more information about, the constituents of the Blended Index.
- 6 Duration is a measure of a security's price sensitivity to changes in interest rates. Securities with longer durations are more sensitive to changes in interest rates than securities with shorter durations. For purposes of this Management's Discussion of Fund Performance, duration is determined using a third-party analytical system.
- 7 The yield curve is a graph showing the comparative yields of securities in a particular class according to maturity. Securities on the long end of the yield curve have longer maturities.
- 8 Investment-grade securities and noninvestment-grade securities may either be: (a) rated by a nationally recognized statistical ratings organization or rating agency; or (b) unrated securities that the Fund's investment adviser ("Adviser") believes are of comparable quality. The rating agencies that provided the ratings for rated securities include Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investor Services, Inc., and Fitch Rating Service. When ratings vary, the highest rating is used. Credit ratings of "AA" or better are considered to be high credit quality; credit ratings of "A" are considered high or medium/good quality; and credit ratings of "BBB" are considered to be medium/good credit quality, and the lowest category of investment-grade securities; credit ratings of "BB" and below are lower-rated, noninvestment-grade securities or junk bonds; and credit ratings of "CCC" or below are noninvestment-grade securities that have high default risk. Any credit quality breakdown does not give effect to the impact of any credit derivative investments made by the Fund. Credit ratings are an indication of the risk that a security will default. They do not protect a security from credit risk. Lower-rated bonds typically offer higher yields to help compensate investors for the increased risk associated with them. Among these risks are lower creditworthiness, greater price volatility, more risk to principal and income than with higher rated securities and increased possibilities of default.

## FUND PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT

The graph below illustrates the hypothetical investment of \$10,000<sup>1</sup> in the Federated Hermes Municipal Ultrashort Fund (the “Fund”) from September 30, 2013 to September 30, 2023, compared to the Bloomberg 1-Year US Municipal Bond Index (B1MBI),<sup>2</sup> the Lipper Short Municipal Debt Funds Average (LSMDFA)<sup>3</sup> and a 50/50 blend of the B1MBI and Lipper Tax-Exempt Money Market Funds Average<sup>3</sup> (Blended Index). The Average Annual Total Return table below shows returns for each class averaged over the stated periods.

### GROWTH OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT

#### Growth of \$10,000 as of September 30, 2023



The Fund offers multiple share classes whose performance may be greater than or less than its other share class(es) due to differences in sales charges and expenses. See the Average Annual Total Return table below for the returns of additional classes not shown in the line graph above.

#### Average Annual Total Returns for the Period Ended 9/30/2023

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
<b>Class A Shares</b>	3.02%	0.91%	0.63%
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	3.07%	1.13%	0.97%
<b>R6 Shares<sup>4</sup></b>	3.20%	1.15%	0.98%
B1MBI	2.29%	1.04%	0.88%
LSMDFA	2.43%	0.75%	0.70%
Blended Index	2.49%	0.99%	0.74%

**Performance data quoted represents past performance which is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Mutual fund performance changes over time and current performance may be lower or higher than what is stated. For current to the most recent month-end performance and after-tax returns, visit [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://FederatedHermes.com/us) or call 1-800-341-7400. Returns shown do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the redemption of Fund shares. Mutual funds are not obligations of or guaranteed by any bank and are not federally insured.**

- 1 *Effective December 1, 2019, the maximum 2.00% sales charge (load) imposed on Class A Shares purchases (as a percentage of offering price) was eliminated. The performance of the A class has been adjusted to reflect the elimination of the sales charge. The Fund's performance assumes the reinvestment of all dividends and distributions. The B1MBI, the LSMDFIA and the Blended Index have been adjusted to reflect reinvestment of dividends on securities in the index and the Lipper peer group averages.*
- 2 *The B1MBI is the one-year (1-2) component of the Bloomberg US Municipal Bond Index. The Bloomberg US Municipal Bond Index covers the USD-denominated long-term tax-exempt bond market. The index has four main sectors: state and local general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds and prerefunded bonds. The B1MBI is not adjusted to reflect sales charges, expenses or other fees that the SEC requires to be reflected in the Fund's performance. The Fund is not a money market fund and is not subject to the special regulatory requirements (including maturity and credit quality constraints) designed to enable money market funds to maintain a stable share price. The B1MBI is unmanaged, and unlike the Fund, is not affected by cash flows. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.*
- 3 *Lipper peer group figures represent the average of the total returns reported by all funds designated by Lipper, Inc., as falling into the respective category and are not adjusted to reflect any sales charges. The Lipper figures in the Growth of a \$10,000 Investment line graph are based on historical return information published by Lipper and reflect the return of the funds comprising the category in the year of publication. Because the funds designated by Lipper as falling into the category can change over time, the Lipper figures in the line graph may not match the Lipper figures in the Average Annual Total Returns table, which reflect the return of the funds that currently comprise the category.*
- 4 *The Fund's R6 Shares commenced operations on May 29, 2019. For the period prior to the commencement of operations of the R6 Shares, the R6 Shares performance information shown is for the Fund's Institutional Shares. The performance of the Institutional Shares has not been adjusted to reflect the expenses of the R6 Shares since the R6 Shares have a lower expense ratio than the expense ratio of the Institutional Shares.*

# Portfolio of Investments Summary Table (unaudited)

At September 30, 2023, the Fund's sector composition<sup>1</sup> was as follows:

Sector Composition	Percentage of Total Net Assets
Industrial Development Bond/Pollution Control Revenue	23.2%
Prepaid Gas Utility	12.1%
Hospital	10.3%
Multi-Family Housing	9.8%
General Obligation—Local	9.2%
Electric & Gas	7.2%
Higher Education	4.4%
Toll Road	3.2%
Water & Sewer	2.6%
General Obligation—State	1.4%
Other <sup>2</sup>	17.0%
Other Assets and Liabilities—Net <sup>3</sup>	(0.4%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

- 1 Sector classifications, and the assignment of holdings to such sectors, are based upon the economic sector and/or revenue source of the underlying obligor, as determined by the Fund's Adviser. For securities that have been enhanced by a third party guarantor, such as bond insurers and banks, sector classifications are based upon the economic sector and/or revenue source of the underlying obligor, as determined by the Fund's Adviser. IDB/PCR contains total corporate exposure in multiple corporate sectors for Fund diversification.
- 2 For purposes of this table, sector classifications constitute 83.4% of the Fund's total net assets. Remaining sectors have been aggregated under the designation "Other."
- 3 Assets, other than investments in securities, less liabilities. See Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

# Portfolio of Investments

September 30, 2023

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—72.8%	
	<b>Alabama—8.1%</b>	
\$ 5,000,000	Black Belt Energy Gas District, AL, Gas Prepay Revenue Bonds Project No. 4 (Series 2019A-1), (Morgan Stanley GTD), 4.000%, Mandatory Tender 12/1/2025	\$ 4,908,689
1,000,000	Black Belt Energy Gas District, AL, Gas Revenue Bonds (Series 2022B-1), (Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. GTD), 4.000%, Mandatory Tender 10/1/2027	962,564
25,500,000	<sup>1</sup> Black Belt Energy Gas District, AL, Gas Revenue Bonds Project No.7 (Series 2021C-2) FRNs, (Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. GTD), 4.330% (SIFMA 7-day +0.350%), Mandatory Tender 12/1/2026	24,826,267
25,000,000	Mobile, AL IDB (Alabama Power Co.), PCRB (Series 2007B) Weekly, 3.866%, Mandatory Tender 6/2/2026	24,663,585
3,650,000	Selma, AL IDB (International Paper Co.), Gulf Opportunity Zone Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2019A), 2.000%, Mandatory Tender 10/1/2024	3,565,665
5,250,000	Selma, AL IDB (International Paper Co.), Gulf Opportunity Zone Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2020A), 1.375%, Mandatory Tender 6/16/2025	4,992,086
30,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Southeast Alabama Gas Supply District, Gas Supply Revenue Bonds Project No. 2 (Series 2018B) FRNs, (Morgan Stanley GTD), 4.498% (1-month USLIBOR x 0.67 +0.850%), Mandatory Tender 6/1/2024	29,991,318
	TOTAL	93,910,174
	<b>Arizona—1.6%</b>	
630,000	<sup>1</sup> Arizona Health Facilities Authority (Banner Health), (Series 2015B) FRNs, (United States Treasury PRF 11/4/2025@100), 4.230% (SIFMA 7-day +0.250%), 1/1/2046	630,000
3,870,000	<sup>1</sup> Arizona Health Facilities Authority (Banner Health), (Series 2015B) FRNs, 4.230% (SIFMA 7-day +0.250%), Mandatory Tender 11/4/2026	3,799,795
1,000,000	Coconino County, AZ Pollution Control Corp. (Nevada Power Co.), Pollution Control Refunding Revenue Bonds (Series 2017B), 3.750%, Mandatory Tender 3/31/2026	984,356
8,000,000	Maricopa County, AZ, IDA (Banner Health), Revenue Bonds (Series 2023A-1), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 5/15/2026	8,173,637
5,000,000	Phoenix, AZ IDA (Republic Services, Inc.), (Series 2013), 4.125%, Mandatory Tender 11/1/2023	4,997,635
	TOTAL	18,585,423
	<b>Arkansas—0.3%</b>	
3,895,000	Arkansas State, Federal Highway Grant and Tax Revenue Bonds (Series 2012), 3.000%, 4/1/2024	3,868,554
	<b>California—6.0%</b>	
7,250,000	<sup>1</sup> Bay Area Toll Authority, CA, San Francisco Bay Area Toll Bridge Revenue Bonds (Series 2021B) FRNs, 4.260% (SIFMA 7-day +0.280%), Mandatory Tender 4/1/2024	7,221,774

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>California—continued</b>	
\$ 9,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Bay Area Toll Authority, CA, San Francisco Bay Area Toll Bridge Revenue Bonds (Series 2021C) FRNs, 4.430% (SIFMA 7-day +0.450%), Mandatory Tender 4/1/2026	\$ 8,801,354
7,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Bay Area Toll Authority, CA, San Francisco Bay Area Toll Bridge Revenue Bonds (SIFMA Index Rate Bonds Series 2021D) FRNs, 4.280% (SIFMA 7-day +0.300%), Mandatory Tender 4/1/2027	6,844,558
7,000,000	<sup>1</sup> California Infrastructure & Economic Development Bank (California Academy of Sciences), Revenue Bonds (Series 2018D) FRNs, 4.330% (SIFMA 7-day +0.350%), Mandatory Tender 8/1/2024	6,933,520
6,750,000	<sup>1</sup> California Infrastructure & Economic Development Bank (Los Angeles County Museum of Art), Refunding Revenue Bonds (Series 2021B) FRNs, 4.680% (SIFMA 7-day +0.700%), Mandatory Tender 6/1/2026	6,560,534
27,500,000	California PCFA (Republic Services, Inc.), (Series 2023), 4.250%, Mandatory Tender 2/15/2024	27,332,184
2,000,000	<sup>2</sup> California Public Finance Authority (Kendal at Sonoma), Enso Village TEMPS-50 Senior Living Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series B-3), 2.125%, 11/15/2027	1,916,164
2,000,000	Western Placer, CA Unified School District, Community Facilities District No. 1 2020 BANS, 2.000%, 6/1/2025	1,905,808
2,730,000	Western Placer, CA Unified School District, Community Facilities District No.2 2020 BANS, 2.000%, 6/1/2025	2,593,110
	TOTAL	70,109,006
	<b>Colorado—1.3%</b>	
5,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Colorado School of Mines Board of Trustees (Colorado School of Mines, CO), Institutional Enterprise Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2022D) FRNs, 4.850% (SIFMA 7-day +0.870%), 12/1/2025	5,000,524
6,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Colorado State Health Facilities Authority (Intermountain Healthcare Obligated Group), Revenue Bonds (Series 2022D) FRNs, 4.530% (SIFMA 7-day +0.550%), Mandatory Tender 8/17/2026	5,949,393
4,000,000	<sup>1</sup> E-470 Public Highway Authority, CO, Senior Revenue SOFR Index Term Rate Bonds (Series 2021B) FRNs, 3.908% (SOFR x 0.67 +0.350%), Mandatory Tender 9/1/2024	3,985,169
	TOTAL	14,935,086
	<b>Connecticut—0.7%</b>	
3,000,000	Connecticut State Health & Educational Facilities (Yale University), Revenue Bonds (Series 2017C-2), 2.800%, Mandatory Tender 2/3/2026	2,892,277
4,000,000	Connecticut State Health & Educational Facilities (Yale University), Revenue Bonds (Series X-2), 0.250%, Mandatory Tender 2/9/2024	3,939,383
960,000	Connecticut State HFA, Housing Mortgage Finance Program Bonds (Series 2020D-3), 0.500%, Mandatory Tender 11/15/2023	956,549
	TOTAL	7,788,209
	<b>Florida—1.6%</b>	
3,500,000	Broward County, FL HFA (St. Joseph Manor II, LLLP), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2023), (United States Treasury COL), 3.500%, Mandatory Tender 4/1/2026	3,411,949

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>Florida—continued</b>	
\$ 775,000	Escambia County, FL (International Paper Co.), Environmental Improvement Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2019B), 2.000%, Mandatory Tender 10/1/2024	\$ 757,093
2,700,000	Florida Development Finance Corp. (Lakeland Regional Health System), Healthcare Facilities Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2021), 5.000%, 11/15/2023	2,701,228
11,500,000	<sup>1</sup> Miami-Dade County, FL IDA (Waste Management, Inc.), Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds (Series 2018B) FRNs, 4.355% (SIFMA 7-day +0.375%), Mandatory Tender 7/1/2024	11,333,646
	TOTAL	18,203,916
	<b>Georgia—2.4%</b>	
6,700,000	Burke County, GA Development Authority (Georgia Power Co.), Vogtle Project PCRB (Fifth Series 1994), 2.150%, Mandatory Tender 6/13/2024	6,541,553
3,000,000	Burke County, GA Development Authority (Georgia Power Co.), Vogtle Project PCRB (First Series 1996), 3.875%, Mandatory Tender 3/6/2026	2,936,058
5,650,000	Burke County, GA Development Authority (Georgia Power Co.), Vogtle Project PCRB (First Series 2012), 2.875%, Mandatory Tender 8/19/2025	5,430,178
6,495,000	Main Street Natural Gas, Inc., GA, Gas Supply Revenue Bonds (Series 2021A), (Royal Bank of Canada GTD), 4.000%, Mandatory Tender 9/1/2027	6,323,461
1,000,000	Main Street Natural Gas, Inc., GA, Gas Supply Revenue Bonds (Series 2022A), (Citigroup, Inc. GTD), 4.000%, 12/1/2025	979,612
3,500,000	Monroe County, GA Development Authority (Georgia Power Co.), Scherer Project PCRB (First Series 2013), 3.875%, Mandatory Tender 3/6/2026	3,425,401
1,750,000	Monroe County, GA Development Authority (Georgia Power Co.), Scherer Project PCRB (Second Series 2009), 3.875%, Mandatory Tender 3/6/2026	1,712,700
	TOTAL	27,348,963
	<b>Illinois—1.7%</b>	
2,000,000	Chicago, IL O'Hare International Airport, General Airport Senior Lien Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2022C), 5.000%, 1/1/2024	2,001,840
2,000,000	Chicago, IL O'Hare International Airport, General Airport Senior Lien Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2022C), 5.000%, 1/1/2025	2,013,785
3,500,000	Chicago, IL O'Hare International Airport, General Airport Senior Lien Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2022C), 5.000%, 1/1/2026	3,534,089
3,000,000	Illinois State, UT GO Bonds (Series 2023D), 5.000%, 7/1/2025	3,040,781
3,500,000	Illinois State, UT GO Bonds (Series 2023D), 5.000%, 7/1/2026	3,582,498
5,000,000	Illinois State, UT GO Bonds (Series 2023D), 5.000%, 7/1/2027	5,160,558
	TOTAL	19,333,551
	<b>Indiana—1.6%</b>	
6,475,000	<sup>1</sup> Indiana State Finance Authority (Deaconess Health System), Revenue Bonds (Series 2021B) FRNs, 4.280% (SIFMA 7-day +0.300%), Mandatory Tender 3/1/2027	6,259,160

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>Indiana—continued</b>	
\$10,000,000	Indiana State Finance Authority (Republic Services, Inc.), (Series 2010A), 4.300%, Mandatory Tender 12/1/2023	\$ 9,993,306
2,000,000	Indiana State Finance Authority (Republic Services, Inc.), (Series 2012), 4.300%, Optional Tender 12/1/2023	1,998,661
	TOTAL	18,251,127
	<b>Iowa—0.5%</b>	
3,000,000	Iowa Finance Authority (Gevco NW Iowa RNG, LLC), Solid Waste Facility Revenue Bonds Renewable Gas Project (Series 2021), (Citibank N.A., New York LOC), 1.500%, Mandatory Tender 4/1/2024	2,939,633
3,500,000	<sup>1</sup> Iowa Finance Authority (Lifespace Communities, Inc.), Revenue Bonds (Series 2021B) FRNs, 4.274% (SOFR x 0.70 +0.550%), Mandatory Tender 5/15/2026	3,195,159
	TOTAL	6,134,792
	<b>Kentucky—2.4%</b>	
7,795,000	Kentucky Housing Corp. (Beecher IV, LLC), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2023), (United States Treasury COL), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 9/1/2026	7,875,896
3,500,000	Kentucky Housing Corp. (Cambridge Preservation LP), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2021), (United States Treasury GTD), 0.300%, Mandatory Tender 2/1/2024	3,443,010
13,000,000	Public Energy Authority of Kentucky, Gas Supply Revenue Bonds (Series 2018B), (BP PLC GTD), 4.000%, Mandatory Tender 1/1/2025	12,878,398
3,250,000	Rural Water Financing Agency, KY, Public Projects Construction Notes (Series 2023A), 3.900%, 11/1/2025	3,178,959
	TOTAL	27,376,263
	<b>Louisiana—1.5%</b>	
3,000,000	Louisiana Local Government Environmental Facilities Community Development Authority (East Baton Rouge Sewerage Commission), Subordinate Lien Multi-Modal Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2020B), 0.875%, Mandatory Tender 2/1/2025	2,849,393
8,885,000	St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Marathon Oil Corp.), Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2017B-1), 2.125%, Mandatory Tender 7/1/2024	8,721,787
5,500,000	St. John the Baptist Parish, LA (Marathon Oil Corp.), Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2019 A-1), 4.050%, Mandatory Tender 7/1/2026	5,400,310
	TOTAL	16,971,490
	<b>Massachusetts—0.3%</b>	
3,250,000	<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts Development Finance Agency (Mass General Brigham), Revenue Bonds (Series 2019T-1) FRNs, 4.580% (SIFMA 7-day +0.600%), Mandatory Tender 1/29/2026	3,226,158
	<b>Michigan—0.4%</b>	
2,000,000	Michigan State Finance Authority (Beaumont Health Spectrum Health System), Hospital Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2022A), 5.000%, 4/15/2024	2,008,669

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>Michigan—continued</b>	
\$ 3,125,000	<sup>1</sup> Michigan State Finance Authority (Beaumont Health Spectrum Health System), Hospital Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2022C) FRNs, 4.730% (SIFMA 7-day +0.750%), Mandatory Tender 4/15/2027	\$ 3,064,417
	TOTAL	5,073,086
	<b>Minnesota—0.4%</b>	
5,000,000	Minnesota Rural Water Finance Authority, Public Projects Construction Notes (Series 2022), 2.625%, 12/1/2023	4,974,177
	<b>Mississippi—0.3%</b>	
2,940,000	Jackson County, MS, UT GO Water System Bonds (Series 1994), (Chevron Corp. GTD), 3.750%, Mandatory Tender 2/1/2024	2,940,000
	<b>Nebraska—0.4%</b>	
4,905,000	<sup>1</sup> Douglas County, NE (Creighton University, NE), Educational Facilities Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2021B) FRNs, 4.510% (SIFMA 7-day +0.530%), Mandatory Tender 9/1/2026	4,837,303
	<b>Nevada—0.7%</b>	
2,000,000	Clark County, NV (Nevada Power Co.), Pollution Control Refunding Revenue Bonds (Series 2017), 3.750%, Mandatory Tender 3/1/2026	1,971,702
7,000,000	Humboldt County, NV (Idaho Power Co.), PCR Refunding Bonds (Series 2003), 1.450%, 12/1/2024	6,702,211
	TOTAL	8,673,913
	<b>New Hampshire—1.2%</b>	
6,500,000	National Finance Authority, NH (Waste Management, Inc.), (Series 2020 A-3), (Waste Management Holdings, Inc. GTD), 4.250%, Mandatory Tender 12/1/2023	6,493,556
1,500,000	National Finance Authority, NH (Waste Management, Inc.), Solid Waste Disposal Refunding Revenue Bonds (Series 2019A-1), 2.150%, Mandatory Tender 7/1/2024	1,474,322
4,000,000	National Finance Authority, NH (Waste Management, Inc.), Solid Waste Disposal Refunding Revenue Bonds (Series 2019A-3), 2.150%, Mandatory Tender 7/1/2024	3,931,527
2,000,000	National Finance Authority, NH (Waste Management, Inc.), Solid Waste Disposal Refunding Revenue Bonds (Series 2019A-4), 2.150%, Mandatory Tender 7/1/2024	1,965,763
	TOTAL	13,865,168
	<b>New Jersey—2.9%</b>	
9,000,000	Belleville, NJ BANs, 5.000%, 7/10/2024	9,034,601
4,238,130	Haledon, NJ BANs, 4.500%, 9/27/2024	4,246,142
6,650,000	New Jersey EDA (New Jersey State), School Facilities Construction Refunding Bonds (Series 2023RRR), 5.000%, 3/1/2024	6,669,089
5,000,000	New Jersey EDA (New Jersey State), School Facilities Construction Refunding Bonds (Series 2023RRR), 5.000%, 3/1/2025	5,058,409
3,100,000	New Jersey EDA (New Jersey-American Water Co., Inc.), Water Facilities Refunding Revenue Bonds (Series 2020E), 0.850%, 12/1/2025	2,764,766

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>New Jersey—continued</b>	
\$ 4,000,000	New Jersey Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency (New Center City Apartments Urban Renewal, LLC), Multifamily Conduit Revenue Bonds (Series 2023-C), (United States Treasury COL), 5.000%, 6/1/2025	\$ 4,021,390
2,210,000	New Jersey State Transportation Trust Fund Authority (New Jersey State), Transportation System Bonds (Series 2021A), 5.000%, 6/15/2025	2,241,677
	TOTAL	34,036,074
	<b>New Mexico—2.4%</b>	
5,000,000	Farmington, NM (Public Service Co., NM), Pollution Control Revenue Refunding Bonds San Juan Project (Series 2010C), 1.150%, Mandatory Tender 6/4/2024	4,865,790
3,000,000	New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (JLG NM ABQ 2023, LLLP), Mountain View I & II Apartments Project Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2023), (United States Treasury GTD), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 9/1/2025	3,021,912
4,500,000	New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (JLG NM SAF 2023, LLLP), Santa Fe Apartments and Sangre De Cristo Project Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2023), (United States Treasury GTD), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 6/1/2025	4,521,294
3,725,000	New Mexico Municipal Energy Acquisition Authority, Gas Supply Revenue Refunding and Acquisition Bonds (Series 2019A), (Royal Bank of Canada GTD), 4.000%, 5/1/2025	3,692,139
8,035,000	New Mexico Municipal Energy Acquisition Authority, Gas Supply Revenue Refunding and Acquisition Bonds (Series 2019A), (Royal Bank of Canada GTD), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 5/1/2025	8,039,601
4,000,000	New Mexico State Hospital Equipment Loan Council (Presbyterian Healthcare Services), Hospital System Revenue Bonds (Series 2019B), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 8/1/2025	4,052,322
	TOTAL	28,193,058
	<b>New York—5.1%</b>	
16,693,774	Adirondack, NY CSD BANs, 4.500%, 6/27/2024	16,725,310
4,485,000	Carthage, NY CSD BANs, 4.500%, 6/26/2024	4,490,516
6,270,000	Groton CSD, NY BANs, 4.750%, 6/20/2024	6,286,407
4,500,000	Lloyd, NY BANs, 4.250%, 2/9/2024	4,494,280
1,500,000	Mayfield, NY CSD BANs, 4.500%, 6/20/2024	1,501,244
6,735,000	<sup>1</sup> Metropolitan Transportation Authority, NY (MTA Transportation Revenue), Transportation Revenue Variable Rate Refunding Bonds (Series 2005D-1) FRNs, 3.888% (SOFR x 0.67 +0.330%), Mandatory Tender 4/1/2024	6,714,707
2,250,000	New York City, NY, UT GO Bonds (Fiscal 2023 Series C), 5.000%, 8/1/2025	2,299,311
1,000,000	New York Transportation Development Corporation (JFK International Air Terminal LLC), Special Facilities Revenue Bonds (Series 2020C), 5.000%, 12/1/2024	1,010,330
8,000,000	Newburgh, NY BANs, 4.450%, 8/9/2024	8,000,650

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>New York—continued</b>	
\$ 5,630,000	<sup>1</sup> Triborough Bridge & Tunnel Authority, NY, General Revenue Variable Rate Refunding Bonds (Series 2005B-4A) FRNs, 3.944% (SOFR x 0.67 +0.380%), Mandatory Tender 2/1/2024	\$ 5,605,822
2,000,000	Williamson, NY BANs, 4.250%, 12/20/2023	1,999,250
	TOTAL	59,127,827
	<b>North Carolina—1.9%</b>	
4,000,000	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Hospital Authority, NC (Atrium Health (previously Carolinas HealthCare) System), Variable Rate Health Care Revenue Bonds (Series 2018E), 0.800%, Mandatory Tender 10/31/2025	3,648,470
3,500,000	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Hospital Authority, NC (Atrium Health (previously Carolinas HealthCare) System), Variable Rate Health Care Revenue Bonds (Series 2021B), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 12/2/2024	3,529,903
850,000	Columbus County, NC Industrial Facilities & PCFA (International Paper Co.), Recovery Zone Facility Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2019B), 2.000%, Mandatory Tender 10/1/2024	830,360
1,000,000	Columbus County, NC Industrial Facilities & PCFA (International Paper Co.), Recovery Zone Facility Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2020A), 1.375%, Mandatory Tender 6/16/2025	950,874
13,635,000	<sup>1</sup> University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, General Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2019B) FRNs, 4.208% (SOFR x 0.67 +0.650%), Mandatory Tender 6/1/2025	13,564,740
	TOTAL	22,524,347
	<b>North Dakota—0.8%</b>	
10,000,000	Cass County Joint Water Resource District, ND, UT GO Temporary Refunding Improvement Bonds (Series 2021A), 0.480%, 5/1/2024	9,672,389
	<b>Ohio—2.0%</b>	
4,350,000	Cuyahoga, OH Metropolitan Housing Authority (Wade Park Apartments), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2022), (United States Treasury COL), 4.750%, Mandatory Tender 12/1/2025	4,345,808
10,390,000	Lancaster, OH Port Authority, Gas Supply Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2019), (Royal Bank of Canada GTD), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 2/1/2025	10,423,918
2,917,000	Ohio HFA (Riverview San Marco, LLC), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2023), (United States Treasury COL), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 8/1/2025	2,933,222
2,665,000	Ohio HFA (Thornwood Commons Homes, LLC), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2023), (United States Treasury COL), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 12/1/2025	2,684,650
2,500,000	Ohio State Hospital Revenue (Cleveland Clinic), Hospital Revenue Bonds (Series 2019C), 2.750%, Mandatory Tender 5/1/2028	2,367,647
	TOTAL	22,755,245
	<b>Oregon—0.3%</b>	
3,000,000	Multnomah County, OR Hospital Facilities Authority (Terwilliger Plaza, Inc.), Parkview Project TEMPS-50 Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Series 2021B-2), 0.950%, 6/1/2027	2,600,776

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>Oregon—continued</b>	
\$ 1,000,000	Multnomah County, OR Hospital Facilities Authority (Terwilliger Plaza, Inc.), Parkview Project TEMPS-65 Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Series 2021B-1), 1.200%, 6/1/2028	\$ 837,396
	TOTAL	3,438,172
	<b>Pennsylvania—6.5%</b>	
5,500,000	<sup>1</sup> Allegheny County, PA Higher Education Building Authority (Carnegie Mellon University), Revenue Bonds (Series 2022A) FRNs, 4.007% (SOFR x 0.70 +0.290%), Mandatory Tender 8/1/2027	5,383,760
2,490,000	<sup>1</sup> Bethlehem, PA Area School District Authority, School Revenue Bonds (Series 2021A) FRNs, 3.914% (SOFR x 0.67 +0.350%), Mandatory Tender 11/1/2025	2,430,574
3,245,000	<sup>1</sup> Bethlehem, PA Area School District Authority, School Revenue Bonds (Series 2021B) FRNs, 3.914% (SOFR x 0.67 +0.350%), Mandatory Tender 11/1/2025	3,167,556
15,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Delaware Valley, PA Regional Finance Authority, Local Government Revenue Bonds (Series 2022C) FRNs, 4.048% (SOFR x 0.67 +0.490%), Mandatory Tender 3/1/2027	14,522,501
9,960,000	<sup>1</sup> Lehigh County, PA General Purpose Authority (Muhlenberg College), College Revenue Bonds (Series 2019) FRNs, 4.560% (SIFMA 7-day +0.580%), Mandatory Tender 11/1/2024	9,952,671
1,200,000	<sup>1</sup> North Penn, PA Water Authority, SIFMA Index Rate Water Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2019) FRNs, 4.440% (SIFMA 7-day +0.460%), 11/1/2023	1,199,852
4,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Northampton County, PA General Purpose Authority (St. Luke's University Health Network), Variable Rate Hospital Revenue Bonds (Series 2018B) FRNs, 4.851% (1-month USLIBOR x 0.70 +1.040%), Mandatory Tender 8/15/2024	4,000,107
10,000,000	Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority (PPL Electric Utilities Corp.), PCR Refunding Bonds (Series 2008), 0.400%, 10/1/2023	10,000,000
4,900,000	Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority (Waste Management, Inc.), Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds (Series 2017A), 0.580%, Mandatory Tender 8/1/2024	4,701,389
9,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority (Waste Management, Inc.), Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds (Series 2021A) FRNs, 4.380% (SIFMA 7-day +0.400%), Mandatory Tender 6/3/2024	8,980,945
5,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Pennsylvania State Turnpike Commission, Variable Rate Turnpike Revenue Bonds (Series 2018B) FRNs, 4.680% (SIFMA 7-day +0.700%), 12/1/2023	5,001,588
6,750,000	<sup>1</sup> Southcentral PA, General Authority (Wellspan Health Obligated Group), Revenue Bonds (Series 2019A) FRNs, 4.580% (SIFMA 7-day +0.600%), Mandatory Tender 6/1/2024	6,746,528
	TOTAL	76,087,471
	<b>South Carolina—2.1%</b>	
25,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Patriots Energy Group Financing Agency, Gas Supply Revenue Bonds (Series 2018B) FRNs, (Royal Bank of Canada GTD), 4.508% (1-month USLIBOR x 0.67 +0.860%), Mandatory Tender 2/1/2024	24,970,570

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>Tennessee—1.2%</b>	
\$ 3,500,000	Knoxville, TN Community Development Corp (Austin Homes 1B), (Series 2021), 4.250%, 10/1/2024	\$ 3,485,113
3,000,000	Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County, TN Health & Educational Facilities Board (301 Ben Allen LP), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2022B), (United States Treasury COL), 3.850%, Mandatory Tender 2/1/2026	2,955,502
7,200,000	Tennergy Corp., TN Gas Revenue, Gas Supply Revenue Bonds (Series 2019A), (Royal Bank of Canada GTD), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 10/1/2024	7,218,524
	TOTAL	13,659,139
	<b>Texas—7.8%</b>	
3,400,000	Austin, TX Airport System, Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2019), 5.000%, 11/15/2024	3,420,784
4,000,000	Clear Creek, TX Independent School District, Variable Rate UT GO School Building Bonds (Series 2013B), (Texas Permanent School Fund Guarantee Program GTD), 0.280%, Mandatory Tender 8/15/2024	3,860,893
3,500,000	Denton County, TX Housing Finance Authority (THF Pathway on Woodrow, LP), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2022), (United States Treasury COL), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 2/1/2025	3,523,766
1,760,000	Eanes, TX Independent School District, Variable Rate UT School Building Bonds (Series 2019B), (Texas Permanent School Fund Guarantee Program GTD), 1.750%, Mandatory Tender 8/1/2025	1,685,295
2,705,000	Eanes, TX Independent School District, Variable Rate UT School Building Bonds (Series 2019B), (United States Treasury PRF 8/1/2024@100), 1.750%, Mandatory Tender 8/1/2024	2,655,000
3,840,000	Fort Bend, TX Independent School District, Variable Rate UT School Building and Refunding Bonds (Series 2020B), (Texas Permanent School Fund Guarantee Program GTD), 0.875%, Mandatory Tender 8/1/2025	3,603,736
5,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Harris County, TX Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corp. (Baylor College of Medicine), Medical Facilities Mortgage Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2019A) FRNs, 4.440% (SOFR x 0.70 +0.730%), Mandatory Tender 7/1/2024	4,999,640
5,000,000	<sup>1</sup> Harris County, TX Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corp. (Memorial Hermann Health System), Hospital Revenue Bonds (Series 2019C-2) FRNs, 4.550% (SIFMA 7-day +0.570%), Mandatory Tender 12/4/2024	5,001,707
2,750,000	<sup>1</sup> Harris County, TX Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corp. (Memorial Hermann Health System), Hospital Revenue Bonds (Series 2022C) FRNs, 4.830% (SIFMA 7-day +0.850%), Mandatory Tender 12/1/2026	2,747,250
4,000,000	Harris County, TX Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corp. (Texas Medical Center), Revenue Bonds (Series 2020A), 0.900%, Mandatory Tender 5/15/2025	3,749,388
2,450,000	Houston, TX Housing Finance Corp. (Temenos Place Apartments), (Series 2021), 4.080%, Mandatory Tender 2/1/2024	2,443,866
5,750,000	Mission, TX Economic Development Corp. (Waste Management, Inc.), (Series 2023A), (Waste Management Holdings, Inc. GTD), 4.250%, Mandatory Tender 6/3/2024	5,734,326

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>Texas—continued</b>	
\$14,985,000	Ponder, TX Independent School District, Variable Rate UT School Building Bonds (Series 2021), (Texas Permanent School Fund Guarantee Program GTD), 0.750%, Mandatory Tender 8/15/2024	\$ 14,523,044
3,370,000	<sup>1</sup> San Antonio, TX Electric & Gas System, Junior Lien Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2022) FRNs, 4.850% (SIFMA 7-day +0.870%), Mandatory Tender 12/1/2025	3,363,340
2,250,000	Texas Municipal Gas Acquisition & Supply Corp. III, Gas Supply Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2021), (Macquarie Group Ltd. GTD), 5.000%, 12/15/2023	2,249,146
2,500,000	Texas Municipal Gas Acquisition & Supply Corp. III, Gas Supply Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2021), (Macquarie Group Ltd. GTD), 5.000%, 12/15/2026	2,490,467
2,126,000	Texas State Affordable Housing Corp. (Eden Court Senior Housing LP), (Series 2023), (United States Treasury GTD), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 4/1/2026	2,149,394
11,000,000	Texas State Department of Housing & Community Affairs (THF Park at Kirkstall Apartments, LP), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2021), 0.650%, Mandatory Tender 12/1/2024	10,422,317
4,009,000	The Texas Home Collaborative (1518 Apartments Ltd), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2023), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 10/1/2026	4,078,344
8,000,000	Trinity River, TX Public Facilities Authority (Cowan Place Apartments), (Series 2021), (United States Treasury COL), 4.400%, Mandatory Tender 4/1/2024	7,990,539
	TOTAL	90,692,242
	<b>Virginia—1.7%</b>	
5,500,000	Norfolk, VA Redevelopment and Housing Authority (Standard Braywood Manor Venture LP), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2023), (United States Treasury COL), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 5/1/2026	5,546,170
3,720,000	Northampton County and Towns, VA Economic Development Authority (Myrtle Landing Renewal LLC), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Series 2023), (United States Treasury COL), 4.500%, Mandatory Tender 4/1/2025	3,699,767
5,500,000	Virginia Peninsula Port Authority (Dominion Terminal Associates), Coal Terminal Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2003), 3.800%, Mandatory Tender 10/1/2024	5,447,837
5,000,000	Wise County, VA IDA (Virginia Electric & Power Co.), Solid Waste and Sewage Disposal Revenue Bonds (Series 2009A), 0.750%, Mandatory Tender 9/2/2025	4,566,552
	TOTAL	19,260,326
	<b>Washington—1.8%</b>	
4,000,000	King County, WA Housing Authority, Affordable Housing Revenue Bonds Kirkland Heights Project (Series 2023A-1), 5.000%, 1/1/2028	4,051,635
5,000,000	<sup>1</sup> King County, WA Sewer System, Junior Lien Revenue Bonds (Series 2021A) FRNs, 4.210% (SIFMA 7-day +0.230%), Mandatory Tender 1/1/2027	4,883,795

Principal Amount		Value
	MUNICIPAL BONDS—continued	
	<b>Washington—continued</b>	
\$ 9,250,000	<sup>1</sup> Seattle, WA Municipal Light & Power, Refunding Revenue Bonds (Series 2021B) FRNs, 4.230% (SIFMA 7-day +0.250%), Mandatory Tender 11/1/2026	\$ 9,069,853
2,500,000	Washington State Health Care Facilities Authority (CommonSpirit Health), Revenue Bonds (Series 2019B-1), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 8/1/2024	2,502,567
	TOTAL	20,507,850
	<b>West Virginia—0.4%</b>	
5,500,000	West Virginia EDA Solid Waste Disposal Facilities (Appalachian Power Co.), Revenue Bonds (Series 2011A), 1.000%, Mandatory Tender 9/1/2025	5,078,336
	<b>Wisconsin—2.5%</b>	
7,500,000	Public Finance Authority (Duke Energy Progress LLC), PCR Refunding Bonds (Series 2022A-1), 3.300%, Mandatory Tender 10/1/2026	7,323,504
4,500,000	Wisconsin Health & Educational Facilities Authority (Advocate Aurora Health), Revenue Bonds (Series 2018B-2), 5.000%, Mandatory Tender 6/24/2026	4,592,337
17,535,000	Wisconsin State Public Finance Authority (Waste Management, Inc.), (Series A-2), (Waste Management Holdings, Inc. GTD), 4.125%, Mandatory Tender 11/1/2023	17,526,014
	TOTAL	29,441,855
	TOTAL MUNICIPAL BONDS (IDENTIFIED COST \$860,665,813)	845,851,260
	<sup>1</sup> SHORT-TERM MUNICIPALS—27.6%	
	<b>Alabama—0.9%</b>	
10,000,000	Decatur, AL IDB (Nucor Steel Decatur LLC), (Series 2003-A) Weekly VRDNs, (Nucor Corp. GTD), 4.300%, 10/4/2023	10,000,000
	<b>Arizona—0.1%</b>	
1,780,000	Arizona State IDA (Casa Azure), 3a-7 (Series DBE-8113) Daily VRDNs, (Deutsche Bank AG LIQ)/(Deutsche Bank AG LOC), 4.850%, 10/2/2023	1,780,000
	<b>California—3.5%</b>	
4,100,000	Los Angeles, CA Community Redevelopment Agency (DWF V Hollywood & Vine, LP), Mizuho 3a-7 (Series 2022-MIZ9089) Daily VRDNs, (Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. GTD)/(Mizuho Bank Ltd. LIQ), 5.250%, 10/2/2023	4,100,000
8,800,000	Los Angeles, CA Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (CORE Related/ GALA Rentals, LP), SPEARs 3a7 (Series DBE-8081) Weekly VRDNs, (Deutsche Bank AG LIQ)/(Deutsche Bank AG LOC), 4.430%, 10/5/2023	8,800,000
17,300,000	Nuveen California AMT-Free Quality Municipal Income Fund, (Series A) MuniFund Preferred Shares Weekly VRDPs, 4.430%, 10/2/2023	17,300,000
10,000,000	Nuveen California Quality Municipal Income Fund, RIB Floater Trust (Series 2022-FR-RI-005) (Series 2 Preferred Shares) VRENs, (Barclays Bank plc LIQ)/(Barclays Bank plc LOC), 4.380%, 10/5/2023	10,000,000
	TOTAL	40,200,000

Principal Amount		Value
	<sup>1</sup> SHORT-TERM MUNICIPALS—continued	
	<b>Florida—0.2%</b>	
\$ 2,000,000	Miami-Dade County, FL HFA (Cordoba FL TC, LP), Mizuho 3a-7 (2021-MIZ9072) VRENS, (Mizuho Bank Ltd. GTD)/(Mizuho Bank Ltd. LIQ), 4.200%, 10/5/2023	\$ 2,000,000
	<b>Georgia—0.1%</b>	
950,000	Burke County, GA Development Authority (Georgia Power Co.), (Series 2008) Daily VRDNs, 5.060%, 10/2/2023	950,000
	<b>Indiana—1.0%</b>	
11,600,000	Indiana State Finance Authority Environmental (ArcelorMittal SA), (Series 2006) Weekly VRDNs, (Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria SA LOC), 4.500%, 10/4/2023	11,600,000
	<b>Kentucky—2.0%</b>	
11,895,000	Meade County, KY Industrial Building Revenue Authority (Nucor Corp.), (Series 2021A-1) Daily VRDNs, 5.220%, 10/2/2023	11,895,000
12,000,000	Meade County, KY Industrial Building Revenue Authority (Nucor Corp.), (Series 2021B-1) Daily VRDNs, 4.950%, 10/2/2023	12,000,000
	TOTAL	23,895,000
	<b>Louisiana—0.2%</b>	
2,995,000	Calcasieu Parish, LA Public Trust Authority (Le Jolliet LP), SPEARs 3a-7 (Series DBE-8060) Daily VRDNs, (Deutsche Bank AG LIQ)/(Deutsche Bank AG LOC), 4.840%, 10/2/2023	2,995,000
	<b>Multi State—7.4%</b>	
18,100,000	Invesco Municipal Opportunity Trust, PUTTERS 3a-7 (VMTP 5029) Daily VRDNs, (JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. LIQ), 5.300%, 10/2/2023	18,100,000
21,000,000	Nuveen AMT-Free Municipal Credit Income Fund, (Series B) MuniFund Preferred Shares Weekly VRDPs, 4.430%, 10/2/2023	21,000,000
13,300,000	Nuveen AMT-Free Municipal Credit Income Fund, (Series C) MuniFund Preferred Shares Weekly VRDPs, 4.430%, 10/2/2023	13,300,000
34,275,000	Nuveen AMT-Free Quality Municipal Income Fund, (Series D) MuniFund Preferred Shares Weekly VRDPs, 4.430%, 10/2/2023	34,275,000
	TOTAL	86,675,000
	<b>New York—0.9%</b>	
10,000,000	New York State HFA (42nd and 10th Street Associates LLC), 3a-7 High Grade Trust (Series 2022-007) VRENS, (Barclays Bank plc LIQ)/(Barclays Bank plc LOC), 4.430%, 10/5/2023	10,000,000
	<b>Ohio—1.1%</b>	
8,500,000	Ohio State Hospital Revenue (University Hospitals Health System, Inc.), (Series B) VRENS, 4.400%, 10/2/2023	8,500,000
4,000,000	Ohio State Hospital Revenue (University Hospitals Health System, Inc.), (Series C) VRENS, 4.450%, 10/2/2023	4,000,000
500,000	Ohio State Hospital Revenue (University Hospitals Health System, Inc.), Hospital Revenue Bonds (Series 2014B) VRENS, 4.400%, 10/5/2023	500,000
	TOTAL	13,000,000
	<b>Oklahoma—0.8%</b>	
8,950,000	Oklahoma Development Finance Authority (INTEGRIS Obligated Group), (Series 2020B) Weekly VRENS, 4.540%, 10/2/2023	8,950,000

Principal Amount		Value
	1 SHORT-TERM MUNICIPALS—continued	
	<b>Pennsylvania—0.6%</b>	
\$ 6,870,000	Central Bradford Progress Authority, PA (Guthrie Healthcare System, PA), (Series 2021D) Weekly VRENs, 4.560%, 10/5/2023	\$ 6,870,000
	<b>Texas—7.5%</b>	
38,500,000	Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of Jefferson County, TX (Motiva Enterprises LLC), (Series 2002) Weekly VRDNs, 4.480%, 10/4/2023	38,500,000
38,400,000	Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of Jefferson County, TX (Motiva Enterprises LLC), (Series 2010D) Weekly VRDNs, 4.400%, 10/4/2023	38,400,000
10,175,000	Port of Port Arthur Navigation District of Jefferson County, TX (Motiva Enterprises LLC), (Series 2010E) Weekly VRDNs, 4.430%, 10/4/2023	10,175,000
	TOTAL	87,075,000
	<b>Wisconsin—1.3%</b>	
15,000,000	Wisconsin Health & Educational Facilities Authority (Marshfield Clinic), (Series 2022A) Weekly VRENs, 5.360%, 10/5/2023	15,000,000
	TOTAL SHORT-TERM MUNICIPALS (IDENTIFIED COST \$320,990,000)	320,990,000
	TOTAL INVESTMENT IN SECURITIES—100.4% (IDENTIFIED COST \$1,181,655,813) <sup>3</sup>	1,166,841,260
	OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - NET—(0.4%) <sup>4</sup>	(4,406,747)
	TOTAL NET ASSETS—100%	\$1,162,434,513

Securities that are subject to the federal alternative minimum tax (AMT) represent 21.4% of the Fund's portfolio as calculated based upon total market value (unaudited).

- 1 Current rate and current maturity or next reset date shown for floating rate notes and variable rate notes/demand instruments. Certain variable rate securities are not based on a published reference rate and spread but are determined by the issuer or agent and are based on current market conditions. These securities do not indicate a reference rate and spread in their description above.
- 2 Denotes a restricted security that either: (a) cannot be offered for public sale without first being registered, or availing of an exemption from registration, under the Securities Act of 1933; or (b) is subject to a contractual restriction on public sales. At September 30, 2023, this restricted security amounted to \$1,916,164, which represented 0.2% of total net assets.
- 3 The cost of investments for federal tax purposes amounts to \$1,181,633,773.
- 4 Assets, other than investments in securities, less liabilities. See Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Note: The categories of investments are shown as a percentage of total net assets at September 30, 2023.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

Level 1—quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.

Level 2—other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.). Also includes securities valued at amortized cost.

Level 3—significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

As of September 30, 2023, all investments of the Fund utilized Level 2 inputs in valuing the Fund's assets carried at fair value.

The following acronym(s) are used throughout this portfolio:

BANs	—Bond Anticipation Notes
COL	—Collateralized
CSD	—Central School District
EDA	—Economic Development Authority
FRNs	—Floating Rate Notes
GO	—General Obligation
GTD	—Guaranteed
HFA	—Housing Finance Authority
IDA	—Industrial Development Authority
IDB	—Industrial Development Bond
LIBOR	—London Interbank Offered Rate
LIQ	—Liquidity Agreement
LOC	—Letter of Credit
LP	—Limited Partnership
PCFA	—Pollution Control Financing Authority
PCR	—Pollution Control Revenue
PCRB	—Pollution Control Revenue Bond(s)
PRF	—Pre-refunded
PUTTERS	—Puttable Tax-Exempt Receipts
SIFMA	—Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association
SOFR	—Secured Overnight Financing Rate
SPEARs	—Short Puttable Exempt Adjustable Receipts
TEMPS	—Tax Exempt Mandatory Paydown Securities
UT	—Unlimited Tax
VMTP	—Variable Municipal Term Preferred
VRDNs	—Variable Rate Demand Notes
VRDPs	—Variable Rate Demand Preferreds
VREns	—Variable Rate Extendible Notes

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Financial Highlights – Class A Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Year Ended September 30,				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>\$9.84</b>	<b>\$10.04</b>	<b>\$10.03</b>	<b>\$10.01</b>	<b>\$9.98</b>
<b>Income From Investment Operations:</b>					
Net investment income	0.25	0.05	0.02	0.09	0.13
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	0.04	(0.20)	0.01	0.02	0.03
<b>TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>(0.15)</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0.16</b>
<b>Less Distributions:</b>					
Distributions from net investment income	(0.25)	(0.05)	(0.02)	(0.09)	(0.13)
<b>Net Asset Value, End of Period</b>	<b>\$9.88</b>	<b>\$9.84</b>	<b>\$10.04</b>	<b>\$10.03</b>	<b>\$10.01</b>
<b>Total Return<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>3.02%</b>	<b>(1.49)%</b>	<b>0.33%</b>	<b>1.14%</b>	<b>1.59%</b>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets:</b>					
Net expenses <sup>2</sup>	0.51% <sup>3</sup>	0.51%	0.51%	0.57% <sup>3</sup>	0.81% <sup>3</sup>
Net investment income	2.53%	0.45%	0.23%	0.94%	1.28%
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>4</sup>	0.08%	0.09%	0.08%	0.09%	0.13%
<b>Supplemental Data:</b>					
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$270,423	\$407,000	\$692,467	\$584,371	\$626,570
Portfolio turnover <sup>5</sup>	44%	30%	61%	100%	83%

- 1 Based on net asset value, which does not reflect the sales charge, redemption fee or contingent deferred sales charge, if applicable.
- 2 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 3 The net expense ratios are calculated without reduction for expense offset arrangements. The net expense ratios are 0.51%, 0.57% and 0.81% for the years ended September 30, 2023, 2020 and 2019, respectively, after taking into account these expense reductions.
- 4 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and net investment income ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 5 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Financial Highlights – Institutional Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Year Ended September 30,				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>\$9.85</b>	<b>\$10.04</b>	<b>\$10.03</b>	<b>\$10.01</b>	<b>\$9.98</b>
<b>Income From Investment Operations:</b>					
Net investment income	0.27	0.07	0.04	0.11	0.17
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	0.03	(0.19)	0.01	0.02	0.03
<b>TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>(0.12)</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.20</b>
<b>Less Distributions:</b>					
Distributions from net investment income	(0.27)	(0.07)	(0.04)	(0.11)	(0.17)
<b>Net Asset Value, End of Period</b>	<b>\$9.88</b>	<b>\$9.85</b>	<b>\$10.04</b>	<b>\$10.03</b>	<b>\$10.01</b>
<b>Total Return<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>3.07%</b>	<b>(1.24)%</b>	<b>0.48%</b>	<b>1.35%</b>	<b>2.04%</b>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets:</b>					
Net expenses <sup>2</sup>	0.36% <sup>3</sup>	0.36%	0.36%	0.36% <sup>3</sup>	0.36% <sup>3</sup>
Net investment income	2.67%	0.60%	0.39%	1.14%	1.72%
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>4</sup>	0.09%	0.09%	0.08%	0.08%	0.08%
<b>Supplemental Data:</b>					
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$791,126	\$1,332,830	\$2,133,831	\$2,162,027	\$2,158,811
Portfolio turnover <sup>5</sup>	44%	30%	61%	100%	83%

- 1 Based on net asset value.
- 2 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 3 The net expense ratios are calculated without reduction for expense offset arrangements. The net expense ratios are 0.36%, 0.36% and 0.36% for the years ended September 30, 2023, 2020 and 2019, respectively, after taking into account these expense reductions.
- 4 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and net investment income ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 5 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Financial Highlights – Class R6 Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Year Ended September 30,				Period
	2023	2022	2021	2020	Ended 9/30/2019 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>\$9.84</b>	<b>\$10.04</b>	<b>\$10.03</b>	<b>\$10.01</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>Income From Investment Operations:</b>					
Net investment income	0.27	0.07	0.04	0.12	0.05
Net realized and unrealized gain	0.04	(0.20)	0.01	0.02	0.01
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	0.31	(0.13)	0.05	0.14	0.06
<b>Less Distributions:</b>					
Distributions from net investment income	(0.27)	(0.07)	(0.04)	(0.12)	(0.05)
<b>Net Asset Value, End of Period</b>	<b>\$9.88</b>	<b>\$9.84</b>	<b>\$10.04</b>	<b>\$10.03</b>	<b>\$10.01</b>
<b>Total Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>3.20%</b>	<b>(1.32)%</b>	<b>0.50%</b>	<b>1.37%</b>	<b>0.66%</b>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets:</b>					
Net expenses <sup>3</sup>	0.34% <sup>4</sup>	0.34%	0.34%	0.34% <sup>4</sup>	0.34% <sup>4,5</sup>
Net investment income	2.69%	0.65%	0.38%	0.99%	1.52% <sup>5</sup>
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>6</sup>	0.07%	0.06%	0.06%	0.06%	0.07% <sup>5</sup>
<b>Supplemental Data:</b>					
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$100,886	\$148,888	\$208,627	\$60,784	\$12,263
Portfolio turnover <sup>7</sup>	44%	30%	61%	100%	83% <sup>8</sup>

- 1 Reflects operations for the period from May 29, 2019 (commencement of operations) to September 30, 2019.
- 2 Based on net asset value. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.
- 3 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 4 The net expense ratio is calculated without reduction for expense offset arrangements. The net expense ratios are 0.34% and 0.34% for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2020, respectively, and 0.34% for the period ended September 30, 2019, after taking into account these expense reductions.
- 5 Computed on an annualized basis.
- 6 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and net investment income ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 7 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.
- 8 Portfolio turnover is calculated at the Fund level. Percentage indicated was calculated for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

September 30, 2023

## Assets:

Investment in securities, at value (identified cost \$1,181,655,813)	\$1,166,841,260
Cash	112,858
Income receivable	7,035,733
Receivable for shares sold	2,744,622
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,176,734,473</b>

## Liabilities:

Payable for investments purchased	11,500,000
Payable for shares redeemed	1,581,182
Income distribution payable	836,673
Payable for investment adviser fee (Note 5)	39,954
Payable for other service fees (Notes 2 and 5)	33,931
Payable for administrative fee (Note 5)	5,804
Accrued expenses (Note 5)	302,416
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>14,299,960</b>

Net assets for 117,612,131 shares outstanding \$1,162,434,513

## Net Assets Consist of:

Paid-in capital	\$1,197,353,816
Total distributable earnings (loss)	(34,919,303)
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,162,434,513</b>

## Net Asset Value, Offering Price and Redemption Proceeds Per Share:

### Class A Shares:

Net asset value per share (\$270,422,522 ÷ 27,362,370 shares outstanding)	
\$0.001 par value, 500,000,000 shares authorized	\$9.88
Offering price per share	\$9.88
Redemption proceeds per share	\$9.88

### Institutional Shares:

Net asset value per share (\$791,125,921 ÷ 80,040,023 shares outstanding)	
\$0.001 par value, 500,000,000 shares authorized	\$9.88
Offering price per share	\$9.88
Redemption proceeds per share	\$9.88

### Class R6 Shares:

Net asset value per share (\$100,886,070 ÷ 10,209,738 shares outstanding)	
\$0.001 par value, 500,000,000 shares authorized	\$9.88
Offering price per share	\$9.88
Redemption proceeds per share	\$9.88

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Statement of Operations

Year Ended September 30, 2023

## Investment Income:

Interest	\$43,894,426
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## Expenses:

Investment adviser fee (Note 5)	4,318,605
Administrative fee (Note 5)	1,132,553
Custodian fees	59,230
Transfer agent fees (Notes 2 and 5)	557,124
Directors'/Trustees' fees (Note 5)	13,090
Auditing fees	37,434
Legal fees	12,768
Other service fees (Notes 2 and 5)	486,729
Portfolio accounting fees	215,267
Share registration costs	88,159
Printing and postage	32,112
Miscellaneous (Note 5)	34,333
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,987,404

## Waiver, Reimbursement and Reduction:

Waiver of investment adviser fee (Note 5)	(1,062,330)
Reimbursement of other operating expenses (Notes 2 and 5)	(186,366)
Reduction of custodian fees (Note 6)	(6,398)
TOTAL WAIVER, REIMBURSEMENT AND REDUCTION	(1,255,094)

Net expenses	5,732,310
Net investment income	38,162,116

## Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments:

Net realized loss on investments	(5,765,858)
Net change in unrealized depreciation of investments	13,113,919
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	7,348,061
Change in net assets resulting from operations	\$45,510,177

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended September 30	2023	2022
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment income	\$ 38,162,116	\$ 14,489,788
Net realized loss	(5,765,858)	(6,670,027)
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	13,113,919	(42,394,164)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	45,510,177	(34,574,403)
<b>Distributions to Shareholders:</b>		
Class A Shares	(8,240,031)	(2,444,263)
Institutional Shares	(26,696,009)	(10,789,094)
Class Ró Shares	(3,268,073)	(1,221,503)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS	(38,204,113)	(14,454,860)
<b>Share Transactions:</b>		
Proceeds from sale of shares	344,741,191	1,400,568,261
Net asset value of shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	28,428,798	10,804,320
Cost of shares redeemed	(1,106,759,300)	(2,508,550,452)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM SHARE TRANSACTIONS	(733,589,311)	(1,097,177,871)
Change in net assets	(726,283,247)	(1,146,207,134)
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Beginning of period	1,888,717,760	3,034,924,894
End of period	\$ 1,162,434,513	\$ 1,888,717,760

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Notes to Financial Statements

September 30, 2023

## 1. ORGANIZATION

Federated Hermes Fixed Income Securities, Inc. (the "Corporation") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Act"), as an open-end management investment company. The Corporation consists of two portfolios. The financial statements included herein are only those of Federated Hermes Municipal Ultrashort Fund (the "Fund"), a diversified portfolio. The financial statements of the other portfolio are presented separately. The assets of each portfolio are segregated and a shareholder's interest is limited to the portfolio in which shares are held. Each portfolio pays its own expenses. The Fund offers three classes of shares: Class A Shares, Institutional Shares and Class R6 Shares. All shares of the Fund have equal rights with respect to voting, except on class-specific matters. The investment objective of the Fund is to provide current income exempt from federal regular income tax. Interest income from the Fund's investments may be subject to the federal AMT for individuals and state and local taxes.

## 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements. These policies are in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

### Investment Valuation

In calculating its net asset value (NAV), the Fund generally values investments as follows:

- Fixed-income securities are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by Federated Investment Management Company (the "Adviser").
- Shares of other mutual funds or non-exchange-traded investment companies are valued based upon their reported NAVs, or NAV per share practical expedient, as applicable.
- Derivative contracts listed on exchanges are valued at their reported settlement or closing price, except that options are valued at the mean of closing bid and ask quotations.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) derivative contracts are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by the Adviser.
- For securities that are fair valued in accordance with procedures established by and under the general supervision of the Adviser, certain factors may be considered such as: the last traded or purchase price of the security, information obtained by contacting the issuer or dealers, analysis of the issuer's financial statements or other available documents, fundamental analytical data, the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition, the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded, public trading in similar securities or derivative contracts of the issuer or comparable issuers, movement of a relevant index, or other factors including but not limited to industry changes and relevant government actions.

If any price, quotation, price evaluation or other pricing source is not readily available when the NAV is calculated, if the Fund cannot obtain price evaluations from a pricing service or from more than one dealer for an investment within a reasonable period of time as set forth in the Adviser's valuation policies and procedures for the Fund, or if

information furnished by a pricing service, in the opinion of the Adviser's valuation committee ("Valuation Committee"), is deemed not representative of the fair value of such security, the Fund uses the fair value of the investment determined in accordance with the procedures described below. There can be no assurance that the Fund could obtain the fair value assigned to an investment if it sold the investment at approximately the time at which the Fund determines its NAV per share, and the actual value obtained could be materially different.

### **Fair Valuation Procedures**

Pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Act, the Fund's Board of Directors (the "Directors") has designated the Adviser as the Fund's valuation designee to perform any fair value determinations for securities and other assets held by the Fund. The Adviser is subject to the Directors' oversight and certain reporting and other requirements intended to provide the Directors the information needed to oversee the Adviser's fair value determinations.

The Adviser, acting through its Valuation Committee, is responsible for determining the fair value of investments for which market quotations are not readily available. The Valuation Committee is comprised of officers of the Adviser and certain of the Adviser's affiliated companies and determines fair value and oversees the calculation of the NAV. The Valuation Committee is also authorized to use pricing services to provide fair value evaluations of the current value of certain investments for purposes of calculating the NAV. The Valuation Committee employs various methods for reviewing third-party pricing-service evaluations including periodic reviews of third-party pricing services' policies, procedures and valuation methods (including key inputs, methods, models and assumptions), transactional back-testing, comparisons of evaluations of different pricing services, and review of price challenges by the Adviser based on recent market activity. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the Valuation Committee determines the fair value of the investment in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser. The Directors periodically review the fair valuations made by the Valuation Committee. The Directors have also approved the Adviser's fair valuation and significant events procedures as part of the Fund's compliance program and will review any changes made to the procedures.

Factors considered by pricing services in evaluating an investment include the yields or prices of investments of comparable quality, coupon, maturity, call rights and other potential prepayments, terms and type, reported transactions, indications as to values from dealers and general market conditions. Some pricing services provide a single price evaluation reflecting the bid-side of the market for an investment (a "bid" evaluation). Other pricing services offer both bid evaluations and price evaluations indicative of a price between the prices bid and ask for the investment (a "mid" evaluation). The Fund normally uses bid evaluations for any U.S. Treasury and Agency securities, mortgage-backed securities and municipal securities. The Fund normally uses mid evaluations for any other types of fixed-income securities and any OTC derivative contracts. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the fair value of the investment is determined in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser.

## Investment Income, Gains and Losses, Expenses and Distributions

Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade-date basis. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified-cost basis. Interest income and expenses are accrued daily. Dividend income and distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Distributions of net investment income, if any, are declared daily and paid monthly. Non-cash dividends included in dividend income, if any, are recorded at fair value. Amortization/accretion of premium and discount is included in investment income. Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses and certain fund-level expenses are allocated to each class based on relative average daily net assets, except that select classes will bear certain expenses unique to those classes. The detail of the total fund expense waiver, reimbursement and reduction of \$1,255,094 is disclosed in this Note 2, Note 5 and Note 6. Dividends are declared separately for each class. No class has preferential dividend rights; differences in per share dividend rates are generally due to differences in separate class expenses.

## Transfer Agent Fees

For the year ended September 30, 2023, transfer agent fees for the Fund were as follows:

	Transfer Agent Fees Incurred	Transfer Agent Fees Reimbursed
Class A Shares	\$117,501	\$ (28,400)
Institutional Shares	430,632	(157,966)
Class R6 Shares	8,991	—
TOTAL	\$557,124	\$(186,366)

## Other Service Fees

The Fund may pay other service fees up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Fund's Class A Shares to financial intermediaries or to Federated Shareholder Services Company (FSSC) for providing services to shareholders and maintaining shareholder accounts. The Fund's Class A Shares will not incur and pay such other service fees to exceed 0.15% until such time as approved by the Directors. Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, FSSC may voluntarily reimburse the Fund for other service fees. For the year ended September 30, 2023, other service fees for the Fund were as follows:

	Other Service Fees Incurred
Class A Shares	\$486,729

## Federal Taxes

It is the Fund's policy to comply with the Subchapter M provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code") and to distribute to shareholders each year substantially all of its income. Accordingly, no provision for federal income tax is necessary. As of and during the year ended September 30, 2023, the Fund did not have a liability for any uncertain tax positions. The Fund recognizes interest and penalties, if

any, related to tax liabilities as income tax expense in the Statement of Operations. As of September 30, 2023, tax years 2020 through 2023 remain subject to examination by the Fund's major tax jurisdictions, which include the United States of America, the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

### **When-Issued and Delayed-Delivery Transactions**

The Fund may engage in when-issued or delayed-delivery transactions. The Fund records when-issued securities on the trade date and maintains security positions such that sufficient liquid assets will be available to make payment for the securities purchased. Securities purchased on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis are marked to market daily and begin earning interest on the settlement date. Losses may occur on these transactions due to changes in market conditions or the failure of counterparties to perform under the contract.

### **Restricted Securities**

The Fund may purchase securities which are considered restricted. Restricted securities are securities that either: (a) cannot be offered for public sale without first being registered, or being able to take advantage of an exemption from registration, under the Securities Act of 1933; or (b) are subject to contractual restrictions on public sales. In some cases, when a security cannot be offered for public sale without first being registered, the issuer of the restricted security has agreed to register such securities for resale, at the issuer's expense, either upon demand by the Fund or in connection with another registered offering of the securities. Many such restricted securities may be resold in the secondary market in transactions exempt from registration. Restricted securities may be determined to be liquid under criteria established by the Directors. The Fund will not incur any registration costs upon such resales. The Fund's restricted securities, like other securities, are priced in accordance with procedures established by and under the general supervision of the Adviser.

Additional information on restricted securities held at September 30, 2023, is as follows:

<b>Security</b>	<b>Acquisition Date</b>	<b>Acquisition Cost</b>	<b>Value</b>
California Public Finance Authority (Kendal at Sonoma), Enso Village TEMPS-50 Senior Living Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series B-3), 2.125%, 11/15/2027	5/27/2021	\$2,000,000	\$1,916,164

### **Futures Contracts**

The Fund purchases and sells financial futures contracts to seek to manage duration risk. Upon entering into a financial futures contract with a broker, the Fund is required to deposit with a broker, either U.S. government securities or a specified amount of cash, which is shown as due from broker in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Futures contracts are valued daily and unrealized gains or losses are recorded in a "variation margin" account. The Fund receives from or pays to the broker a specified amount of cash based upon changes in the variation margin account. When a contract is closed, the Fund recognizes a realized gain or loss. Futures contracts have market risks, including the risk that the change in the value of the contract may not correlate with the changes in the value of the underlying securities. There is minimal counterparty risk to

the Fund since futures contracts are exchange traded and the exchange's clearing house, as counterparty to all exchange traded futures contracts, guarantees the futures contracts against default.

At September 30, 2023, the Fund had no outstanding futures contracts.

### Other

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of assets, liabilities, expenses and revenues reported in the financial statements. Actual results could differ materially from those estimated. The Fund applies investment company accounting and reporting guidance.

### 3. CAPITAL STOCK

The following tables summarize capital stock activity:

Class A Shares:	Year Ended 9/30/2023		Year Ended 9/30/2022	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Shares sold	4,180,687	\$ 41,362,341	11,143,057	\$ 111,110,220
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	749,268	7,411,229	222,253	2,199,666
Shares redeemed	(18,910,042)	(186,958,813)	(39,016,431)	(388,315,983)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM CLASS A SHARE TRANSACTIONS	(13,980,087)	\$(138,185,243)	(27,651,121)	\$ (275,006,097)

Institutional Shares:	Year Ended 9/30/2023		Year Ended 9/30/2022	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Shares sold	26,085,079	\$ 257,906,909	120,003,958	\$ 1,197,470,529
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	2,057,653	20,356,721	855,381	8,479,196
Shares redeemed	(83,469,453)	(825,050,607)	(198,057,168)	(1,972,016,459)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM INSTITUTIONAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS	(55,326,721)	\$(546,786,977)	(77,197,829)	\$ (766,066,734)

Class R6 Shares:	Year Ended 9/30/2023		Year Ended 9/30/2022	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Shares sold	4,602,084	\$ 45,471,941	9,242,288	\$ 91,987,512
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	66,814	660,848	12,680	125,458
Shares redeemed	(9,585,256)	(94,749,880)	(14,918,277)	(148,218,010)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM CLASS R6 SHARE TRANSACTIONS	(4,916,358)	\$ (48,617,091)	(5,663,309)	\$ (56,105,040)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM TOTAL FUND SHARE TRANSACTIONS	(74,223,166)	\$(733,589,311)	(110,512,259)	\$(1,097,177,871)

#### 4. FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION

The tax character of distributions as reported on the Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, was as follows:

	2023	2022
Tax-exempt income	\$38,204,113	\$14,454,860

As of September 30, 2023, the components of distributable earnings on a tax-basis were as follows:

Distributions payable	\$ (39,757)
Net unrealized depreciation	\$(14,792,513)
Capital loss carryforwards	\$(20,087,033)
TOTAL	\$(34,919,303)

At September 30, 2023, the cost of investments for federal tax purposes was \$1,181,633,773. The net unrealized depreciation of investments for federal tax purposes was \$14,792,513. This consists of unrealized appreciation from investments for those securities having an excess of value over cost of \$74,816 and unrealized depreciation from investments for those securities having an excess of cost over value of \$14,867,329. The difference between book-basis and tax-basis net unrealized appreciation/depreciation is attributable to differing treatments for discount accretion/premium amortization on debt securities.

As of September 30, 2023, the Fund had a capital loss carryforward of \$20,087,033 which will reduce the Fund's taxable income arising from future net realized gains on investments, if any, to the extent permitted by the Code, thereby reducing the amount of distributions to shareholders which would otherwise be necessary to relieve the Fund of any liability for federal income tax. Pursuant to the Code, these net capital losses retain their character as either short-term or long-term and do not expire.

The following schedule summarizes the Fund's capital loss carryforwards:

Short-Term	Long-Term	Total
\$9,069,519	\$11,017,514	\$20,087,033

#### 5. INVESTMENT ADVISER FEE AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES

##### Investment Adviser Fee

Effective August 1, 2023, the advisory agreement between the Fund and the Adviser provides for an annual fee equal to 0.29% of the Fund's average daily net assets. Prior to August 1, 2023, the advisory agreement between the Fund and the Adviser provided for an annual fee equal to 0.30% of the Fund's average daily net assets. Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, the Adviser may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund for competitive reasons such as to maintain the Fund's expense ratio, or as and when appropriate, to maintain positive or zero net yields. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the Adviser voluntarily waived \$1,062,330 of its fee and voluntarily reimbursed \$186,366 of transfer agent fees.

## Administrative Fee

Federated Administrative Services (FAS), under the Administrative Services Agreement, provides the Fund with administrative personnel and services. For purposes of determining the appropriate rate breakpoint, "Investment Complex" is defined as all of the Federated Hermes Funds subject to a fee under the Administrative Services Agreement. The fee paid to FAS is based on the average daily net assets of the Investment Complex as specified below:

<b>Administrative Fee</b>	<b>Average Daily Net Assets of the Investment Complex</b>
0.100%	on assets up to \$50 billion
0.075%	on assets over \$50 billion

Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, FAS may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the annualized fee paid to FAS was 0.078% of average daily net assets of the Fund.

In addition, FAS may charge certain out-of-pocket expenses to the Fund.

## Other Service Fees

For the year ended September 30, 2023, FSSC received \$537 of the other service fees disclosed in Note 2.

## Interfund Transactions

During the year ended September 30, 2023, the Fund engaged in purchase and sale transactions with funds that have a common investment adviser (or affiliated investment advisers), common Directors/Trustees and/or common Officers. These purchase and sale transactions complied with Rule 17a-7 under the Act and amounted to \$119,657,118 and \$155,775,000, respectively. Net realized gain (loss) recognized on these transactions was \$0.

## Expense Limitation

The Adviser and certain of its affiliates (which may include FAS and FSSC) on their own initiative have agreed to waive certain amounts of their respective fees and/or reimburse expenses. Total annual fund operating expenses (as shown in the financial highlights, excluding interest expense, extraordinary expenses and proxy-related expenses, paid by the Fund, if any) paid by the Fund's Class A Shares, Institutional Shares and Class R6 Shares (after the voluntary waivers and reimbursements) will not exceed 0.51%, 0.36% and 0.34% (the "Fee Limit"), respectively, up to but not including the later of (the "Termination Date"): (a) December 1, 2024; or (b) the date of the Fund's next effective Prospectus. While the Adviser and its affiliates currently do not anticipate terminating or increasing these arrangements prior to the Termination Date, these arrangements may only be terminated or the Fee Limit increased prior to the Termination Date with the agreement of the Directors.

## Directors'/Trustees' and Miscellaneous Fees

Certain Officers and Directors of the Fund are Officers and Directors or Trustees of certain of the above companies. To efficiently facilitate payment, Independent Directors'/Trustees' fees and certain expenses related to conducting meetings of the Directors/Trustees and other miscellaneous expenses are paid by an affiliate of the

Adviser which in due course are reimbursed by the Fund. These expenses related to conducting meetings of the Directors/Trustees and other miscellaneous expenses may be included in Accrued and Miscellaneous Expenses on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Statement of Operations, respectively.

## **6. EXPENSE REDUCTION**

Through arrangements with the Fund's custodian, net credits realized as a result of uninvested cash balances were used to offset custody expenses. For the year ended September 30, 2023, the Fund's expenses were offset by \$6,398 under these arrangements.

## **7. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS**

Purchases and sales of investments, excluding long-term U.S. government securities and short-term obligations, for the year ended September 30, 2023, were as follows:

Purchases	\$387,478,915
Sales	\$631,981,911

## **8. LINE OF CREDIT**

The Fund participates with certain other Federated Hermes Funds, on a several basis, in an up to \$500,000,000 unsecured, 364-day, committed, revolving line of credit (LOC) agreement dated June 21, 2023. The LOC was made available to temporarily finance the repurchase or redemption of shares of the Fund, failed trades, payment of dividends, settlement of trades and for other short-term, temporary or emergency general business purposes. The Fund cannot borrow under the LOC if an inter-fund loan is outstanding. The Fund's ability to borrow under the LOC also is subject to the limitations of the Act and various conditions precedent that must be satisfied before the Fund can borrow. Loans under the LOC are charged interest at a fluctuating rate per annum equal to (a) the highest, on any day, of (i) the federal funds effective rate, (ii) the published secured overnight financing rate plus an assigned percentage, and (iii) 0.0%, plus (b) a margin. Any fund eligible to borrow under the LOC pays its pro rata share of a commitment fee based on the amount of the lenders' commitment that has not been utilized, quarterly in arrears and at maturity. As of September 30, 2023, the Fund had no outstanding loans. During the year ended September 30, 2023, the Fund did not utilize the LOC.

## **9. INTERFUND LENDING**

Pursuant to an Exemptive Order issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Fund, along with other funds advised by subsidiaries of Federated Hermes, Inc., may participate in an interfund lending program. This program provides an alternative credit facility allowing the Fund to borrow from other participating affiliated funds. As of September 30, 2023, there were no outstanding loans. During the year ended September 30, 2023, the program was not utilized.

## **10. INDEMNIFICATIONS**

Under the Fund's organizational documents, its Officers and Directors/Trustees are indemnified against certain liabilities arising out of the performance of their duties to the Fund (other than liabilities arising out of their willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties to the Fund). In addition, in the normal

course of business, the Fund provides certain indemnifications under arrangements with third parties. Typically, obligations to indemnify a third party arise in the context of an arrangement entered into by the Fund under which the Fund agrees to indemnify such third party for certain liabilities arising out of actions taken pursuant to the arrangement, provided the third party's actions are not deemed to have breached an agreed-upon standard of care (such as willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties under the contract). The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet arisen. The Fund does not anticipate any material claims or losses pursuant to these arrangements at this time, and accordingly expects the risk of loss to be remote.

## **11. OTHER MATTERS**

An outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus was first detected in China in late 2019 and subsequently spread globally. As of the date of the issuance of these financial statements, this coronavirus has resulted in, and may continue to result in, closed borders, enhanced health screenings, disruptions to healthcare service preparation and delivery, quarantines, cancellations, and disruptions to supply chains, workflow operations and consumer activity, as well as general concern and uncertainty. The impact of this coronavirus has resulted in substantial economic volatility. Health crises caused by outbreaks, such as the coronavirus outbreak, may exacerbate other pre-existing political, social and economic risks. The impact of this outbreak, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could continue to negatively affect the worldwide economy, as well as the economies of individual countries, individual companies (including certain Fund service providers and issuers of the Fund's investments) and the markets in general in significant and unforeseen ways. In addition, governments, their regulatory agencies, or self-regulatory organizations may take actions in response to the pandemic, including significant fiscal and monetary policy changes, that may affect the instruments in which the Fund invests or the issuers of such investments. Any such impact could adversely affect the Fund's performance.

## **12. RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS**

In December 2022, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2022-06 "Reference Rate Reform (Topic 848)". ASU No. 2022-06 updates and clarifies ASU No. 2020-04, which provides optional, temporary relief with respect to the financial reporting of contracts subject to certain types of modifications due to the planned discontinuation of LIBOR and other interbank-offered reference rates. The temporary relief provided by ASU No. 2022-06 is effective immediately for certain reference rate-related contract modifications that occur through December 31, 2024. Management does not expect ASU No. 2022-06 to have a material impact on the financial statements.

## **13. FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)**

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, 100% of distributions from net investment income is exempt from federal income tax, other than the federal AMT.

# Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

## **TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FEDERATED HERMES FIXED INCOME SECURITIES, INC. AND THE SHAREHOLDERS OF FEDERATED HERMES MUNICIPAL ULTRASHORT FUND:**

### **Opinion on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of Federated Hermes Municipal Ultrashort Fund (the Fund), a portfolio of Federated Hermes Fixed Income Securities, Inc., including the portfolio of investments, as of September 30, 2023, the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the related notes (collectively, the financial statements) and the financial highlights for each of the years or periods in the five-year period then ended. In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as of September 30, 2023, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the years or periods in the five-year period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

### **Basis for Opinion**

These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Fund in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and financial highlights, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and financial highlights. Such procedures also included confirmation of securities owned as of September 30, 2023, by correspondence with custodians and brokers; when replies were not received from brokers, we performed other auditing procedures. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements and financial highlights. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

**KPMG LLP**

We have served as the auditor for one or more of Federated Hermes' investment companies since 2006.

Boston, Massachusetts  
November 22, 2023

## Shareholder Expense Example (unaudited)

As a shareholder of the Fund, you incur ongoing costs, including management fees and to the extent applicable, distribution (12b-1) fees and/or other service fees and other Fund expenses. This Example is intended to help you to understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds. It is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held for the entire period from April 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023.

### **ACTUAL EXPENSES**

The first section of the table below provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in this section, together with the amount you invested, to *estimate* the expenses that you incurred over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the first section under the heading entitled “Expenses Paid During Period” to estimate the expenses attributable to your investment during this period.

### **HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLE FOR COMPARISON PURPOSES**

The second section of the table below provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Fund’s actual expense ratio and an *assumed* rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Fund’s actual return. Thus, you should not use the hypothetical account values and expenses to estimate the actual ending account balance or your expenses for the period. Rather, these figures are required to be provided to enable you to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Fund with other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only. Therefore, the second section of the table is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative *total* costs of owning different funds.

	Beginning Account Value 4/1/2023	Ending Account Value 9/30/2023	Expenses Paid During Period <sup>1</sup>
<b>Actual:</b>			
Class A Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,011.50	\$2.57
Institutional Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,012.20	\$1.82
Class R6 Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,012.30	\$1.72
<b>Hypothetical (assuming a 5% return before expenses):</b>			
Class A Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,022.51	\$2.59
Institutional Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,023.26	\$1.83
Class R6 Shares	\$1,000.00	\$1,023.36	\$1.72

<sup>1</sup> Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized net expense ratios, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 183/365 (to reflect the one-half-year period). The annualized net expense ratios are as follows:

Class A Shares	0.51%
Institutional Shares	0.36%
Class R6 Shares	0.34%

## Board of Directors and Corporation Officers

The Board of Directors is responsible for managing the Corporation business affairs and for exercising all the Corporation powers except those reserved for the shareholders. The following tables give information about each Director and the senior officers of the Fund. Where required, the tables separately list Directors who are “interested persons” of the Fund (i.e., “Interested” Directors) and those who are not (i.e., “Independent” Directors). Unless otherwise noted, the address of each person listed is 1001 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3779. The address of all Independent Directors listed is 4000 Ericsson Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086-7561; Attention: Mutual Fund Board. As of December 31, 2022, the Corporation comprised two portfolio(s), and the Federated Hermes Fund Family consisted of 33 investment companies (comprising 102 portfolios). Unless otherwise noted, each Officer is elected annually. Unless otherwise noted, each Director oversees all portfolios in the Federated Hermes Fund Family and serves for an indefinite term. The Fund’s Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about Corporation Directors and is available, without charge and upon request, by calling 1-800-341-7400, Option #4.

### INTERESTED DIRECTORS BACKGROUND

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<b>Name</b>	
<b>Birth Date</b>	
<b>Positions Held with Corporation</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held and Previous Position(s)</b>
<b>Date Service Began</b>	
<b>J. Christopher Donahue*</b> Birth Date: April 11, 1949 PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR Indefinite Term Began serving: January 2000	<b>Principal Occupations:</b> Principal Executive Officer and President of certain of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Director or Trustee of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; President, Chief Executive Officer and Director, Federated Hermes, Inc.; Chairman and Trustee, Federated Investment Management Company; Trustee, Federated Investment Counseling; Chairman and Director, Federated Global Investment Management Corp.; Chairman and Trustee, Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania; Trustee, Federated Shareholder Services Company; Director, Federated Services Company.  <b>Previous Positions:</b> President, Federated Investment Counseling; President and Chief Executive Officer, Federated Investment Management Company, Federated Global Investment Management Corp. and Passport Research, Ltd; Chairman, Passport Research, Ltd.

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Name Birth Date Positions Held with Corporation Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held and Previous Position(s)
<b>John B. Fisher*</b> Birth Date: May 16, 1956 DIRECTOR Indefinite Term Began serving: May 2016	<p><b>Principal Occupations:</b> Principal Executive Officer and President of certain of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Director or Trustee of certain of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Director and Vice President, Federated Hermes, Inc.; President, Director/Trustee and CEO, Federated Advisory Services Company, Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania, Federated Global Investment Management Corp., Federated Investment Counseling, Federated Investment Management Company, and Federated MDTA LLC; Director, Federated Investors Trust Company.</p> <p><b>Previous Positions:</b> President and Director of the Institutional Sales Division of Federated Securities Corp.; President and CEO of Passport Research, Ltd.; Director and President, Technology, Federated Services Company.</p>

\* *Reasons for "interested" status: J. Christopher Donahue and John B. Fisher are interested due to their beneficial ownership of shares of Federated Hermes, Inc. and due to positions they hold with Federated Hermes, Inc. and its subsidiaries.*

## INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS BACKGROUND

Name Birth Date Positions Held with Corporation Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications
<b>John T. Collins</b> Birth Date: January 24, 1947 DIRECTOR Indefinite Term Began serving: October 2013	<p><b>Principal Occupations:</b> Director or Trustee, and Chair of the Board of Directors or Trustees, of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; formerly, Chairman and CEO, The Collins Group, Inc. (a private equity firm) (Retired).</p> <p><b>Other Directorships Held:</b> Director, KLX Energy Services Holdings, Inc. (oilfield services); former Director of KLX Corp. (aerospace).</p> <p><b>Qualifications:</b> Mr. Collins has served in several business and financial management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Collins previously served as Chairman and CEO of The Collins Group, Inc. (a private equity firm) and as a Director of KLX Corp. Mr. Collins serves as Chairman Emeriti, Bentley University. Mr. Collins previously served as Director and Audit Committee Member, Bank of America Corp.; Director, FleetBoston Financial Corp.; and Director, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (Harvard University Affiliate Hospital).</p>

<b>Name</b> <b>Birth Date</b> <b>Positions Held with Corporation</b> <b>Date Service Began</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications</b>
<b>G. Thomas Hough</b> Birth Date: February 28, 1955 DIRECTOR Indefinite Term Began serving: August 2015	<p><b>Principal Occupations:</b> Director or Trustee, Chair of the Audit Committee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; formerly, Vice Chair, Ernst &amp; Young LLP (public accounting firm) (Retired).</p> <p><b>Other Directorships Held:</b> Director, Chair of the Audit Committee, Equifax, Inc.; Lead Director, Member of the Audit and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees, Haverty Furniture Companies, Inc.; formerly, Director, Member of Governance and Compensation Committees, Publix Super Markets, Inc.</p> <p><b>Qualifications:</b> Mr. Hough has served in accounting, business management and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Hough most recently held the position of Americas Vice Chair of Assurance with Ernst &amp; Young LLP (public accounting firm). Mr. Hough serves on the President's Cabinet and Business School Board of Visitors for the University of Alabama. Mr. Hough previously served on the Business School Board of Visitors for Wake Forest University, and he previously served as an Executive Committee member of the United States Golf Association.</p>
<b>Maureen Lally-Green</b> Birth Date: July 5, 1949 DIRECTOR Indefinite Term Began serving: August 2009	<p><b>Principal Occupations:</b> Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Adjunct Professor Emerita of Law, Duquesne University School of Law; formerly, Dean of the Duquesne University School of Law and Professor of Law and Interim Dean of the Duquesne University School of Law; formerly, Associate General Secretary and Director, Office of Church Relations, Diocese of Pittsburgh.</p> <p><b>Other Directorships Held:</b> Director, CNX Resources Corporation (natural gas).</p> <p><b>Qualifications:</b> Judge Lally-Green has served in various legal and business roles and directorship positions throughout her career. Judge Lally-Green previously held the position of Dean of the School of Law of Duquesne University (as well as Interim Dean). Judge Lally-Green previously served as Associate General Secretary of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, a member of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania and as a Professor of Law, Duquesne University School of Law. Judge Lally-Green was appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to serve on the Supreme Court's Board of Continuing Judicial Education and the Supreme Court's Appellate Court Procedural Rules Committee. Judge Lally-Green also currently holds the positions on not for profit or for profit boards of directors as follows: Director and Chair, UPMC Mercy Hospital; Regent, Saint Vincent Seminary; Member, Pennsylvania State Board of Education (public); Director, Catholic Charities, Pittsburgh; and Director CNX Resources Corporation (natural gas). Judge Lally-Green has held the positions of: Director, Auberle; Director, Epilepsy Foundation of Western and Central Pennsylvania; Director, Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh; Director, Saint Thomas More Society; Director and Chair, Catholic High Schools of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Inc.; Director, Pennsylvania Bar Institute; Director, St. Vincent College; Director and Chair, North Catholic High School, Inc.; Director and Vice Chair, Our Campaign for the Church Alive!, Inc.; and Director and Vice Chair, Saint Francis University.</p>

<b>Name</b> <b>Birth Date</b> <b>Positions Held with Corporation</b> <b>Date Service Began</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications</b>
<b>Thomas M. O'Neill</b> Birth Date: June 14, 1951 DIRECTOR Indefinite Term Began serving: August 2006	<p><b>Principal Occupations:</b> Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Sole Proprietor, Navigator Management Company (investment and strategic consulting).</p> <p><b>Other Directorships Held:</b> None.</p> <p><b>Qualifications:</b> Mr. O'Neill has served in several business, mutual fund and financial management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. O'Neill serves as Director, Medicines for Humanity. Mr. O'Neill previously served as Chief Executive Officer and President, Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer, Fleet Investment Advisors; President and Chief Executive Officer, Aeltus Investment Management, Inc.; General Partner, Hellman, Jordan Management Co., Boston, MA; Chief Investment Officer, The Putnam Companies, Boston, MA; Credit Analyst and Lending Officer, Fleet Bank; Director and Consultant, EZE Castle Software (investment order management software); Director, Midway Pacific (lumber); and Director, The Golisano Children's Museum of Naples, Florida.</p>
<b>Madelyn A. Reilly</b> Birth Date: February 2, 1956 DIRECTOR Indefinite Term Began serving: November 2020	<p><b>Principal Occupations:</b> Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; formerly, Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary of Board of Directors, Duquesne University (Retired).</p> <p><b>Other Directorships Held:</b> None.</p> <p><b>Qualifications:</b> Ms. Reilly has served in various business and legal management roles throughout her career. Ms. Reilly previously served as Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary of Board of Directors and Director of Risk Management and Associate General Counsel, Duquesne University. Prior to her work at Duquesne University, Ms. Reilly served as Assistant General Counsel of Compliance and Enterprise Risk as well as Senior Counsel of Environment, Health and Safety, PPG Industries. Ms. Reilly currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of UPMC Mercy Hospital.</p>

<b>Name</b> <b>Birth Date</b> <b>Positions Held with Corporation</b> <b>Date Service Began</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications</b>
<b>P. Jerome Richey</b> Birth Date: February 23, 1949 DIRECTOR Indefinite Term Began serving: October 2013	<p><b>Principal Occupations:</b> Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Retired; formerly, Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Legal Officer, University of Pittsburgh and Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, CONSOL Energy Inc. (now split into two separate publicly traded companies known as CONSOL Energy Inc. and CNX Resources Corp.).</p> <p><b>Other Directorships Held:</b> None.</p> <p><b>Qualifications:</b> Mr. Richey has served in several business and legal management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Richey most recently held the positions of Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Legal Officer, University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Richey previously served as Chairman of the Board, Epilepsy Foundation of Western Pennsylvania and Chairman of the Board, World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh. Mr. Richey previously served as Chief Legal Officer and Executive Vice President, CONSOL Energy Inc. and CNX Gas Company; and Board Member, Ethics Counsel and Shareholder, Buchanan Ingersoll &amp; Rooney PC (a law firm).</p>
<b>John S. Walsh</b> Birth Date: November 28, 1957 DIRECTOR Indefinite Term Began serving: November 1999	<p><b>Principal Occupations:</b> Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; President and Director, Heat Wagon, Inc. (manufacturer of construction temporary heaters); President and Director, Manufacturers Products, Inc. (distributor of portable construction heaters); President, Portable Heater Parts, a division of Manufacturers Products, Inc.</p> <p><b>Other Directorships Held:</b> None.</p> <p><b>Qualifications:</b> Mr. Walsh has served in several business management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Walsh previously served as Vice President, Walsh &amp; Kelly, Inc. (paving contractors).</p>

## OFFICERS

Name Birth Date Positions Held with Corporation Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years and Previous Position(s)
<b>Lori A. Hensler</b> Birth Date: January 6, 1967 TREASURER Officer since: April 2013	<b>Principal Occupations:</b> Principal Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Senior Vice President, Federated Administrative Services; Financial and Operations Principal for Federated Securities Corp.; and Assistant Treasurer, Federated Investors Trust Company. Ms. Hensler has received the Certified Public Accountant designation.  <b>Previous Positions:</b> Controller of Federated Hermes, Inc.; Senior Vice President and Assistant Treasurer, Federated Investors Management Company; Treasurer, Federated Investors Trust Company; Assistant Treasurer, Federated Administrative Services, Federated Administrative Services, Inc., Federated Securities Corp., Edgewood Services, Inc., Federated Advisory Services Company, Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania, Federated Global Investment Management Corp., Federated Investment Counseling, Federated Investment Management Company, Passport Research, Ltd., and Federated MDTA, LLC; Financial and Operations Principal for Federated Securities Corp., Edgewood Services, Inc. and Southpointe Distribution Services, Inc.
<b>Peter J. Germain</b> Birth Date: September 3, 1959 CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER, SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT Officer since: January 2005	<b>Principal Occupations:</b> Mr. Germain is Chief Legal Officer, Secretary and Executive Vice President of the Federated Hermes Fund Family. He is General Counsel, Chief Legal Officer, Secretary and Executive Vice President, Federated Hermes, Inc.; Trustee and Senior Vice President, Federated Investors Management Company; Trustee and President, Federated Administrative Services; Director and President, Federated Administrative Services, Inc.; Director and Vice President, Federated Securities Corp.; Director and Secretary, Federated Private Asset Management, Inc.; Secretary, Federated Shareholder Services Company; and Secretary, Retirement Plan Service Company of America. Mr. Germain joined Federated Hermes, Inc. in 1984 and is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.  <b>Previous Positions:</b> Deputy General Counsel, Special Counsel, Managing Director of Mutual Fund Services, Federated Hermes, Inc.; Senior Vice President, Federated Services Company; and Senior Corporate Counsel, Federated Hermes, Inc.
<b>Stephen Van Meter</b> Birth Date: June 5, 1975 CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT Officer since: July 2015	<b>Principal Occupations:</b> Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer of Federated Hermes, Inc. and Chief Compliance Officer of certain of its subsidiaries. Mr. Van Meter joined Federated Hermes, Inc. in October 2011. He holds FINRA licenses under Series 3, 7, 24 and 66.  <b>Previous Positions:</b> Mr. Van Meter previously held the position of Compliance Operating Officer, Federated Hermes, Inc. Prior to joining Federated Hermes, Inc., Mr. Van Meter served at the United States Securities and Exchange Commission in the positions of Senior Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel, Division of Investment Management and Senior Counsel, Division of Enforcement.

<b>Name</b> <b>Birth Date</b> <b>Positions Held with Corporation</b> <b>Date Service Began</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years and Previous Position(s)</b>
<b>Deborah A. Cunningham</b> Birth Date: September 15, 1959 CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER Officer since: June 2012	<b>Principal Occupations:</b> Deborah A. Cunningham was named Chief Investment Officer of Federated Hermes' money market products in 2004. She joined Federated Hermes in 1981 and has been a Senior Portfolio Manager since 1997 and an Executive Vice President of the Fund's Adviser since 2009. Ms. Cunningham has received the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and holds an M.S.B.A. in Finance from Robert Morris College.
<b>Mary Jo Ochson</b> Birth Date: September 12, 1953 CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER Officer since: May 2004	<b>Principal Occupations:</b> Mary Jo Ochson was named Chief Investment Officer of Federated Hermes' tax-exempt, fixed-income products in 2004 and Chief Investment Officer of Federated Hermes' Tax-Free Money Markets in 2010. She joined Federated Hermes in 1982 and has been a Senior Portfolio Manager and a Senior Vice President of the Fund's Adviser since 1996. Ms. Ochson has received the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and holds an M.B.A. in Finance from the University of Pittsburgh.

# Evaluation and Approval of Advisory Contract – May 2023

## **FEDERATED HERMES MUNICIPAL ULTRASHORT FUND (THE “FUND”)**

At its meetings in May 2023 (the “May Meetings”), the Fund’s Board of Directors (the “Board”), including those Directors who are not “interested persons” of the Fund, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Independent Directors”), reviewed and unanimously approved the continuation of the investment advisory contract between the Fund and Federated Investment Management Company (the “Adviser”) (the “Contract”) for an additional one-year term. The Board’s determination to approve the continuation of the Contract reflects the exercise of its business judgment after considering all of the information and factors believed to be relevant and appropriate on whether to approve the continuation of the existing arrangement. The information, factors and conclusions that formed the basis for the Board’s approval are summarized below.

### **Information Received and Review Process**

At the request of the Independent Directors, the Fund’s Chief Compliance Officer (the “CCO”) furnished to the Board in advance of its May Meetings an independent written evaluation of the Fund’s management fee (the “CCO Fee Evaluation Report”). The Board considered the CCO Fee Evaluation Report, along with other information, in evaluating the reasonableness of the Fund’s management fee and in determining to approve the continuation of the Contract. The CCO, in preparing the CCO Fee Evaluation Report, has the authority to retain consultants, experts or staff as reasonably necessary to assist in the performance of his duties, reports directly to the Board, and can be terminated only with the approval of a majority of the Independent Directors. At the request of the Independent Directors, the CCO Fee Evaluation Report followed the same general approach and covered the same topics as that of the report that had previously been delivered by the CCO in his capacity as “Senior Officer” prior to the elimination of the Senior Officer position in December 2017.

In addition to the extensive materials that comprise and accompany the CCO Fee Evaluation Report, the Board considered information specifically prepared in connection with the approval of the continuation of the Contract that was presented at the May Meetings. In this regard, in the months preceding the May Meetings, the Board requested and reviewed written responses and supporting materials prepared by the Adviser and its affiliates (collectively, “Federated Hermes”) in response to requests posed to Federated Hermes by independent legal counsel on behalf of the Independent Directors encompassing a wide variety of topics, including those summarized below. The Board also considered such additional matters as the Independent Directors

deemed reasonably necessary to evaluate the Contract, which included detailed information about the Fund and Federated Hermes furnished to the Board at its meetings throughout the year and in between regularly scheduled meetings on particular matters as the need arose.

The Board's consideration of the Contract included review of materials and information covering the following matters, among others: the nature, quality and extent of the advisory and other services provided to the Fund by Federated Hermes; Federated Hermes' business and operations; the Adviser's investment philosophy, personnel and processes; the Fund's investment objectives and strategies; the Fund's short-term and long-term performance (in absolute terms, both on a gross basis and net of expenses, and relative to the Fund's particular investment program and a group of its peer funds and/or its benchmark, as appropriate); the Fund's fees and expenses, including the advisory fee and the overall expense structure of the Fund (both in absolute terms and relative to a group of its peer funds), with due regard for contractual or voluntary expense limitations (if any); the financial condition of Federated Hermes; the Adviser's profitability with respect to managing the Fund; distribution and sales activity for the Fund; and the use and allocation of brokerage commissions derived from trading the Fund's portfolio securities (if any).

The Board also considered judicial decisions concerning allegedly excessive investment advisory fees charged to other registered funds in evaluating the Contract. Using these judicial decisions as a guide, the Board observed that the following factors may be relevant to an adviser's fiduciary duty with respect to its receipt of compensation from a fund: (1) the nature and quality of the services provided by the adviser to the fund and its shareholders, including the performance of the fund, its benchmark and comparable funds; (2) the adviser's cost of providing the services and the profitability to the adviser of providing advisory services to the fund; (3) the extent to which the adviser may realize "economies of scale" as the fund grows larger and, if such economies of scale exist, whether they have been appropriately shared with the fund and its shareholders or the family of funds; (4) any "fall-out" benefits that accrue to the adviser because of its relationship with the fund, including research services received from brokers that execute fund trades and any fees paid to affiliates of the adviser for services rendered to the fund; (5) comparative fee and expense structures, including a comparison of management fees paid to the adviser with those paid by similar funds managed by the same adviser or other advisers as well as management fees charged to institutional and other advisory clients of the same adviser for what might be viewed as like services; and (6) the extent of care, conscientiousness and independence with which the fund's board members perform their duties and their expertise, including whether they are fully informed about all facts the board deems relevant to its consideration of the adviser's services and fees. The Board noted that the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") disclosure requirements

regarding the basis for a fund board’s approval of the fund’s investment advisory contract generally align with the factors listed above. The Board was guided by these factors in its evaluation of the Contract to the extent it considered them to be appropriate and relevant, as discussed further below. The Board considered and weighed these factors in light of its substantial accumulated experience in governing the Fund and working with Federated Hermes on matters relating to the oversight of the other funds advised by Federated Hermes (each, a “Federated Hermes Fund” and, collectively, the “Federated Hermes Funds”).

In addition, the Board considered the preferences and expectations of Fund shareholders and the potential disruptions of the Fund’s operations and various risks, uncertainties and other effects that could occur as a result of a decision to terminate or not renew the Contract. In particular, the Board recognized that many shareholders likely have invested in the Fund based on the strength of Federated Hermes’ industry standing and reputation and with the expectation that Federated Hermes will have a continuing role in providing advisory services to the Fund. Thus, the Board observed that there are a range of investment options available to the Fund’s shareholders and such shareholders in the marketplace, having had the opportunity to consider other investment options, have effectively selected Federated Hermes by virtue of investing in the Fund.

In determining to approve the continuation of the Contract, the members of the Board reviewed and evaluated information and factors they believed to be relevant and appropriate through the exercise of their reasonable business judgment. While individual members of the Board may have weighed certain factors differently, the Board’s determination to approve the continuation of the Contract was based on a comprehensive consideration of all information provided to the Board throughout the year and specifically with respect to the continuation of the Contract. The Board recognized that its evaluation process is evolutionary and that the factors considered and emphasis placed on relevant factors may change in recognition of changing circumstances in the registered fund marketplace. The Independent Directors were assisted throughout the evaluation process by independent legal counsel. In connection with their deliberations at the May Meetings, the Independent Directors met separately in executive session with their independent legal counsel and without management present to review the relevant materials and consider their responsibilities under applicable laws. In addition, senior management representatives of Federated Hermes also met with the Independent Directors and their independent legal counsel to discuss the materials and presentations furnished to the Board at the May Meetings. The Board considered the approval of the Contract for the Fund as part of its consideration of agreements for funds across the family of Federated Hermes Funds, but its approvals were made on a fund-by-fund basis.

### **Nature, Extent and Quality of Services**

The Board considered the nature, extent and quality of the services provided to the Fund by the Adviser and the resources of Federated Hermes dedicated to the Fund. In this regard, the Board evaluated, among other things, the terms of the Contract and the range of services provided to the Fund by Federated Hermes. The Board considered the Adviser's personnel, investment philosophy and process, investment research capabilities and resources, trade operations capabilities, experience and performance track record. The Board reviewed the qualifications, backgrounds and responsibilities of the portfolio management team primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund and Federated Hermes' ability and experience in attracting and retaining qualified personnel to service the Fund. The Board considered the trading operations by the Advisers, including the execution of portfolio transactions and the selection of brokers for those transactions. The Board also considered the Adviser's ability to deliver competitive investment performance for the Fund when compared to the Fund's Performance Peer Group (as defined below), which was deemed by the Board to be a useful indicator of how the Adviser is executing the Fund's investment program.

In addition, the Board considered the financial resources and overall reputation of Federated Hermes and its willingness to consider and make investments in personnel, infrastructure, technology, cybersecurity, business continuity planning and operational enhancements that are designed to benefit the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board noted that the significant acquisition of Hermes Fund Managers Limited by Federated Hermes has deepened Federated Hermes' investment management expertise and capabilities and its access to analytical resources related to environmental, social and governance ("ESG") factors and issuer engagement on ESG matters. The Board considered Federated Hermes' oversight of the securities lending program for the Federated Hermes Funds that engage in securities lending and noted the income earned by the Federated Hermes Funds that participate in such program. In addition, the Board considered the quality of Federated Hermes' communications with the Board and responsiveness to Board inquiries and requests made from time to time with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board also considered that Federated Hermes is responsible for providing the Federated Hermes Funds' officers.

The Board received and evaluated information regarding Federated Hermes' regulatory and compliance environment. The Board considered Federated Hermes' compliance program and compliance history and reports from the CCO about Federated Hermes' compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including responses to regulatory developments and any compliance or other issues raised by regulatory agencies. The Board also noted Federated Hermes' support of the Federated Hermes Funds' compliance control structure and the compliance-related resources devoted by Federated Hermes in support of the Fund's obligations pursuant to Rule 38a-1 under the

Investment Company Act of 1940, including Federated Hermes' commitment to respond to rulemaking and other regulatory initiatives of the SEC. The Board considered Federated Hermes' approach to internal audits and risk management with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds and its day-to-day oversight of the Federated Hermes Funds' compliance with their investment objectives and policies as well as with applicable laws and regulations, noting that regulatory and other developments had over time led, and continue to lead, to an increase in the scope of Federated Hermes' oversight in this regard, including in connection with the implementation of new rules on derivatives risk management and fair valuation.

The Board also considered the implementation of Federated Hermes' business continuity plans. In addition, the Board noted Federated Hermes' commitment to maintaining high quality systems and expending substantial resources to prepare for and respond to ongoing changes due to the market, regulatory and control environments in which the Fund and its service providers operate.

The Board considered Federated Hermes' efforts to provide shareholders in the Federated Hermes Funds with a comprehensive array of funds with different investment objectives, policies and strategies. The Board considered the expenses that Federated Hermes had incurred, as well as the entrepreneurial and other risks assumed by Federated Hermes, in sponsoring and providing ongoing services to new funds to expand these opportunities for shareholders. The Board noted the benefits to shareholders of being part of the family of Federated Hermes Funds, which include the general right to exchange investments between the same class of shares without the incurrence of additional sales charges.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that it was satisfied with the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Adviser to the Fund.

### **Fund Investment Performance**

The Board considered the investment performance of the Fund. In evaluating the Fund's investment performance, the Board considered performance results in light of the Fund's investment objective, strategies and risks. The Board considered detailed investment reports on, and the Adviser's analysis of, the Fund's performance over different time periods that were provided to the Board throughout the year and in connection with the May Meetings. These reports included, among other items, information on the Fund's gross and net returns, the Fund's investment performance compared to one or more relevant categories or groups of peer funds and the Fund's benchmark index, performance attribution information and commentary on the effect of market conditions. The Board considered that, in its evaluation of investment performance at meetings throughout the year, it focused particular attention on information indicating less favorable performance of certain

Federated Hermes Funds for specific time periods and discussed with Federated Hermes the reasons for such performance as well as any specific actions Federated Hermes had taken, or had agreed to take, to seek to enhance Fund investment performance and the results of those actions.

The Board also reviewed comparative information regarding the performance of other registered funds in the category of peer funds selected by Morningstar, Inc. (the “Morningstar”), an independent fund ranking organization (the “Performance Peer Group”). The Board noted the CCO’s view that comparisons to fund peer groups may be helpful, though not conclusive, in evaluating the performance of the Adviser in managing the Fund. The Board considered in the CCO’s view that, in evaluating such comparisons, in some cases there may be differences in the funds’ objectives or investment management techniques, or the costs to implement the funds, even within the same Performance Peer Group.

The Board considered that for the one-year, three-year and five-year periods ended December 31, 2022, the Fund’s performance was above the median of the Performance Peer Group.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that it had continued confidence in the Adviser’s overall capabilities to manage the Fund.

### **Fund Expenses**

The Board considered the advisory fee and overall expense structure of the Fund and the comparative fee and expense information that had been provided in connection with the May Meetings. In this regard, the Board was presented with, and considered, information regarding the contractual advisory fee rates, net advisory fee rates, total expense ratios and each element of the Fund’s total expense ratio (i.e., gross and net advisory fees, administrative fees, custody fees, portfolio accounting fees and transfer agency fees) relative to an appropriate group of peer funds compiled by Federated Hermes from the category of peer funds selected by Morningstar (the “Expense Peer Group”). The Board received a description of the methodology used to select the Expense Peer Group from the overall Morningstar category. The Board also reviewed comparative information regarding the fees and expenses of the broader group of funds in the overall Morningstar category.

While mindful that courts have cautioned against giving too much weight to comparative information concerning fees charged to funds by other advisers, the use of comparisons between the Fund and its Expense Peer Group assisted the Board in its evaluation of the Fund’s fees and expenses. The Board focused on comparisons with other registered funds with comparable investment programs more heavily than non-registered fund products or services because such comparisons are believed to be more relevant. The Board considered that other registered funds are the products most like the Fund, in that they are readily available to Fund shareholders as alternative investment vehicles, and they are the type of investment vehicle, in fact, chosen and maintained by the

Fund's shareholders. The Board noted that the range of such other registered funds' fees and expenses, therefore, appears to be a relevant indicator of what investors have found to be reasonable in the marketplace in which the Fund competes.

The Board reviewed the contractual advisory fee rate, net advisory fee rate and other expenses of the Fund and noted the position of the Fund's fee rates relative to its Expense Peer Group. In this regard, the Board noted that the contractual advisory fee rate was below the median of the Expense Peer Group, and the Board was satisfied that the overall expense structure of the Fund remained competitive. In 2023, the Board approved a reduction of 1 basis point in the contractual advisory fee, such reduction to be effective August 1, 2023.

The Board also received and considered information about the nature and extent of services offered and fees charged by Federated Hermes to other types of clients with investment strategies similar to those of the Federated Hermes Funds, including non-registered fund clients (such as institutional separate accounts) and third-party unaffiliated registered funds for which the Adviser or its affiliates serve as sub-adviser. The Board noted the CCO's conclusion that non-registered fund clients are inherently different products due to the following differences, among others: (i) different types of targeted investors; (ii) different applicable laws and regulations; (iii) different legal structures; (iv) different average account sizes and portfolio management techniques made necessary by different cash flows and different associated costs; (v) the time spent by portfolio managers and their teams (among other personnel across various departments, including legal, compliance and risk management) in reviewing securities pricing and fund liquidity; (vi) different administrative responsibilities; (vii) different degrees of risk associated with management; and (viii) a variety of different costs. The Board also considered information regarding the differences in the nature of the services required for Federated Hermes to manage its proprietary registered fund business versus managing a discrete pool of assets as a sub-adviser to another institution's registered fund, noting the CCO's view that Federated Hermes generally performs significant additional services and assumes substantially greater risks in managing the Fund and other Federated Hermes Funds than in its role as sub-adviser to an unaffiliated third-party registered fund. The Board noted that the CCO did not consider the fees for providing advisory services to other types of clients to be determinative in judging the appropriateness of the Federated Hermes Funds' advisory fees.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that the fees and total operating expenses of the Fund, in conjunction with other matters considered, are reasonable in light of the services provided.

## **Profitability**

The Board received and considered profitability information furnished by Federated Hermes, as requested by the CCO. Such profitability information included revenues reported on a fund-by-fund basis and estimates of the allocation of expenses made on a fund-by-fund basis, using allocation methodologies specified by the CCO and described to the Board. The Board considered the CCO's view that, while these cost allocation reports apply consistent allocation processes, the inherent difficulties in allocating costs on a fund-by-fund basis continues to cause the CCO to question the precision of the process and to conclude that such reports may be unreliable because a single change in an allocation estimate may dramatically alter the resulting estimate of cost and/or profitability of a Federated Hermes Fund and may produce unintended consequences. In addition, the Board considered the CCO's view that the allocation methodologies used by Federated Hermes in estimating profitability for purposes of reporting to the Board in connection with the continuation of the Contract are consistent with the methodologies previously reviewed by an independent consultant. The Board noted that the independent consultant had previously conducted a review of the allocation methodologies and reported to the Board that, although there is no single best method to allocate expenses, the methodologies used by Federated Hermes are reasonable. The Board considered the CCO's view that the estimated profitability to the Adviser from its relationship with the Fund was not unreasonable in relation to the services provided.

The Board also reviewed information compiled by Federated Hermes comparing its profitability information to other publicly held fund management companies, including information regarding profitability trends over time. The Board recognized that profitability comparisons among fund management companies are difficult because of the variation in the type of comparative information that is publicly available, and the profitability of any fund management company is affected by numerous factors. The Board considered the CCO's conclusion that, based on such profitability information, Federated Hermes' profit margins did not appear to be excessive. The Board also considered the CCO's view that Federated Hermes appeared financially sound, with the resources necessary to fulfill its obligations under its contracts with the Federated Hermes Funds.

## **Economies of Scale**

The Board received and considered information about the notion of possible realization of "economies of scale" as a fund grows larger, the difficulties of determining economies of scale at an individual fund level, and the extent to which potential scale benefits are shared with shareholders. In this regard, the Board considered that Federated Hermes has made significant and long-term investments in areas that support all of the Federated Hermes Funds, such as: portfolio management, investment research and trading operations; shareholder services; compliance; business continuity, cybersecurity and information

security programs; internal audit and risk management functions; and technology and use of data. The Board noted that Federated Hermes' investments in these areas are extensive and are designed to provide enhanced services to the Federated Hermes Funds and their shareholders. The Board considered that the benefits of these investments are likely to be shared with the family of Federated Hermes Funds as a whole. In addition, the Board considered that fee waivers and expense reimbursements are another means for potential economies of scale to be shared with shareholders and can provide protection from an increase in expenses if a Federated Hermes Fund's assets decline. The Board considered that, in order for the Federated Hermes Funds to remain competitive in the marketplace, Federated Hermes has frequently waived fees and/or reimbursed expenses for the Federated Hermes Funds and has disclosed to shareholders and/or reported to the Board its intention to do so (or continue to do so) in the future. The Board also considered that Federated Hermes has been active in managing expenses of the Federated Hermes Funds in recent years, which has resulted in benefits being realized by shareholders.

The Board also received and considered information on adviser-paid fees (commonly referred to as "revenue sharing" payments) that was provided to the Board throughout the year and in connection with the May Meetings. The Board considered that Federated Hermes and the CCO believe that this information is relevant to considering whether Federated Hermes had an incentive to either not apply breakpoints, or to apply breakpoints at higher levels, but should not be considered when evaluating the reasonableness of advisory fees. The Board also noted the absence of any applicable regulatory or industry guidelines economies of scale, which is compounded by the lack of any uniform methodology or pattern with respect to structuring fund advisory fees with breakpoints that serve to reduce the fees as a fund attains a certain size.

### **Other Benefits**

The Board considered information regarding the compensation and other ancillary (or "fall-out") benefits that Federated Hermes derived from its relationships with the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board noted that, in addition to receiving advisory fees under the Federated Hermes Funds' investment advisory contracts, Federated Hermes' affiliates also receive fees for providing other services to the Federated Hermes Funds under separate service contracts including for serving as the Federated Hermes Funds' administrator and distributor. In this regard, the Board considered that certain of Federated Hermes' affiliates provide distribution and shareholder services to the Federated Hermes Funds, for which they may be compensated through distribution and servicing fees paid pursuant to Rule 12b-1 plans or otherwise. The Board also received and considered information detailing the benefits, if any, that Federated Hermes may derive from its receipt of research services from brokers who execute portfolio trades for the Federated Hermes Funds.

## **Conclusions**

The Board considered: (i) the CCO's conclusion that his observations and the information accompanying the CCO Fee Evaluation Report show that the management fee for the Fund is reasonable; and (ii) the CCO's recommendation that the Board approve the management fee. The Board noted that, under these circumstances, no changes were recommended to, and no objection was raised to the continuation of, the Contract by the CCO. The CCO also recognized that the Board's evaluation of the Federated Hermes Funds' advisory and sub-advisory arrangements is a continuing and ongoing process that is informed by the information that the Board requests and receives from management throughout the course of the year and, in this regard, the CCO noted certain items for future reporting to the Board or further consideration by management as the Board continues its ongoing oversight of the Federated Hermes Funds.

On the basis of the information and factors summarized above, among other information and factors deemed relevant by the Board, and the evaluation thereof, the Board, including the Independent Directors, unanimously voted to approve the continuation of the Contract. The Board based its determination to approve the Contract on the totality of the circumstances and relevant factors and with a view of past and future long-term considerations. Not all of the factors and considerations identified above were necessarily deemed to be relevant to the Fund, nor did the Board consider any one of them to be determinative.

## Liquidity Risk Management Program – Annual Evaluation of Adequacy and Effectiveness

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Liquidity Rule”), Federated Hermes Fixed Income Securities, Inc. (the “Corporation”) has adopted and implemented a liquidity risk management program (the “Program”) for Federated Hermes Municipal Ultrashort Fund (the “Fund” and, collectively with the other non-money market open-end funds advised by Federated Hermes, the “Federated Hermes Funds”). The Program seeks to assess and manage the Fund’s liquidity risk. “Liquidity risk” is defined under the Liquidity Rule as the risk that the Fund is unable to meet redemption requests without significantly diluting remaining investors’ interests in the Fund. The Board of Directors of the Corporation (the “Board”) has approved the designation of each Federated Hermes Fund’s investment adviser as the administrator for the Program (the “Administrator”) with respect to that Fund. The Administrator, in turn, has delegated day-to-day responsibility for the administration of the Program to multiple Liquidity Risk Management Committees, which are comprised of representatives from certain divisions within Federated Hermes.

The Program is comprised of various components designed to support the assessment and/or management of liquidity risk, including: (1) the periodic assessment (no less frequently than annually) of certain factors that influence the Fund’s liquidity risk; (2) the periodic classification (no less frequently than monthly) of the Fund’s investments into one of four liquidity categories that reflect an estimate of their liquidity under current market conditions; (3) a 15% limit on the acquisition of “illiquid investments” (as defined under the Liquidity Rule); (4) to the extent a Fund does not invest primarily in “highly liquid investments” (as defined under the Liquidity Rule), the determination of a minimum percentage of the Fund’s assets that generally will be invested in highly liquid investments (an “HLIM”); (5) if a Fund has established an HLIM, the periodic review (no less frequently than annually) of the HLIM and the adoption of policies and procedures for responding to a shortfall of the Fund’s highly liquid investments below its HLIM; and (6) periodic reporting to the Board.

At its meetings in May 2023, the Board received and reviewed a written report (the “Report”) from the Federated Hermes Funds’ Chief Compliance Officer and Chief Risk Officer, on behalf of the Administrator, concerning the operation of the Program for the period from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023 (the “Period”). The Report addressed the operation of the Program and assessed the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation, including, where applicable, the operation of any HLIM established for a Federated Hermes Fund. There were no material changes to the Program during the Period. The Report summarized the operation of the Program and

the information and factors considered by the Administrator in assessing whether the Program has been adequately and effectively implemented with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds. Such information and factors included, among other things:

- confirmation that it was not necessary for the Fund to utilize, and the Fund did not utilize, any alternative funding sources that were available to the Federated Hermes Funds during the Period, such as the Federated Hermes Funds' interfund lending facility, redemptions in-kind, reverse repurchase agreement transactions, redemptions delayed beyond the normal T+1 settlement but within seven days of the redemption request, and committed lines of credit;
- the periodic classifications of the Fund's investments into one of four liquidity categories and the methodologies and inputs used to classify the investments, including the Fund's reasonably anticipated trade size;
- the analysis received from a third-party liquidity assessment vendor that is taken into account in the process of determining the liquidity classifications of the Fund's investments, and the results of the Administrator's evaluation of the services performed by the vendor in support of this process, including the Administrator's view that the methodologies utilized by the vendor continue to be appropriate;
- the fact that the Fund invested primarily in highly liquid investments during the Period and, therefore, was not required to establish, and has not established, an HLIM and the operation of the procedures for monitoring the status of the Fund as investing primarily in highly liquid investments;
- the fact that the Fund invested no more than 15% of its assets in illiquid investments during the Period, and the operation of the procedures for monitoring this limit;
- the fact that there were no liquidity events during the Period that materially affected the Fund's liquidity risk;
- the impact on liquidity and management of liquidity risk, if any, caused by extended non-U.S. market closures and confirmation that there were no issues for any of the affected Federated Hermes Funds in meeting shareholder redemptions at any time during these temporary non-U.S. market closures.

Based on this review, the Administrator concluded that the Program is operating effectively to assess and manage the Fund's liquidity risk, and that the Program has been and continues to be adequately and effectively implemented to monitor and, as applicable, respond to the Fund's liquidity developments.

## Voting Proxies on Fund Portfolio Securities

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies, if any, relating to securities held in the Fund's portfolio is available, without charge and upon request, by calling 1-800-341-7400, Option #4. A report on "Form N-PX" of how the Fund voted any such proxies during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available via the Proxy Voting Record (Form N-PX) link associated with the Fund and share class name at [FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation](https://FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation). Form N-PX filings are also available at the SEC's website at [sec.gov](https://sec.gov).

## Quarterly Portfolio Schedule

Each fiscal quarter, the Fund will file with the SEC a complete schedule of its monthly portfolio holdings on "Form N-PORT." The Fund's holdings as of the end of the third month of every fiscal quarter, as reported on Form N-PORT, will be publicly available on the SEC's website at [sec.gov](https://sec.gov) within 60 days of the end of the fiscal quarter upon filing. You may also access this information via the link to the Fund and share class name at [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://FederatedHermes.com/us).

*Mutual funds are not bank deposits or obligations, are not guaranteed by any bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the U.S. government, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency. Investment in mutual funds involves investment risk, including the possible loss of principal.*

This Report is authorized for distribution to prospective investors only when preceded or accompanied by the Fund's Prospectus, which contains facts concerning its objective and policies, management fees, expenses and other information.

### Sign up for Electronic Delivery!

*A faster way to receive documents.*

If you purchased shares through a financial intermediary (bank or broker-dealer), please contact your representative to set up e-delivery. Otherwise, contact the Fund at 1-800-341-7400, Option #4.



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