

WisdomTree Investments, Inc.  
Form PRE 14A  
April 13, 2018  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**SCHEDULE 14A**  
**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the**  
**Securities Exchange Act of 1934**  
**(Amendment No. )**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

**Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

**WisdomTree Investments, Inc.**

**(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)**

**(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)**

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

- (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

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- (4) Date Filed:



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**WisdomTree Investments, Inc.**

**245 Park Avenue, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**New York, New York 10167**

, 2018

Dear Stockholder:

We are pleased to invite you to the WisdomTree Investments, Inc. ( WisdomTree or the Company ) 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on June 19, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time. This year's Annual Meeting will be a completely virtual meeting of stockholders held over the Internet. You will be able to attend the Annual Meeting, vote your shares electronically and submit your questions during the live webcast of the meeting by visiting [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18) and entering your 16-digit control number.

Similar to last year, most of our stockholders will not receive paper copies of our proxy materials and will instead receive a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials with instructions on how to access our proxy materials and how to vote online or by telephone. Such Notice will also provide information on how to obtain paper copies of our proxy materials if a stockholder so requests. This method expedites the receipt of your proxy materials, lowers the costs of our Annual Meeting and helps to conserve our natural resources.

Every stockholder's vote is important, so whether or not you are planning to attend the meeting, we encourage you to vote your shares by voting (i) over the Internet, (ii) by telephone or (iii) by requesting a paper copy of the proxy materials, including a proxy card, and returning an executed proxy card.

We hope that you will join us at the Annual Meeting live webcast on June 19, 2018. I thank you for your commitment to WisdomTree and urge you to vote your shares.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Steinberg

Chief Executive Officer

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**NOTICE OF 2018 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**Date: Tuesday, June 19, 2018**

**Time: 11:00 a.m., Eastern Time**

**Place: Live Webcast at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18)**

At the meeting, stockholders will be asked to:

1. elect three Class I members of the Board of Directors, to serve until the Company's 2021 Annual Meeting of Stockholders;
2. ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018;
3. approve the issuance of shares of common stock upon conversion of the Company's Series A Non-Voting Convertible Preferred Stock issued in connection with the Company's acquisition of the European exchange-traded commodity, currency and short-and-leveraged business of ETF Securities Limited representing more than 19.99% of the outstanding common stock or voting power of the Company for purposes of complying with Nasdaq Listing Rule 5635;
4. vote on an advisory resolution to approve the compensation of the Company's named executive officers;
5. vote on an advisory resolution on the frequency of future advisory votes to approve the compensation of the Company's named executive officers; and
6. transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting or any postponements or adjournments thereof.

The close of business on April 26, 2018 is the record date for determining stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. A list of these stockholders will be available at WisdomTree's headquarters, 245 Park Avenue, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York, for at least 10 days before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

In accordance with the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, we have also sent a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and provided access to our proxy materials over the Internet, beginning on \_\_\_\_\_, 2018, to the holders of record and beneficial owners of our capital stock as of the close of business on the record date.

Distribution to stockholders of this proxy statement and a proxy card is scheduled to begin on or about \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

By order of the Board of Directors,

Gregory Barton, Secretary

New York, New York

, 2018

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**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders**

**To Be Held on June 19, 2018.**

**The proxy statement and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 are available at: <http://ir.wisdomtree.com> by following the link for Financial Information.**

**Proxy Statement**

This proxy statement contains information about the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of WisdomTree Investments, Inc. Proxy materials or a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials will be first sent to stockholders on or about \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

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**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING AND PROXY MATERIALS**

**Who is soliciting my vote?**

The Board of Directors of WisdomTree Investments, Inc. ( WisdomTree or the Company ) is soliciting your vote for the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

**Who pays for the cost of soliciting proxies?**

WisdomTree will pay the cost for the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors. Proxies may be solicited personally, by telephone, fax or email by employees of WisdomTree without any remuneration to such individuals other than their regular compensation. WisdomTree also will reimburse brokers, banks, custodians, other nominees and fiduciaries for forwarding these materials to their principals to obtain the authorization for the execution of proxies.

**Why did I receive a one-page notice in the mail regarding the internet availability of proxy materials instead of a full set of proxy materials?**

Pursuant to rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ), the Company has elected to provide access to its proxy materials via the Internet. Accordingly, the Company is sending a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials ( Notice ) to its stockholders. All stockholders will be able to access the proxy materials on the website referred to in the Notice or request to receive a printed set of the proxy materials. Instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the Internet or to request a printed copy may be found in the Notice. In addition, stockholders may request to receive proxy materials in printed form by mail or electronically by email on an ongoing basis. The Company encourages stockholders to take advantage of the availability of the proxy materials on the Internet to help reduce the environmental impact of its annual meetings.

**How can I obtain electronic access to the proxy materials?**

The Notice will provide you with instructions regarding how to:

View the Company's proxy materials for the Annual Meeting on the Internet; and

Instruct the Company to send future proxy materials to you by email.

The Company's proxy materials also are available on its investor relations website at <http://ir.wisdomtree.com> by following the link for Financial Information.

Choosing to receive future proxy materials by email will save the Company the cost of printing and mailing documents to you and will reduce the impact of the Company's annual meetings on the environment. If you choose to receive future proxy materials by email, you will receive an email message next year with instructions containing a link to those materials and a link to the proxy voting website. Your election to receive proxy materials by email will remain in effect until you terminate it.

**How do I attend the Annual Meeting and may I ask questions?**

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The Annual Meeting will be a completely virtual meeting of stockholders held over the Internet. Please go to [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18) for instructions on how to attend and participate in the Annual Meeting. Any stockholder may attend and listen live to the webcast of the Annual Meeting over the Internet at such site. Stockholders as of the record date of the Annual Meeting may submit questions while attending the Annual Meeting over the Internet by using the 16-digit control number included in the Notice, proxy card or the voting instructions that accompanied these proxy materials.

**Table of Contents****What is the difference between a stockholder of record and a beneficial owner of shares held in street name?**

**Stockholder of record.** If your shares are registered directly in your name with the Company's transfer agent (Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company), you are considered a stockholder of record (or record holder) with respect to those shares, and the Notice was sent directly to you by the Company.

**Beneficial owner of shares held in street name.** If your shares are held in an account at a brokerage firm, bank, broker-dealer or other similar organization, then you are the beneficial owner of shares held in street name, and a Notice was forwarded to you by that organization. As a beneficial owner, you have the right to instruct your broker, bank, trustee or nominee how to vote your shares.

**How do I vote my shares?**

Whether you are a stockholder of record or hold your shares in street name, you may vote by proxy prior to the polls closing without participating in the online Annual Meeting. To vote by proxy, stockholders have a choice of voting over the Internet, by telephone or by mail using a traditional proxy card. Your shares will be voted in accordance with your instructions. If you plan to attend and participate in the online Annual Meeting, the Company still encourages you to vote prior to the Annual Meeting by Internet, by telephone, or by mail by returning a proxy card following your request of printed materials. This will ensure that your vote will be counted if you are unable to, or later decide not to, participate in the online Annual Meeting. You also may vote online at the Annual Meeting prior to the polls closing. You will need to enter your 16-digit control number (included in your Notice, your proxy card or the voting instructions that accompanied your proxy materials) to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting.

**Vote by Internet**

Go to [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com). You will need your 16-digit control number included in your proxy card, voter instruction form or Notice.

**Vote by Mobile Phone**

If you have your proxy card, you can directly scan the QR code on the proxy card with your mobile phone or, if you have the 16-digit control number included in your proxy card, voter instruction form or Notice, you can scan the above QR code.

**Vote by Phone**

Call 1-800-690-6903 toll-free from the U.S., U.S. territories and Canada or the number on your voter instruction form. You will need the 16-digit control number included in your proxy card, voter instruction form or Notice.

**Vote by Mail**

Send the completed and signed proxy card or voter instruction form to the address on the proxy card or voter instruction form.

**Vote at the Meeting**

You can vote by attending the online Annual Meeting. You will need your 16-digit control number to vote electronically at the Annual Meeting. To attend, go to [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18)

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### **What are the Board's recommendations on how to vote my shares?**

The Board of Directors recommends a vote:

- Proposal 1 **FOR** the election of the three Class I directors set forth in this proxy statement (page 43);
- Proposal 2 **FOR** the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018 (page 44);
- Proposal 3 **FOR** the approval of the issuance of shares of common stock upon conversion of the Company's Series A Non-Voting Convertible Preferred Stock issued in connection with the Company's acquisition of the European exchange-traded commodity, currency and short-and-leveraged business of ETF Securities Limited (the ETFS Acquisition) representing more than 19.99% of the outstanding common stock or voting power of the Company for purposes of complying with Nasdaq Listing Rule 5635 (page 45);
- Proposal 4 **FOR** the vote on the advisory resolution to approve the compensation of the Company's named executive officers (page 50); and
- Proposal 5 No recommendation on the vote on the advisory resolution on the frequency of future advisory resolutions to approve the compensation of the Company's named executive officers (page 51).

### **Can I change my vote?**

You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted by notifying the Secretary of WisdomTree in writing, by returning a signed proxy card with a later date, by transmitting a subsequent vote over the Internet or by telephone prior to the close of the Internet voting facility or the telephone voting facility, or by attending the online meeting, entering your 16-digit control number and voting again electronically at the Annual Meeting.

### **How many votes can be cast by all stockholders?**

shares of the Company's common stock were outstanding on April 26, 2018 (the record date for determining stockholders eligible to vote) and entitled to be voted at the meeting. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote on each matter. However, pursuant to Nasdaq Listing Rule 5635 and IM-5635-2 *Interpretative Material Regarding the Use of Share Caps to Comply with Rule 5635*, the shares of the Company's common stock issued to ETF Securities Limited in the ETFS Acquisition will not be entitled to vote to approve Proposal 3.

### **What percentage of the vote is required for a proposal to be approved?**

Proposal 1: The three nominees for election as Class I directors who receive a plurality of the votes cast for election of directors shall be elected directors.

Proposal 2: A majority of votes cast is necessary for the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

Proposal 3: The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of common stock present in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting and entitled to vote thereon is required for the approval of the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of common stock upon conversion of the Company's Series A Non-Voting Convertible Preferred Stock issued in connection with the ETFS Acquisition representing more than 19.99% of the outstanding common stock or voting

power of the Company for purposes of complying with Nasdaq Listing Rule 5635.

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Proposal 4: A majority of votes cast is necessary for the approval of the advisory resolution to approve the compensation of the Company's named executive officers.

Proposal 5: The vote on the advisory resolution on the frequency of future advisory resolutions to approve the compensation of the Company's named executive officers will be determined based on a plurality of the votes cast. This means that the option that receives the most votes (every one year, every two years or every three years) will be the option deemed recommended by the stockholders to the Board of Directors.

If there are insufficient votes to approve Proposals 2 or 3, your proxy may be voted by the persons named in the proxy to adjourn the Annual Meeting to solicit additional proxies in favor of the approval of such proposals. If the Annual Meeting is adjourned or postponed for any purpose, at any subsequent reconvening of the meeting, your proxy will be voted in the same manner as it would have been voted at the original convening of the Annual Meeting unless you withdraw or revoke your proxy. Your proxy may be voted in this manner even though it may have been voted on the same or any other matter at a previous session of the Annual Meeting.

### **How is a quorum reached?**

The presence, in person or by proxy, of holders of at least a majority of the total number of outstanding shares entitled to vote is necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting. Shares held of record by stockholders or brokers, bankers or other nominees who do not return a signed and dated proxy or attend the online Annual Meeting in person will not be considered present or represented at the Annual Meeting and will not be counted in determining the presence of a quorum. Abstentions and broker non-votes (i.e., shares represented at the meeting held by brokers, bankers or other nominees as to which instructions have not been received from the beneficial owners or persons entitled to vote such shares and, with respect to one or more but not all issues, such brokers or nominees do not have discretionary voting power to vote such shares), if any, will be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present for the transaction of business at the meeting.

### **How is the vote counted?**

Votes cast by proxy or in person at the Annual Meeting will be counted by the person(s) appointed by the Company to act as inspector(s) of election for the meeting. The inspector(s) of election will count all votes for, against, withhold and abstentions and broker non-votes, as applicable, for each matter to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Shares represented by proxies that withhold authority to vote for a nominee for election as a director will not be counted as votes for a director. Shares properly voted to abstain on a particular matter and broker non-votes are treated as having not voted on the particular matter and will therefore not affect the outcome of Proposals 1, 2, 4 and 5. With respect to Proposal 3, abstentions will have the effect of a vote against the proposal, and broker non-votes will have no effect. Due to their advisory nature, the results of the vote on Proposals 4 and 5 are not binding on the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee.

### **What does it mean if I receive more than one proxy card or voting instruction form?**

It means that you have multiple accounts at the transfer agent or with brokers. Please complete and return all proxy cards or voting instruction forms to ensure that all your shares are voted.

### **Could other matters be decided at the Annual Meeting?**

WisdomTree does not know of any other matters that may be presented for action at the Annual Meeting. Should any other business come before the meeting, the persons named on the enclosed proxy will have discretionary authority to



vote the shares represented by such proxies in their best judgment. If you hold shares through a broker, bank or other nominee as described above, they will not be able to vote your shares on any other business that comes before the Annual Meeting unless they receive instructions from you with respect to such matters.

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### **What happens if the Annual Meeting is postponed?**

Your proxy may be voted at the postponed or adjourned meeting. You will be able to change your proxy until it is voted.

### **Will the Annual Meeting be webcast?**

Yes. The Annual Meeting will be a completely virtual meeting and will be webcast live at [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/wisdomtree18).

### **What is the deadline to propose actions for consideration or to nominate individuals to serve as directors at the 2019 Annual Meeting?**

Stockholders who wish to present proposals for inclusion in our proxy materials for our 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders may do so by following the procedures prescribed in Rule 14a-8 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ( Exchange Act ) and in our by-laws. Our Secretary must receive stockholder proposals intended to be included in our proxy statement and form of proxy relating to our 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders made under Rule 14a-8 by December 31, 2018. It is the policy of our Nominating Committee to consider nominations for candidates to our Board of Directors that are properly submitted by our stockholders in accordance with our by-laws. Under our current by-laws, proposals of business and nominations for directors other than those to be included in our proxy materials following the procedures described in Rule 14a-8 may be made by any stockholder who was a stockholder of record at the time of the giving of notice provided for in our by-laws, who is entitled to vote at the meeting, who is present (in person or by proxy) at the meeting and who complies with the notice procedures set forth in our by-laws (i.e., notice must be timely given and contain the information required by the by-laws). To be timely, a notice with respect to the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders must be delivered to our Secretary no earlier than Tuesday, February 19, 2019 and no later than Thursday, March 21, 2019, unless the date of the 2019 Annual Meeting is advanced by more than thirty (30) days or delayed by more than sixty (60) days from the anniversary date of the 2018 Annual Meeting, in which event the by-laws provide different notice requirements. Any proposal of business or nomination should be mailed to: Gregory Barton, Secretary, WisdomTree Investments, Inc., 245 Park Avenue, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10167. The Nominating Committee will evaluate candidates for the position of director recommended by stockholders in the same manner as candidates from other sources and will determine whether to interview any candidates or seek any additional information.

### **Who should I call if I have any additional questions?**

If you hold your shares directly, please call Gregory Barton at (212) 801-2080. If your shares are held in street name, please call the telephone number provided on your voting instruction form or contact your broker or nominee holder directly.

### **Policies on Reporting of Concerns Regarding Accounting and Other Matters and on Communicating with Non-Management Directors**

The Board of Directors and the Audit Committee have adopted policies on reporting concerns regarding accounting and other matters and on communicating with the non-management directors. Any person, including any employee, who has a concern about the conduct of WisdomTree or any of its people, including with respect to accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, may, in a confidential or anonymous manner, communicate that concern to Mr. Frank Salerno, the chairperson of the Audit Committee, who is the designated contact for these purposes. Contact may be made by writing to him care of the Audit Committee at the Company's offices at 245 Park

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Avenue, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10167, or by email at [auditcommittee@wisdomtree.com](mailto:auditcommittee@wisdomtree.com). Any interested party, including any employee, who wishes to communicate directly with the presiding director of the executive sessions of our non-management directors, or with our non-management directors as a group, also may contact Mr. Salerno using one of the above methods.

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### **Where You Can Find More Information**

WisdomTree files annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any reports, statements, or other information that WisdomTree files at the SEC's public reference room at the following location: 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549.

Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information regarding the operation of the public reference room. The Company's SEC filings are also available to the public from commercial document retrieval services and at the website maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document WisdomTree files with the SEC on the Company's investor relations website at <http://ir.wisdomtree.com> by following the link for Financial Information.

You should rely on the information contained in this document to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting. WisdomTree has not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different from what is contained in this document. This document is dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2018. You should not assume that the information contained in this document is accurate as of any date other than that date, and the mailing of this document to stockholders at any time after that date does not create an implication to the contrary. This proxy statement does not constitute a solicitation of a proxy in any jurisdiction where, or to or from any person to whom, it is unlawful to make such proxy solicitations in such jurisdiction.

### **Incorporation by Reference**

To the extent that this proxy statement has been or will be specifically incorporated by reference into any other filing of WisdomTree under the Securities Act of 1933 ( "Securities Act" ) or the Exchange Act, the sections of this proxy statement entitled "Audit Committee Report" (to the extent permitted by the rules of the SEC) and "Compensation Committee Report" shall not be deemed to be so incorporated, unless specifically provided otherwise in such filing.

### **Important Notice Regarding Delivery of Stockholder Documents**

In accordance with a notice sent to certain stockholders of WisdomTree common stock who share a single address, only one copy of this proxy statement and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 is being sent to that address unless WisdomTree has received contrary instructions from any stockholder at that address. This practice, known as "householding," is designed to reduce the Company's printing and postage costs and help to conserve our natural resources. However, if any stockholder residing at such an address wishes to receive a separate copy of this proxy statement or our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, he or she may contact WisdomTree Investments, Inc., 245 Park Avenue, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10167, Attention: Investor Relations, Tel: (212) 801-2080, and WisdomTree will deliver those documents to such stockholder promptly upon receiving the request. Any such stockholder may also contact Investor Relations using the above contact information if he or she would like to receive separate proxy statements, annual reports or Notices of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, as applicable, in the future. If you are receiving multiple copies of our annual reports and proxy statements, you may request householding in the future by contacting Investor Relations.

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**DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

**Board Composition**

Our Board of Directors currently consists of seven members. Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws provide that the number of our directors shall be fixed from time to time by a resolution of a majority of our Board of Directors. Pursuant to our by-laws, the Board of Directors has fixed the number of directors at seven as of the date of this year's Annual Meeting of Stockholders. In accordance with Delaware law and the Company's certificate of incorporation and by-laws, the Board of Directors is divided into three staggered classes of directors of the same or nearly the same number. At each annual meeting of the stockholders, a class of directors will be elected for a three-year term to succeed the directors of the same class whose terms are then expiring. The terms of the directors will expire upon the election and qualification of successor directors at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2018 for Class I directors, 2019 for Class II directors and 2020 for Class III directors. The following directors serve in Class I, II and III:

Class I: Anthony Bossone, Bruce Lavine and Michael Steinhardt

Class II: Steven Begleiter and Win Neuger

Class III: Frank Salerno and Jonathan Steinberg

Any directorships resulting from an increase in the number of directors will be distributed among the three classes so that, as nearly as possible, each class shall consist of one third of the Board of Directors. The division of our Board of Directors into three classes with staggered three-year terms may delay or prevent stockholder efforts to effect a change of our management or a change in control.

Pursuant to the corporate governance guidelines adopted by the Board of Directors described below under Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Company seeks directors who have high personal and professional integrity, judgment and ability. Our Nominating Committee is responsible for recommending criteria and qualifications for Board membership, identifying and evaluating potential director candidates and recommending to the Board those candidates to be nominated for election to, or fill vacancies on, the Board. The Nominating Committee will seek to identify, and the Board will select, director candidates who satisfy the criteria set forth in the director candidate guidelines included in the Nominating Committee's charter. Candidates are selected for, among other things, their knowledge, skills, abilities, independence, character, diversity, demonstrated leadership and experience useful to the oversight of our business in the context of the needs of the Board. Our Nominating Committee's and Board of Directors' priority in selecting Board members is identification of persons who will further the interests of our stockholders through his or her established record of professional accomplishment, the ability to contribute positively to the collaborative culture among Board members, and professional and personal experiences and expertise relevant to our growth strategy.

**Directors**

Our Board of Directors is divided into three staggered classes of directors of the same or nearly the same number. At the Annual Meeting, three individuals will be elected to serve as Class I Directors until their term expires in 2021, and until their successors are elected and qualified. During 2017, each of the nominees to the Board served as a Director.



**Table of Contents*****Class I Director Nominees whose terms, if elected, will expire in 2021:***

**Anthony Bossone**

**Age: 47**

**Director Since:**

**January 2009**

**Independent Committees:**

**Audit, Compensation**

Mr. Bossone has been the Chief Financial Officer of Atlantic-Pacific Capital, Inc., a broker-dealer and global placement agent dedicated to raising capital for alternative investment funds, since 2003. From 2001 to 2003, Mr. Bossone was the Assistant Controller at SAC Capital Advisors, LLC, a hedge fund advisory firm, and from 1999 until 2001, Mr. Bossone served as an equity trader at Schonfeld Securities, LLC, a securities trading firm. Mr. Bossone began his career at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in 1993 where he was an audit manager until 1999. Mr. Bossone received his B.S. in Business and Economics with highest honors from Lehigh University and is a Certified Public Accountant. We believe Mr. Bossone's qualifications to serve on the Board of Directors include his financial and accounting expertise. The Board also benefits from his experience as an equity trader.

**Bruce Lavine**

**Age: 51**

**Director Since:**

**January 2007**

Mr. Lavine has been a Senior Strategy Advisor to Astoria Portfolio Advisors, an asset management firm that implements sophisticated institutional portfolio management strategies with ETFs for a variety of different client types, since October 2017. From January 2016 to May 2017, he was the Chief Executive Officer of 55 Capital, a similarly focused ETF centric firm. From August 2012 to February 2016, he served as our Vice Chairman (non-executive), and from May 2006 until August 2012 as our President and Chief Operating Officer. From 1998 to 2006, he was employed by Barclays Global Investors, an asset management firm, in the following positions: from 1998 to 1999, he served as Director, Financial Planning, Global Finance; from 1999 to 2003, he served as Chief Financial Officer, Director of New Product Development, U.S. iShares and Individual Investor Business; and from 2003 to May 2006 he served as Head of iShares Exchange Traded Funds, Europe. From 1995 to 1998, Mr. Lavine served as the Manager of Business Planning at Sequel, Inc., a computer hardware services company. From 1991 to 1994, Mr. Lavine was employed by Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, a pharmaceutical company, first as a financial associate and then as a senior treasury analyst. Mr. Lavine received a B.S. with distinction in Commerce and an M.B.A. in Finance from the University of Virginia. Mr. Lavine is a Chartered Financial Analyst. We believe Mr. Lavine's qualifications to serve on the Board of Directors include his many years of experience in senior management positions in the ETF industry and extensive knowledge of our business.

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**Michael Steinhardt**

**Age: 77**

**Director Since:**  
**November 2004**

**Independent Committees:**  
**Nominating**

Mr. Steinhardt has served as our non-executive Chairman of the Board since November 2004. From 1967 through 1995, Mr. Steinhardt served as Senior Managing Partner of Steinhardt Partners, L.P., a private investment company, and related investment entities. In 1995, Mr. Steinhardt closed Steinhardt Partners and eliminated his involvement in managing client assets. He founded and now serves as President of Steinhardt Management Co., Inc., which currently manages his family office. Mr. Steinhardt currently devotes most of his time and financial resources to Jewish philanthropic causes, directed through The Steinhardt Foundation for Jewish Life for which he serves as Chairman. Mr. Steinhardt is the co-founder of Birthright Israel and is a major supporter. He also serves as Co-Chair of the Areivim Philanthropic Group. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of New York University and the Steinhardt Foundation. Mr. Steinhardt received his B.S. in Economics from The Wharton School of Business of the University of Pennsylvania. We believe Mr. Steinhardt's qualifications to serve on the Board of Directors include his extensive years of experience as a founder of a private investment management company. The Board also benefits from his perspective and knowledge of financial markets as well as his strategic vision.

*Class II Directors whose terms expire in 2019:*

**Steven Begleiter**

**Age: 56**

**Director Since:**  
**February 2011**

**Independent Committees:**  
**Nominating**

Mr. Begleiter has served as Senior Principal at Flexpoint Ford, LLC, a private equity group focused on investments in financial services and healthcare, since October 2008. Prior to joining Flexpoint Ford, Mr. Begleiter spent 24 years at Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., serving first as an investment banker in the Financial Institutions Group and then as Senior Managing Director and member of its Management and Compensation Committee from 2002 to September 2008. Mr. Begleiter also served as head of Bear, Stearns' Corporate Strategy Group. Mr. Begleiter has been a director of Great Ajax Corp. (NYSE: AJX), a mortgage REIT, since June 2014, and a director of MarketAxess Holdings Inc. (Nasdaq: MKTX), the operator of a leading electronic trading platform for fixed-income securities, and the provider of market data and post-trade services for the global fixed-income markets, since April 2012. Mr. Begleiter received his B.A. in Economics with honors from Haverford College. We believe Mr. Begleiter's qualifications to serve on the Board of Directors include his many years of experience in leadership positions in the financial services industry as well as his private equity experience. The Board also benefits from his extensive industry knowledge and perspectives on capital formation.



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**Win Neuger**

**Age: 68**

**Director Since:**

**July 2013**

**Independent Committees:**  
**Audit, Compensation,**  
**Nominating**

Mr. Neuger is an independent investor and consultant. From July 2014 until June 2015, he served as Chairman of EcoAlpha Asset Management LLC, a private investment management company focused on investing in companies providing solutions to the global problems of burdened resources. From March 2012 until January 2013, Mr. Neuger served as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of PineBridge Investments, an independent asset manager offering investment opportunities in emerging and developed markets, and from March 2010 to March 2012, he served as its Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the Executive Committee. From January 2009 to March 2010, Mr. Neuger served as Executive Vice President of American International Group ( AIG ), an international insurance organization serving commercial, institutional and individual customers, as well as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of AIG Investments, AIG 's asset management company. Prior to January 2009, in addition to these positions, Mr. Neuger also served as Chief Investment Officer of AIG. Prior to AIG, Mr. Neuger served as both Managing Director, Fixed Income and, subsequently, as Managing Director, Global Equities at Bankers Trust Company. Before Bankers Trust, Mr. Neuger was Chief Investment Officer at Western Asset Management. Mr. Neuger also served as Head of Fixed Income at Northwestern National Bank. Mr. Neuger previously served on our Board of Directors from January 2007 to December 2009. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Neuger Communications Group, a private strategic marketing communications and public relations firm. Mr. Neuger received his A.B. from Dartmouth College and an M.B.A. from the Amos Tuck Graduate School of Business. We believe that Mr. Neuger 's qualifications to serve on the Board of Directors include his prior service on our Board of Directors and familiarity with our business model and his years of experience in management positions in the asset management industry.

***Class III Directors whose terms expire in 2020:***

**Frank Salerno**

**Age: 58**

**Director Since:**

**July 2005**

**Lead Independent Director**

**Committees: Audit,**  
**Compensation**

Mr. Salerno was Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer of Merrill Lynch Investment Advisors ' Americas Institutional Division, an investment advisory company, from July 1999 until his retirement in February 2004. Before joining Merrill Lynch, Mr. Salerno spent 18 years with Bankers Trust Company in various positions. In 1990, he assumed responsibility for Bankers Trust 's domestic index management business and in 1995 he became Chief Investment Officer for its Structured Investment Management Group. Mr. Salerno received a B.S. in Economics from Syracuse University and an M.B.A. in Finance from New York University. Mr. Salerno served as a director and member of the audit committee and conflicts committee of K-Sea Transportation Partners, L.P., formerly a NYSE-listed company, from 2004 until its acquisition in 2011. We believe Mr. Salerno 's qualifications to serve on the Board of Directors include his extensive years in senior management positions at large asset management firms as well as his service on the board of directors of another public company. The Board also benefits from his strategic insights on the asset management industry.

**Table of Contents****Jonathan Steinberg****Age: 53****Director Since:****October 1988**

Mr. Steinberg founded and has served as our Chief Executive Officer since October 1988 and since August 2012, he has also served as our President. He has been a member of our Board of Directors since October 1988, serving as Chairman of the Board of Directors from October 1988 to November 2004. He also served as Editor-in-Chief of *Individual Investor* and *Ticker*, two magazines formerly published by the Company. Mr. Steinberg, together with Luciano Siracusano, is responsible for the creation and development of our proprietary index methodology. Prior to founding WisdomTree, Mr. Steinberg was employed as an analyst in the Mergers and Acquisitions Department of Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., an investment banking firm, from 1986 to 1988. Mr. Steinberg is the author of *Midas Investing*, published by Times Books, a division of Random House, Inc. in 1996. He attended The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. We believe Mr. Steinberg's qualifications to serve on the Board of Directors include his extensive knowledge of our business, his experience in founding and developing our fundamentally weighted index methodology, as well as his corporate and strategic vision, which provide strategic guidance to the Board. As our Chief Executive Officer and President, Mr. Steinberg provides essential insight and guidance to the Board from a management perspective.

**Executive Officers**

**David Abner** has served as our Head of WisdomTree Europe since August 2016 and became an Executive Vice President in January 2018. He joined the Company in April 2008 as Director of Institutional Sales and Trading. In January 2012, he was appointed Head of Capital Markets, a position he held until relocating to London in August 2016 to lead our European efforts. From February 2006 to March 2008, Mr. Abner was Head of ETF Trading Americas at BNP Paribas. Prior to that, he spent 14 years at Bear Stearns where he was Head of ETF Trading within the Equity Derivatives group. A renowned ETF expert, Mr. Abner has authored two books on the subject, *The ETF Handbook* (Wiley, 2010, 2016) and *The Visual Guide to ETFs* (Bloomberg, 2013). He is also the creator of the ETF Implied Liquidity function, one of the most widely-used metrics for determining the potential investable liquidity of an ETF. Mr. Abner received his M.S. in Management and a B.A. in Economics from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Mr. Abner is 48 years old.

**Gregory Barton** has served as our Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer and Secretary since January 2018. From October 2012 to December 2017, he served as our Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. Before joining the Company, Mr. Barton served as Executive Vice President, Business and Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary of TheStreet, Inc., a financial media company, from June 2009 to July 2012, following his service as General Counsel and Secretary of Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, Inc., a media and merchandising company, from October 2007 to August 2008. From October 2004 to October 2007, Mr. Barton served as Executive Vice President, Licensing and Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary, and from November 2002 to October 2004, as Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, of Ziff Davis Media Inc., a technology media company. Preceding Ziff Davis, Mr. Barton served in a variety of positions at WisdomTree (then known as Individual Investor Group, Inc.) from August 1998 to November 2002, including President, Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel; and prior to that served from September 1996 to August 1998 as Vice President, Corporate and Legal Affairs, and General Counsel, and from May 1995 to September 1996 as General Counsel, of Alliance Semiconductor Corporation, an integrated circuit company. Mr. Barton was previously an attorney at the law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP. From June 2006 through October 2012, Mr. Barton served as an Independent Trustee and Chairman of the Audit Committee for the WisdomTree Trust. Since June 2017, Mr. Barton has served as a director of Thesys Group, Inc., a financial technology company in which the Company has an investment, and since January 2014 has served as Chair of the Finance Committee of the Hoff-Barthelson Music School. Mr. Barton received a B.A. degree,

summa cum laude, from Claremont McKenna College and a J.D. degree, magna cum laude, from Harvard Law School. Mr. Barton is 56 years old.

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**Stuart Bell** has served as our Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer since January 2018. From October 2016 until December 2017, he served as our Director of International Business; in this capacity, he worked across all facets of our businesses in Europe, Japan and Canada where he helped drive operational alignment and execution of our strategic growth objectives. Mr. Bell joined the Company in September 2007 as Manager of Public Relations, adding to his responsibilities in January 2009 as Manager of Corporate Communications and Investor Relations, and thereafter from January 2012 to October 2016 as Director of Corporate Communications and Investor Relations. Before joining the Company, Mr. Bell worked at Sloane & Company, a strategic communications and investor relations firm. He received his B.A. in History, with departmental honors and honors in general scholarship, from Trinity College where he was Phi Beta Kappa and named the President's Fellow in History. Mr. Bell is 34 years old.

**R. Jarrett Lilien** has served as our Executive Vice President and Head of Emerging Technologies since November 2017. From November 2008 to December 2017, Mr. Lilien was a member of our Board of Directors and served on the Audit, Compensation and Nominating committees. Until November 2017, Mr. Lilien was the Managing Partner of Bendigo Partners, LLC, a financial services focused venture capital investing and advisory services firm he founded in 2008. From September 2012 to July 2014, Mr. Lilien served as the Chief Executive Officer of Kapitall Inc., an online investing platform. From 2003 to 2008, he served as President and Chief Operating Officer of E\*TRADE Financial Corporation. In this role, he was responsible for the tactical execution of all of E\*TRADE's global business strategies. Previously, he served as the President and Chief Brokerage Officer at E\*TRADE Securities. In this capacity, Mr. Lilien reorganized the business, adding new product lines and providing innovative brokerage capabilities to its retail, institutional, and corporate clients around the world. With experience in more than 40 global markets, he was instrumental in developing a flexible infrastructure for E\*TRADE's brokerage units designed to provide retail and institutional clients with seamless execution, clearing, and settlement. Prior to joining E\*TRADE, Mr. Lilien spent 10 years as Chief Executive Officer at TIR (Holdings) Limited, a global institutional broker, which E\*TRADE acquired in 1999. Mr. Lilien currently serves as President of the Jazz Foundation of America, is on the Board of Directors of Barton Mines Corporation and the Baryshnikov Arts Center, and is on the Advisory Board of WFUV FM Radio. In April 2015, he joined the Board of Directors of ITG (NYSE: ITG), an independent execution broker and research provider, and served as interim CEO from August 2015 until January 2016. Since November 2017, Mr. Lilien also has served on the Board of Directors of AdvisorEngine Inc., a customized end-to-end platform for financial advisors in which the Company originally invested in November 2016. Mr. Lilien received his B.A. in Economics from the University of Vermont. Mr. Lilien is 56 years old.

**Kurt MacAlpine** has served as our Executive Vice President and Global Head of Distribution since July 2015. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. MacAlpine was employed at McKinsey & Company between May 2006 and June 2015 in a variety of consulting roles. He was elected a Partner of McKinsey & Company in April 2013 and was the Leader of the North American Asset Management Practice. While at McKinsey & Company, Mr. MacAlpine managed global consulting teams in the asset management and wealth management industries on topics related to distribution, marketing, product development, international expansion, strategy and M&A. Since November 2016, Mr. MacAlpine also has served on the Board of Directors of AdvisorEngine. He has extensive experience working with domestic and foreign firms in North America, Asia and Europe. Mr. MacAlpine received his M.B.A. from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario and his Bachelor of Commerce from Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Mr. MacAlpine is 36 years old.

**Amit Muni** has served as our Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since March 2008. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Muni served as Controller and Chief Accounting Officer of International Securities Exchange Holdings, Inc., an electronic options exchange, from 2003 until March 2008. Mr. Muni was Vice President, Finance, of Instinet Group Incorporated, an electronic agency broker-dealer, from 2000 to 2003. From 1996 until 2000, Mr. Muni was employed as a Manager of the Financial Services Industry Practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an

accounting firm. From 1991 until 1996, Mr. Muni was an accountant and a senior auditor for National Securities Clearing Corporation, a firm that provides centralized clearing, information

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and settlement services to the financial industry. Mr. Muni received a B.B.A. in Accounting from Pace University and is a Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Muni is 49 years old.

**Luciano Siracusano III** has served as our Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Strategist since March 2011. From October 2008 to May 2015, while serving as our Chief Investment Strategist, Mr. Siracusano also led our sales team as Director of Sales and Head of Sales. Prior to serving in those positions, Mr. Siracusano served as our Director of Research from 2001 until October 2008, and as a research analyst and editor of our various media publications from 1999 until 2001. Mr. Siracusano, together with Mr. Steinberg, was responsible for the creation and development of our fundamentally weighted index methodology. Prior to joining the Company in 1999, Mr. Siracusano was an Equity Analyst at Value Line, Inc., an investment research firm, from 1998 to 1999. Preceding his career in finance, Mr. Siracusano served as Special Assistant to HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros and as a Special Assistant to New York Governor Mario Cuomo. Mr. Siracusano received his B.A. in Political Science from Columbia University. Mr. Siracusano is 52 years old.

**Peter M. Ziemba** has served as our Executive Vice President – Senior Advisor to the CEO and Chief Administrative Officer since January 2018. He served as our Executive Vice President – Business and Legal Affairs from January 2008 to December 2017 and our Chief Legal Officer from March 2011 to December 2017. From April 2007 to March 2011, Mr. Ziemba served as our General Counsel. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Ziemba was a partner in the Corporate and Securities department of Graubard Miller, which served as our primary corporate counsel, from 1991 to 2007, and was employed at that firm beginning in 1982. Mr. Ziemba is a member of the Advisory Board of WFUV FM Radio. Mr. Ziemba received his B.A. in History with university honors from Binghamton University and his J.D., cum laude, from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. Mr. Ziemba served as a director of the Company from 1996 to 2003. Mr. Ziemba is 60 years old.

Jonathan Steinberg, our President and Chief Executive Officer and a member of our Board of Directors, is also an executive officer of the Company. His biographical information is set forth above in the description of the member of our Board of Directors.

## **Board Meetings**

During 2017, the Board of Directors held 11 meetings and did not take any action by unanimous written consent. Each director attended at least 75% of all Board meetings and meetings of the Board committees on which they serve, except for Mr. Steinhardt. Our policy is for all our directors to attend our annual meeting of stockholders. All our directors except Mr. Steinhardt attended our 2017