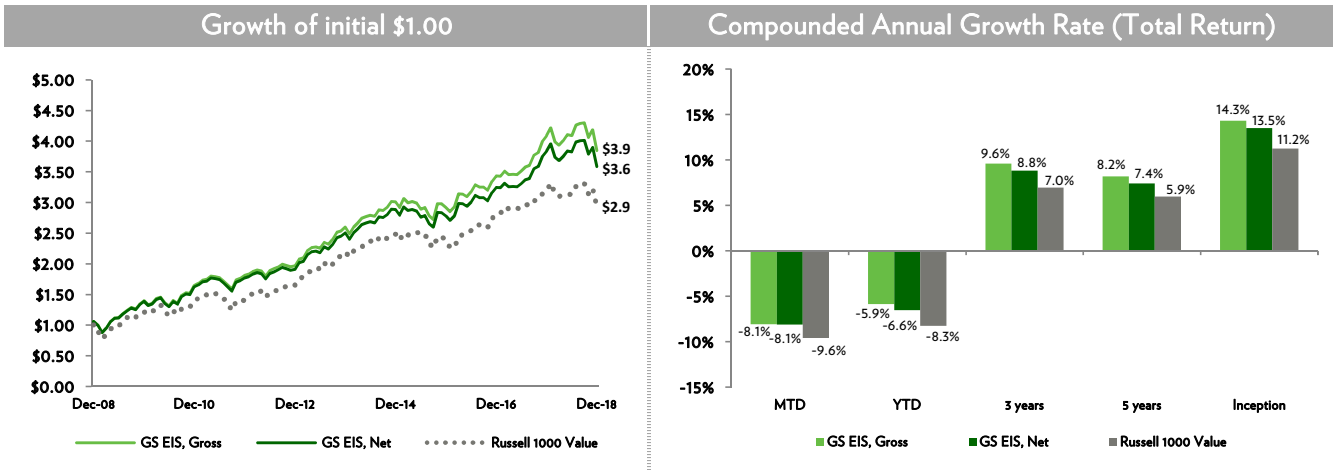


EQUITY INCOME STRATEGY

December 2018

The Green Square Equity Income Strategy ("GS EIS") is a domestic, large-cap dividend focused equity strategy derived from a repeatable, disciplined investment process designed to identify companies with attractive balance sheets that have a heritage of paying above market dividends coupled with dividend growth. The strategy is equally weighted across 10 economic sectors and excludes the real estate sector. The strategy consists of 40 equal-weighted positions and is reconstituted and rebalanced quarterly.



Monthly Performance, Net of Fees (Total Return)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	R1000V
2018	3.15%	-5.37%	-1.58%	1.82%	2.45%	-0.51%	4.24%	0.50%	0.15%	-5.59%	2.99%	-8.13%	-6.6%	-8.3%
2017	-0.21%	2.33%	-1.77%	0.15%	-0.18%	1.62%	1.88%	0.59%	4.58%	1.05%	4.73%	2.18%	18.1%	13.7%
2016	-2.61%	2.73%	7.28%	-0.21%	-1.37%	2.36%	3.53%	-1.16%	-0.03%	-1.65%	4.46%	2.73%	16.7%	17.3%
2015	-3.31%	4.93%	-2.12%	0.57%	-0.91%	-3.44%	0.97%	-4.68%	-2.15%	9.18%	-0.06%	-1.91%	-3.7%	-3.8%
2014	-4.18%	4.32%	2.44%	2.90%	0.84%	0.79%	-0.61%	3.68%	-0.33%	1.66%	3.11%	-0.10%	15.2%	13.5%
2013	5.57%	1.05%	5.49%	2.06%	0.55%	-1.15%	4.30%	-1.53%	3.27%	4.98%	0.93%	2.29%	31.3%	32.5%
2012	1.14%	2.42%	1.23%	-0.92%	-4.54%	4.90%	1.56%	1.49%	2.26%	-1.05%	-1.32%	0.82%	7.9%	17.5%
2011	2.20%	2.93%	0.84%	2.93%	-0.57%	-1.04%	-3.19%	-3.59%	-4.35%	9.44%	1.40%	2.61%	9.1%	0.4%
2010	-5.18%	2.03%	5.59%	1.67%	-6.30%	-3.94%	6.62%	-3.08%	9.37%	2.78%	-0.67%	8.11%	16.6%	15.5%
2009	-5.83%	-12.03%	8.11%	11.10%	5.44%	0.22%	5.93%	4.41%	3.83%	-2.22%	6.73%	3.99%	31.1%	19.7%
2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.07%	6.1%	1.3%

	EI Net	EI Gross	R1000V	Sector Weighting										Summary Terms	
Total Return:	13.50%	14.30%	11.23%											Structure:	Separately Managed Account
Std Dev:	13.11%	13.11%	14.43%											Composite:	\$181m
Sharpe Ratio:	1.00	1.06	0.79											Minimum:	\$100k
Beta:	0.86	0.86	1.00											Management Fee:	negotiable
Dividend Yield:	4.41%	4.41%	2.88%											Liquidity:	Daily
Max Drawdown:	-17.17%	-17.07%	-23.32%											Withdrawal Notice:	1 Day

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Market volatility returned with a vengeance in the fourth quarter. The S&P 500 fell -14% and the Russell 2000 (small cap stocks) fell -20%. Investment grade bonds, which had been negative most of the year, rallied and high yield corporate bonds and leveraged loans sold off on large fund & ETF redemptions.

In Q3 it was full steam ahead as the S&P 500 reached an all-time high and became the longest bull market on record. The selloff in Q4 came about as close as could get to breaking that streak as the drawdown topped -19.8% (a bear market is a drop of 20% from peak to trough). The incredibly low volatility of the prior 7 quarters of the Trump presidency reversed in dramatic fashion. Over a third of all trading days witnessed an intraday swing of more than 2% and the VIX index, which had averaged 12.8 since the end of 2016, averaged over 21 during Q4. As of the end of the year, more than 60% of the S&P 500 companies were in a bear market.

Deteriorating US-China relations and political dysfunction in DC, mostly ignored by investors earlier in the year became a cause for concern. The Democrats gained control of the House as expected, increasing the combativeness between President Trump and the Democrats. Oil prices fell 38% on fresh concerns about oversupply, further indicating a potential slowing of the global economy.

Another major detriment to the markets was the growing disconnect between market volatility and the Federal Reserve's plan to keep raising interest rate. At the conclusion the September FOMC meeting, the Fed's "dot plot" projected 3 additional rate hikes in 2019 (in addition to a hike in December 2018). The bond market discounted this somewhat and projected 2 hikes in 2019. The markets selling off to begin the quarter along with signs of further slowing in the global economy (especially China) and slowing in US manufacturing and the housing market lowered market expectations for further hikes. The Fed increased rates by another quarter point at the December meeting, the fifth straight quarterly increase and the eighth in the past nine quarters, but more importantly lowered its 2019 projection to 2 hikes. The market argued for an even more drastic reduction, handicapping for no hikes in 2019. Many in the financial media called the Fed out of touch and President Trump took to Twitter to criticize Fed Chairman Powell for causing the market volatility and the slowing in the economy. Presidents historically stay away from commenting on Fed policy (some rumored that Trump might fire Powell), which pushed stocks lower. Only after members of the Administration reassured markets that Powell was safe did the market stage the biggest one-day rally (+5% the day after Christmas) since March 2009.

The past several years was dominated by investors' and the financial media's obsession with the "FAANG" stocks (Facebook, Apple, Amazon, NetFlix and Google (now Alphabet)). Amazon and Apple became the first companies in history to reach \$1 trillion in market value. Their performance drove not only the growth indices, but also the broad index (representing 16% of the value of the S&P 500 at the end of Q3). FAANG stocks fell back to earth in the fourth quarter, as the 5 companies lost a combined \$816 billion in value (average Q4 return was -24%).

All the news wasn't bad in the quarter. The unemployment rate remained near a 50-year low at 3.7% and wages are growing the most since April 2009 (+3.2% year over year). Third quarter earnings season for the S&P 500 marked the third straight period of greater than 25% year-over-year earnings growth. The US economy did slow to 3.4% from 4.2% the prior quarter and is forecast to slow to 2.3% in Q4. Consensus estimates are that the economy will grow in the 2 to 2.5% range in 2019, not explosive growth, but also not a recession. Earnings growth is also projected to slow to 12% year-over-year in Q4 and 8% in 2019 according to FactSet. The strong growth in earnings that was driven by the corporate tax cuts along with the selloff means that forward valuation multiples are now trending below historical averages.

The Green Square Equity Income Strategy finished the fourth quarter down -10.5% gross of fees (-10.7% net) versus -11.7% for the benchmark Russell 1000 Value. Our strategy also beat the benchmark for the full year, returning -5.9% gross (-6.6% net) versus -8.3%. Two of ten sectors represented in the portfolio were positive for the quarter and 7 out of 40 companies had positive performance.

The Strategy's utilities and health care sector allocations were the only positive sectors in the quarter (+0.4% and +0.3% respectively). The Strategy's top three individual performers for the quarter were Procter & Gamble (+11%), Duke Energy (+9%) and Merck (+9%).

The Strategy's worst performing sectors were industrials (-19%) and financials (-18%). Valero Energy (-33%) was the worst performing position due to the precipitous drop in crude oil prices, followed by Domtar Corporation (-31%) and PacWest Bancorp (-29%).

Fourth quarter is typically a busy time for dividend increase announcements/payments, and this quarter was no different. Nine portfolio companies paid increased dividends during the quarter, led by Broadcom (+51%) and Huntington Bancorp (+27%). The average quarterly increase for the companies that increased dividends was 14%. Thirty-eight of our portfolio companies paid increased dividends this year. Furthermore, seven portfolio companies over the last three months announced dividend increases that will be paid in the first quarter with an average increase of 7%. The largest increases were announced by Merck (+15%) and AbbVie (+12%). The current five-year dividend growth rate on the portfolio is 13% compared to 8.5% for the Russell 1000 Value index.

As of the end of the year, the portfolio's average dividend yield was 4.4% well above with our historical average of 3.7% and the Russell 1000 Value dividend yield of 2.7%. This is the highest quarter-end dividend yield for the strategy since Q2 2010.

Growth has significantly outperformed value over the past ten years since exiting the Great Financial Crisis. Extremely low interest rate policy and a 10-year economic recovery led to a risk-on attitude for equity investors. Growth outperformed value by over 4% annualized per year, including 4.5% annualized the past 5 years. Even though growth still outperformed in 2018 (-1.5% vs. -8.3%), investors typically reposition to value in higher volatility regimes, which was evident as value outperformed by 4.2% in the fourth quarter.

As we look ahead, we believe we are entering a more volatile period in the equity markets as we approach the top of the economic cycle. The recent selloff has increased the number of attractive candidates for the portfolio. As evidence, we will redeploy a third of the portfolio into new companies trading at lower valuations and lower payout ratios, without sacrificing dividend yield or projected dividend growth. These moves should mean an even stronger margin of safety (reducing forward PE to 10.9x vs. 12.3x prior and 12.4x for Russell 1000 Value index) and stronger balance sheet quality (new payout ratio is 50% vs. 69% prior) for the portfolio. Even though the consensus view is that the US will not enter a recession next year, we want to ensure that our companies can withstand one should it occur and that their dividends will remain safe with a cushion for continued growth.

James West, CFA