

## APA TAXABLE MUNICIPAL BOND STRATEGY

HIGH-QUALITY, TAXABLE MUNICIPAL BOND PORTFOLIOS

**STYLE** Taxable Muni Composite

BENCHMARK ICE BofA 1-10 Year AAA-AA US Corporate Index

INCEPTION Jan 1, 2004

**STRATEGY AUM** \$51.72M

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Tailor portfolios to meet the client's specific liquidity needs and objectives
- Prudently manage risk by diversifying across a number of high-quality municipal issuers
- Unlimited access to members of APA's Investment Team
- Active management of portfolio holdings

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Sample Portfolios: available for standard and custom strategies

Alternative Approach: for more conservative investors seeking slightly higher yields at lower risk than longer duration bonds

Identify Undervalued Sectors: through intensive fundamental credit research

Customized Portfolios: designed to meet client specific requirements

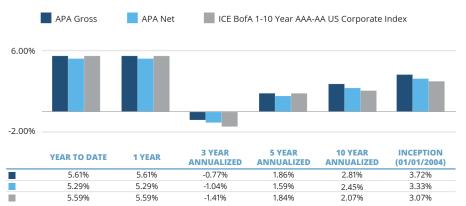
## OBJECTIVE

This strategy seeks to maximize risk adjusted returns through a diversified exposure to high-quality taxable municipal bonds. APA has over 30 years of experience managing taxable municipal bond portfolios and delivering the highest level of service to our clients. Generally, bonds considered for this strategy will have maturities between 1 to 20 years.

#### **INVESTMENT PROCESS**

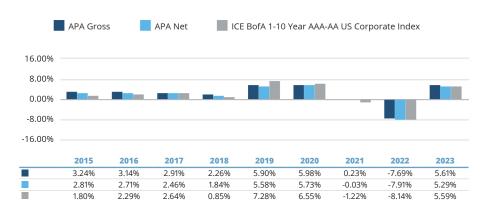
- This strategy primarily invests in the highest-quality taxable municipal bonds
- We combine in-depth fundamental credit research with an investment process that emphasizes risk management
- Customize portfolios to meet your clients' specific objectives, income requirements, and risk tolerance
- · Provide ongoing internal analysis of credit quality and underlying fundamentals

## ANNUALIZED PERFORMANCE AS OF 12/31/23



Periods less than one year are not annualized

## **CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE AS OF 12/31/23**



#### CONTACT US

ContactUs@AssetPreservationAdvisors.com (404) 261-1333 www.AssetPreservationAdvisors.com

#### **TOP 10 HOLDINGS AS OF 12/31/23**

	RATINGS	DATE OF MATURITY
ILLINOIS FIN AUTH REV	A2/NA	07/01/2026
SALES TAX SECURITIZATION CORP ILL	NA/AA-	01/01/2024
SONOMA-MARIN AREA RAIL TRAN DIST CALIF MEASURE Q S	NA/AA	03/01/2029
LONG ISLAND PWR AUTH N Y ELEC SYS REV	A2/A	05/01/2024
NEW YORK N Y CITY HSG DEV CORP MULTIFAMILY HSG REV	Aa2/AA+	05/01/2026
PORT SEATTLE WASH REV	A1/AA-	05/01/2036
TEXAS ST	Aaa/AAA	10/01/2032
AUGUSTA GA URBAN REDEV AGY REV	PRE	04/01/2025
ATLANTA GA TAX ALLOCATION	A2/NA	01/01/2024
DALLAS FORT WORTH TEX INTL ARPT REV	A1/A+	11/01/2025

#### **CHARACTERISTICS AS OF 12/31/23**

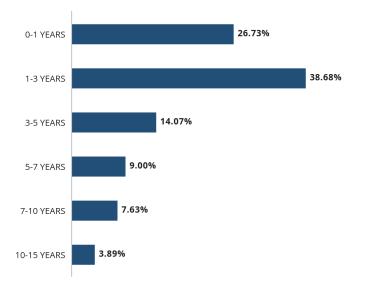
Average Maturity	2.96 years
Average Duration	2.6 years
Average Coupon	2.90%
Yield to Worst	4.75%
Yield to Maturity	4.72%
Average Credit Quality	Aa2/AA
Number of Issuers*	15 - 30

\*For a typical portfolio within this strategy.

## **TOP 10 STATES AS OF 12/31/23**

TX	12.13%	FL	5.30%
NY	11.52%	MA	4.42%
GA	10.26%	СТ	2.95%
CA	7.71%	VA	2.93%
IL	5.62%	MD	2.69%

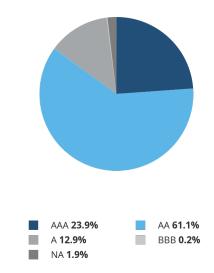
#### **MATURITY BREAKDOWN AS OF 12/31/23**



## **TOP 5 SECTORS AS OF 12/31/23**

General Obligations	25.83%
Education	23.64%
Housing	11.77%
Transportation	11.70%
Utilities	11.02%

#### **CREDIT QUALITY AS OF 12/31/23**



#### **MARKET COMMENTARY FOR 12/31/23**

Bond sentiment reversed suddenly in the fourth quarter as data suggested that the Fed could be close to the end of its twoyear tightening campaign to subdue inflation. The October and December FOMC meetings resulted in the policy rate remaining unchanged at 5.25-5.50%, while the latest "dot plot" projections indicated three rate cuts for 2024. The idea of the Fed pivoting induced optimism from market participants and ushered in demand for fixed income. This spurred a massive rally in the municipal bond market that saw benchmark municipal yields move lower by 109-136 from the first of November through year-end. As a result, the municipal market posted a strong finish for the year, with the highest quarterly return for the asset class in the last 30 years. Mutual fund outflows that persisted throughout much of 2023 continued into the fourth quarter, though with a slight reprieve in December. Per ICI data, mutual fund outflows totaled \$18 billion for the year. Conversely, tax-exempt ETFs saw positive inflows of \$15 billion for the year, with 12 consecutive weeks of net inflows from the end of September through the beginning of December, per MSRB data.

As investors rushed to harvest losses, there were over 86,000 trades reported to the MSRB on the first of November, setting a new single-day high water mark. After lagging significantly behind last year's pace for much of 2023, muni issuance picked up in the fourth quarter. New issue supply totaled \$99.8 billion in the quarter, bringing year-to-date issuance to \$380.5 billion, just a 2.6% decline over the prior year.

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## APA Taxable Municipal Composite

**Past performance is not indicative of future results.** This material is not financial advice or an offer to sell any product. The performance and portfolio characteristics shown relate to the APA Taxable Municipal Composite (the "Composite").

Composite Description: Asset Preservation Advisors ("APA") uses a fixed income strategy that purchases high quality taxable municipal bonds. The investment objective of the APA Taxable Municipal Composite is to maximize current income which is consistent with preservation of capital. Securities selected for these portfolios are typically investment grade issues with varying maturities.

Not every client's account will have these exact characteristics. The actual characteristics with respect to any particular client account will vary based on a number of factors including but not limited to: (i) the size of the account; (ii) investment restrictions applicable to the account, if any; and (iii) market predicaments at the time of investment. APA reserves the right to modify its current investment strategies and techniques based on changing market dynamics or client needs. The information provided in this report should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell any particular security. There is no assurance that any securities discussed herein will remain in an account's portfolio at the time you receive this report or that securities sold have not been repurchased. The securities discussed may not represent an account's entire portfolio, and in the aggregate may represent only a small percentage of an account's portfolio holdings. It should not be assumed that any of the security transactions, holdings or sectors discussed were or will prove to be profitable, or that the investment recommendations or decisions we make in the future will be profitable or will equal the investment performance of the securities discussed herein.

APA is an investment adviser registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training. More information about the advisor including its investment strategies and objectives can be obtained by visiting <u>www.assetpreservationadvisors.com</u>. A list of composite descriptions is available upon request.

The investment objective of the APA Taxable Municipal Composite is total return through income. The Composite contains fully discretionary, fee paying accounts with a minimum asset level of \$1MM. For comparison purposes, the Composite is measured against the ICE BofA 1-10 Year AAA-AA US Corporate Index. The ICE BofA 1-10 Year AAA-AA US Corporate Index is a subset of ICE BofA US Corporate Index including all securities with a remaining term to final maturity less than 10 years and rated AAA through AA3, inclusive. The ICE BofA US Corporate Index tracks the performance of US dollar denominated investment grade corporate debt publicly issued in the US domestic market. Qualifying securities must have an investment grade rating (based on an average of Moody's, S&P and Fitch), at least 18 months to final maturity at the time of issuance, at least one-year remaining term to final maturity as of the rebalancing date, a fixed coupon schedule and a minimum amount outstanding of \$250 million. Original issue zero coupon bonds, 144a securities (with and without registration rights), and pay-in-kind securities (including toggle notes) are included in the index. Callable perpetual securities are included provided they are at least one year from the first call date. Fixed-to-floating rate securities are included provided they are callable within the fixed rate period and are at least one year from the last call prior to the date the bond transitions from a fixed to a floating rate security. Contingent capital securities ("cocos") are excluded, but capital securities where conversion can be mandated by a regulatory authority, but which have no specified trigger, are included. Other hybrid capital securities, such as those issues that potentially convert into preference shares, those with both cumulative and non- cumulative coupon deferral provisions, and those with alternative coupon satisfaction mechanisms, are also included in the index. Equity-linked securities, securities in legal default, hybrid securitized corporates, eurodollar bonds (USD securities not issued in the US domestic market), taxable and tax-exempt US municipal securities and \$1000 par preferred and DRD- eligible securities are excluded from the index. The volatility (standard deviation) of the Composite may be greater than that of the index. It is not possible to invest in the index. Leverage, derivatives or short positions are not used in this Composite. The annual composite dispersion is an equal-weighted standard deviation calculated for the accounts in the composite for the entire year. For this Composite, APA defines a significant cash flow as greater than or equal to 30% of an account's market value at the beginning of the measurement period. Accounts removed from the Composite due to significant cash flows will be excluded until the account meets the Composite's requirements. This significant cash flow policy has been applied for the entire history of the Composite. Effective May 2019 if 80% or more of the external cash flow's value is comprised of in-kind bonds that meet requirements of the strategy, that account is not removed from the Composite. The U.S. Dollar is used to express performance. The APA Taxable Municipal Composite was created December 31, 2009. The Composite's inception date is September 30, 2003.

Asset Preservation Advisors, LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Asset Preservation Advisors, LLC has been independently verified for the periods January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2022. A copy of the verification report is available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and

distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firmwide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report.

The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite using gross returns, and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period. The standard deviation is not presented for 2002 through 2010 because monthly composite and benchmark returns were not available and is not required for periods prior to 2011. Prior to January 2010 composite returns were calculated quarterly, therefore monthly returns for the 36-month period ended December 31, 2011 are not available and the standard deviation of the composite and benchmark are not presented.

Returns are presented gross and net of investment advisory fees and include the reinvestment of all income. Gross returns will be reduced by investment advisory fees and other expenses that may be incurred in the management of the account. For example, a 0.50% annual fee deducted quarterly (0.125%) from an account with a ten-year annualized growth rate of 5% will produce a net result of 4.4%. Actual performance results will vary from this example. Net returns were calculated using the highest management fee charged within the Composite through December 31, 2017. From January 2018 to present, APA uses actual fees to calculate net of fee performance. The Composite includes wrap/bundled fee accounts. In addition to brokerage commissions, this asset-based fee may include custodial, administrative and other expenses associated with the wrap sponsor's management of the accounts. APA does not receive any portion of the wrap fees paid by the client, except for management fees as stated in our contract with the corresponding wrap program sponsor. The Firm's policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS reports are available upon request.

The fee schedule for APA's investment advisory services for separately managed accounts in the APA Taxable Municipal Composite is 0.30% on net assets under management. Actual investment advisory fees incurred by clients may vary. As the Investment Adviser for the APA Taxable Municipal Bond Fund, L.P. (the "Taxable Fund"), which is included in the APA Taxable Municipal Composite, APA receives an asset management fee equal to annualized rate of 0.50% of net assets on the first \$10 million of the Taxable Fund net assets and 0.40% on amounts above \$10 million of the value of the Taxable Fund's net assets. The expense ratio, as reported in the Taxable Fund's Audited Financial Statements for its most recently ended December 31 fiscal year, is 0.92%. Fees paid by the Private Fund are described to Investors, in detail, in each Private Fund's private placement memorandum. Nothing herein should not be considered to be an offer of interest in any Private Fund. A complete description of APA's fee schedule can be found in Part 2 of its FORM-ADV which is available at <u>www.assetpreservationadvisors.com</u> or by calling (404) 261-1333. A list of pooled fund descriptions for limited distribution pooled funds is available upon request.

APA Taxable Municipal Composite										
	Total Firm Composite Assets				Annual Performance Results				3 Year Standard Deviation	
Year End	Assets (millions)	USD (millions)	Number of Accounts	% of Wrap Portfolios	Composite Gross <sup>1</sup>	Composite Net <sup>3</sup>	ICE BofA 1-10 Year AAA-AA Index	Composite Dispersion <sup>2</sup>	Composite	ICE BofA 1-10 Year AAA-AA Index
2022	5,803	40	9	7%	(7.69)%	(7.91)%	(8.14)%	1.9%	3.5%	4.2%
2021	5,321	44	7	26%	0.23%	(0.03)%	(1.22)%	0.1%	3.6%	2.6%
2020	4,659	55	7	21%	5.98%	5.73%	6.55%	0.4%	2.6%	2.6%
2019	4,144	44	5	26%	5.90%	5.58%	7.28%	NA	2.2%	1.9%
2018	3,710	21	<u>&lt;</u> 5	31%	2.26%	1.84%	0.85%	NA	2.1%	2.0%
2017	3,250	18	<u>&lt;</u> 5	14%	2.91%	2.46%	2.64%	NA	2.0%	2.1%
2016	2,366	21	<u>&lt;</u> 5	13%	3.14%	2.71%	2.29%	NA	2.3%	2.3%
2015	2,029	34	8	11%	3.24%	2.81%	1.80%	0.8%	2.9%	2.3%
2014	1,988	42	10	9%	7.37%	6.92%	3.95%	0.7%	2.9%	2.2%
2013	1,914	44	11	8%	(1.30)%	(1.71)%	(0.51)%	0.4%	2.9%	2.6%
2012	1,864	34	5	3%	5.08%	4.64%	6.10%	NA	3.3%	2.6%
2011	1,928	41	7	5%	7.62%	7.17%	4.35%	2.4%	NA	NA
2010	1,479	48	6	2%	7.34%	6.90%	6.49%	1.6%	NA	NA
2009	1,214	107	7	1%	6.93%	6.49%	8.94%	0.8%	NA	NA
2008	1,108	97	6	1%	3.57%	3.14%	0.13%	0.4%	NA	NA

	APA Taxable Municipal Composite (table continued from previous page)									
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2007	600	73	6	0%	6.20%	5.76%	6.13%	0.9%	NA	NA
2006	557	73	5	0%	4.78%	4.34%	4.41%	NA	NA	NA
2005	465	50	3	0%	3.09%	2.66%	1.88%	NA	NA	NA
2004	304	43	2	0%	3.53%	3.10%	3.29%	NA	NA	NA

APA Taxable Municipal Composite							
Annualized Performance as of 12/31/2022:							
1 Year 5 Year <sup>1</sup> 10 Year <sup>1</sup>							
Composite Gross	(7.69)%	1.21%	2.12%				
Composite Net <sup>3</sup>	(7.91)%	0.91%	1.75%				
ICE BofA 1-10 AAA-AA	(8.14)%	0.90%	1.46%				

<sup>1</sup> Composite Gross Results from 2008 through 2022 is supplemental information. The returns are a mix of gross returns that do not reflect the deduction of transaction costs and gross returns that do reflect the deduction of transaction costs.

<sup>2</sup> Utilizes Gross Returns for Composite Dispersion calculation.

<sup>3</sup> Composite Net Returns shown for periods prior to 2017 were calculated by deducting the highest management fee charged within the Composite from the Composite's monthly gross return.

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