EQUITY INVESTMENT CORPORATION

All-Cap Value & Large-Cap Value

2025 Second Quarter Commentary

July 2025

Stocks delivered strong results in the second quarter. Our All-Cap Value (ACV) and Large-Cap Value (LCV) SMA composites posted solid gains but trailed the benchmark Russell 3000® Value (R3000V) and Russell 1000® Value (R1000V) Indexes, respectively. Our shortfall was primarily attributable to our underweight in the industrials and information technology sectors. Year-to-date, our ACV and LCV SMA composites have significantly outperformed the R3000V, the R1000V, and the more growth-oriented S&P 500® Index. Our outperformance in the first half of the year was primarily attributable to our stock selection in the health care, consumer staples, and communication services sectors.[1]

For the periods ended June 30, 2025	Q2	YTD	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year	SI*
EIC ACV SMA Gross	2.5%	10.0%	18.6%	17.4%	11.1%	11.9%
EIC ACV SMA Net	1.8%	8.4%	15.1%	14.0%	7.9%	8.6%
Russell 3000® Value Index	3.8%	5.5%	13.3%	13.9%	9.0%	10.3%
S&P 500® Index	10.9%	6.2%	15.2%	16.6%	13.6%	11.3%
EIC LCV SMA Gross	2.0%	9.1%	17.2%	17.4%	11.1%	9.8%
EIC LCV SMA Net	1.2%	7.5%	13.8%	13.9%	7.8%	6.6%
Russell 1000® Value Index	3.8%	6.0%	13.7%	13.9%	9.2%	7.5%
S&P 500® Index	10.9%	6.2%	15.2%	16.6%	13.6%	8.5%

*Table 1 Data Source: Morningstar Direct℠. *Since Inception (SI): January 1, 1986 for ACV and January 1, 2001 for LCV. Returns for periods greater than one year are annualized. Past performance does not guarantee future results. See footnote 2.*

Investment Environment

Following concerns about inflation and tariffs that drove the market lower in the first quarter and April, stocks surged in the remainder of the second quarter, with volatility collapsing, and broad indexes now at all-time highs.[3] The recent rally has differed from that of 2024 as only three of the "Magnificent Seven" stocks have outpaced the broad market year to date. Instead, riskier stocks have led, with particularly strong performance from unprofitable companies.[4] Special Purpose Acquisition Companies, or SPACs — blank-check IPO shortcut vehicles that rose to prominence during the COVID pandemic and were categorically abysmal investment failures — have returned.[5] From a promising start to the year for prudent investing, the pendulum has now swung back, for now, to a "risk-on" environment.

The improbable backdrop for this strong market environment is one of acute uncertainty. The 90-day reciprocal tariff "pause", a major catalyst for the second-quarter stock market rally, is due to expire soon, with little progress made to date in negotiating new, hopefully less punitive deals.[6] On the economic front, housing remains depressed, there are signs of a weakening job market, and, following some tariff-related front-loaded buying, consumer spending has now turned negative.[7] Questions remain as to whether tariffs will ultimately exacerbate inflationary pressures.[8] Moreover, earnings growth estimates for 2025 continue to trend downward, having declined by nearly half since the beginning of the year, with growth estimates falling in every sector.[9]

Notably, the Artificial Intelligence (AI) theme, a significant driver of recent growth-stock returns, continues to rest on questionable fundamentals, with significant expenses set against currently insufficient customer revenues. Nonetheless, many AI-related companies have exorbitant market valuations.[10] Beyond massive capital expenditures, AI players are now engaging in an arms race for talent, paying as much as nine-figure contracts to hire individual employees and investing billions of dollars in pre-product companies.[11] Amid this euphoria, tech leader Apple published a recent study that shed a sobering light on AI optimism, and anecdotes continue to roll in about disappointing customer experiences and elusive cost savings.[12]

As shown below, growth stock valuations are once again trading near all-time highs, with attendant dismal prospects for longer-term returns.

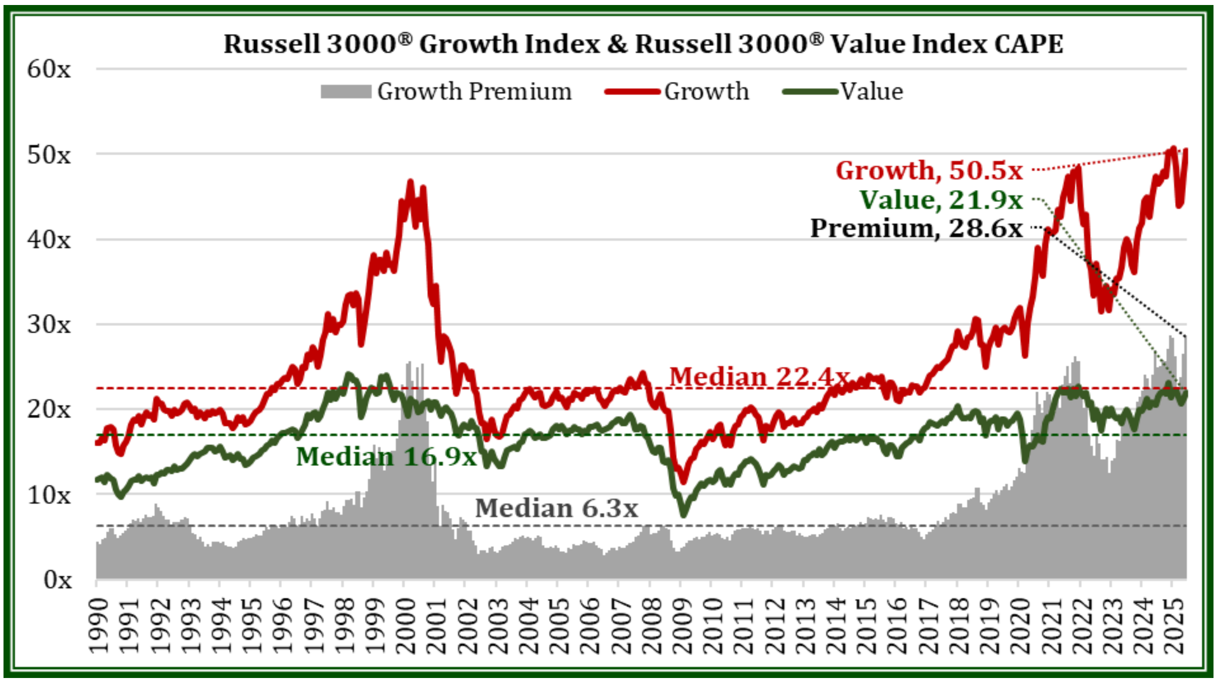

Chart 1 Data Source: S&P Capital IQ[PRO]. See footnote 13. Charts are provided for illustrative purposes only.

At these valuation levels, growth stocks demand fundamental perfection, while value stocks remain much more reasonably priced. Accordingly, we continue to avoid growth stocks, and our portfolios remain heavily tilted towards value-oriented names.

Given the fundamental disconnect, with near all-time high valuations for growth stocks set against weakening fundamentals and an unusually wide range of potential adverse outcomes, any attempt to make sense of this environment reminds us of a quote attributed to Mark Twain: "The more you explain it, the more I don't understand it." Perhaps, in the current short-term focused investing world, the time lag between cause and potential effect has led to a false sense of security that risks are overblown since they have yet to materialize. Fears of diminishing AI tailwinds have largely been dismissed because first-quarter results from AI-related companies did not collapse. Similarly, concerns about a tariff-driven slowdown waned as trade policy has yet to measurably impact economic activity. For now, all is well, and it is back to "risk-on", at least until a new data point leads investors in a different direction.

Portfolio Review[14]

During the quarter, we added to and trimmed from several existing positions based on valuation. In addition, we exited two positions: Patterson Companies, an ACV holding acquired by a private health care investment firm, and Dollar Tree (DLTR), which we sold based on valuation. Although DLTR is highly exposed to Chinese tariffs, the stock was a top performer in the quarter, highlighting the difficulty in predicting the impact of macroeconomic events on stock prices.

Finally, we purchased two new stocks, ICON plc (ICLR) and Brown-Forman Corporation (BF-B). Both ICON and Brown-Forman are high-quality businesses with a long-term record of strong earnings growth. As a result, they have spent much of the past decade at lofty valuations, at least double where they currently trade. However, current adversity and the attendant pessimism presented us with the opportunity to now own them at prices that give us, we believe, reasonable odds of success from here.

We acquired a 2.0% position in ICON, a provider of outsourced clinical-stage development services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. The company is one of the two largest contract research organizations in the world, accounting for an estimated 8% of industry-wide research and development (R&D) spending and approximately 15% of outsourced spending. Its client roster includes nearly all the 20 largest pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as well as many smaller firms. ICON generates 36% of revenue from the U.S., 53% from Europe, and 11% from the rest of the world.

ICON's share price declined by more than 50% over the past year as the company reduced earnings guidance due to R&D rationalizations at its two largest customers, weakness in biotechnology spending, and delays in two large COVID vaccine trials. Shares were also impacted by concerns that drug pricing caps and slower drug approvals from the Department of Health and Human Services might cause pharmaceutical companies to reduce R&D spending to preserve profit margins, limiting ICON's revenue growth. As a result, ICON currently trades at a historically depressed multiple of forward earnings and approximately 13x our conservative view of normalized earnings. ICON has a $12 billion market capitalization, is rated BBB- by S&P, and, although it does not pay a dividend, generates considerable free cash flow, which is currently being used to repurchase stock.[15]

We also initiated a 2% position in Brown-Forman, the largest American-owned producer and distributor of alcoholic spirits. The company's portfolio includes American bourbon whiskey (Jack Daniel's, Woodford Reserve, Old Forester), tequila (El Jimador and Herradura), Irish and Scotch whiskey, rum, and gin, as well as ready-to-drink canned cocktails. A slight majority of revenue is generated from international markets. Over the last two decades, spirits have steadily taken market share from beer and wine. Brown-Forman has benefited from this secular tailwind as its brands generally hold leading positions in the standard and premium segments of the industry.

Brown-Forman's record of low single-digit volume growth, mid single-digit revenue growth, and accelerated operating profit growth has been persistent over longer periods. More recently, however, sales of Jack Daniel's have come under pressure as retailers carry abnormally low inventories and consumer demand slows from elevated post-pandemic levels. This pressure is likely to continue in the near term, and results could deteriorate further. However, we believe the company's brands remain healthy and have reasonable odds of returning to their historical growth profile. Brown-Forman has a market capitalization of $13 billion — down over 65% from recent highs — and trades at a mid-teen multiple of forward earnings estimates with a well-covered 3.4% dividend yield. It is rated A- by S&P.

At quarter end, our representative portfolios traded at a weighted average valuation of 16–16.5x trailing and 12.5–12.6x forward earnings, with a dividend yield of 3.3% and an estimated average credit rating of

A-.[16] We believe our portfolios are positioned to deliver reasonable returns across a range of economic outcomes. Our largest sector overweights are in consumer staples and healthcare, followed by smaller overweights in real estate, financials, and energy. Our largest underweights are in information technology, where we currently have no exposure, as well as industrials, consumer discretionary, and utilities.[17] We continue to maintain considerable exposure to the large-cap ADRs of global businesses, and at quarter end, cash levels were approximately 7% in our representative portfolios.

As the saying goes, "There are thousands of ships at the bottom of the ocean, and each one had a room full of charts."[18] We, however, expect that unanticipated adverse developments will emerge from time to time. To that end, our approach to stock selection has always been two-fold. First, we avoid the worst excesses in the market, even if they are currently market leaders. Second, we select stocks on a bottom-up basis, focusing on quality characteristics, repeatable earnings, and reasonable valuations. The consistent adherence to this process over our 40 years in business has resulted in the pattern of returns shown in the following chart.

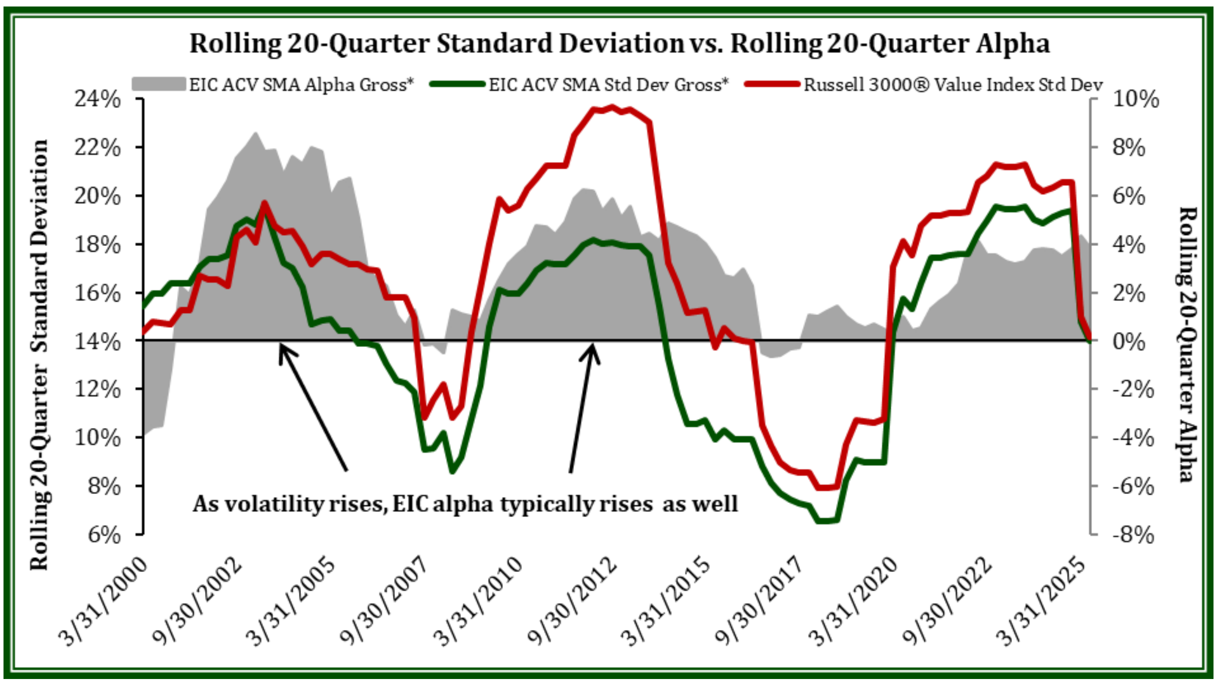

Chart 2 Data Source: Morningstar Direct℠. See footnote 19. Charts are provided for illustrative purposes only.

When risks are ignored and stock market volatility is low, our alpha tends to be lower as well. However, when volatility increases as risks are understood and incorporated into market prices, our alpha has typically risen. Today, we believe there are heightened risks in the investment environment, but we do not have a map that indicates the timing, impact, or even certainty of their occurrence. Nevertheless, we continually consider them and adjust client portfolios accordingly.

Staff Update

Finally, we would like to acknowledge Lauren Eastburn, who will be retiring from EIC later this summer after more than 12 years with the firm. Lauren manages product marketing and due diligence reporting on our institutional services team. In addition, she has dutifully shepherded our quarterly commentaries through revision, editing, and publication, which requires both tact and talent. We offer our thanks to Lauren for her exemplary work and wish her well in retirement.

As always, we thank you for your partnership with EIC.

Investment Team

W. Andrew Bruner, CFA, CPA   R. Terrence Irrgang, CFA   Ian Zabor, CFA

Robert Ladyman, CFA   Thomas Knapp, CFA

Disclosures

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[1] Data Source: Morningstar Direct[SM]. Performance attribution for EIC ACV and LCV portfolios versus Russell 3000 Value Index and Russell 1000 Value Index, respectively, for the three months and six months ended June 30, 2025.

Sectors are determined using the Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS"). GICS® was developed by, and is the exclusive property of, Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P") and MSCI Inc. ("MSCI"). GICS is the trademark of S&P and MSCI. "Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)" and "GICS Direct" are service marks of S&P and MSCI.

[2] Gross returns for EIC SMA composites are "pure" gross returns, do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, and are presented as supplemental information to the GIPS® Composite Reports, which are considered an integral part of this commentary. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns with an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0%, applied monthly. SMA fees include transaction costs, portfolio management, custody, and other administrative fees. Platform sponsor fees may vary. SMA fee schedules are provided by independent SMA platform sponsors and are available upon request from the individual sponsor. All returns include reinvestment of dividends and interest. Indexes are unmanaged, do not incur management fees, costs, or expenses, and cannot be invested in directly. Performance data is historical. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Individual client portfolio results may vary. Investing involves risk including possible loss of principal.

[3] "Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE) Volatility Index: VIX [VIXCLS]." Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. July 8, 2025. https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/VIXCLS.

[4] Dey, Esha and Griffin, Matthew. "Wall Street Goes All-In on Risky Stocks." Bloomberg. June 26, 2025. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2025-06-26/wall-street-goes-all-in-on-risky-stocks-as-bears-race-for-cover.

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[8] Omeokwe, Amara. "Fed Versus Trump on Tariffs Impact Will Soon Be Put to Test." Bloomberg. June 30, 2025. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2025-06-30/fed-versus-trump-on-tariffs-impact-will-soon-be-put-to-the-test.

[9] Data Source: S&P Capital IQ[PRO]. Monthly S&P 500 Index Aggregate Bottom Up consensus estimates for YOY EPS growth in CY2025, December 5, 2024 to July 3, 2025.

[10] "AI valuations are verging on the unhinged." The Economist. June 25, 2025. https://www.economist.com/business/2025/06/25/ai-valuations-are-verging-on-the-unhinged.

[11] Bobrowsky, Meghan, and Jin, Berber and Cohen, Ben. "Zuckerberg Leads AI Recruitment Blitz Armed With $100 Million Pay Packages." The Wall Street Journal. June 22, 2025. https://www.wsj.com/tech/ai/meta-ai-recruiting-mark-zuckerberg-5c231f75.

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[13] Russell 3000 Growth Index modified CAPE (red line), Russell 3000 Value Index modified CAPE (green line), Russell 3000 Growth Index modified CAPE arithmetic premium over Russell 3000 Value Index modified CAPE (gray area) at each month-end January 31, 1990 to June 30, 2025. Modified CAPE (Cyclically Adjusted Price-to-Earnings) is the ratio of index prices to trailing 10-year index-level earnings before taxes (EBT) calculated on a time-weighted basis. Annual index level EBT is imputed by dividing the year-end index price by an aggregated price to EBT multiple of index constituents.

[14] References to specific securities and their issuers are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to be, and should not be interpreted as, recommendations to purchase or sell such securities. Any specific securities described herein do not represent all securities purchased, sold, or recommended for advisory clients. Actual portfolio holdings vary for each client, and there is no guarantee that a particular client's account, SMA, or advisory program will hold any, or all, of the securities identified. It should not be assumed that any of the securities or recommendations made will be profitable or will equal the performance of the listed securities.

[15] Data Source: S&P Capital IQ^PRO^. S&P credit-quality ratings on June 30, 2025. Credit-quality ratings represent Standard & Poor's (S&P) opinion as to the quality of the securities they rate. The ratings range from AAA (extremely strong capacity to meet its financial commitments) to D (in default). Ratings are relative and subjective and are not absolute standards of quality.

[16] Data Source: Morningstar Direct℠ as of June 30, 2025. Weighted average trailing twelve-month P/E ratio, forward P/E ratio for EIC ACV and LCV representative portfolios, as calculated by Morningstar.

Data Source: APL Systems as of June 30, 2025. Dividend yield for EIC ACV and LCV representative portfolios are shown on a gross basis.

Data Source: S&P Capital IQ^PRO^. Weighted average of S&P credit-quality ratings on underlying securities held in the representative EIC ACV and LCV portfolios on June 30, 2025, and not the portfolios themselves.

[17] Data Source: Morningstar Direct℠. GICS sector weights for EIC ACV and LCV representative portfolios versus Russell 3000 Value Index and Russell 1000 Value Index, respectively, for the quarter ended June 30, 2025. EIC LCV representative portfolio has no exposure to the utilities sector. Individual portfolio sector weights may vary from that of the representative portfolios.

[18] Hamtil, Lawrence. "Everytime I see a macro touristy chart telling me where X should be priced based on Y, or whatever, I always think of the line that 'there are thousands of ships at the bottom of the ocean, and each one had a room full of charts.' " *Twitter*, 16 Sep 2019, 11:22 am.

[19] Standard deviation of rolling 20-quarter returns ending March 31, 2000, through June 30, 2025, for EIC's All-Cap Value SMA (ACV SMA) Composite relative to its alpha for the rolling 20-quarter periods. Alpha is a measure of the difference between a strategy's actual returns and its expected performance, given its beta relative to its benchmark (Russell 3000 Value Index). Standard Deviation (Std Dev) is a statistical measure describing the degree of variability (+/-) around the return over the time period calculated. EIC ACV SMA, Std Dev, and Alpha are calculated using gross performance. Averages for the rolling 20-quarter standard deviation over periods displayed are: EIC ACV SMA Gross: ±14.5% and Russell 3000 Value Index: ±16.7%. Average alpha for ACV SMA over rolling 20-quarter periods displayed is 3.1%.

Equity Investment Corporation
All-Cap Value SMA Composite Report

As of 6/30/2025	1 Year	5 Year (annualized)	10 Year (annualized)	Since Inception** (annualized)
Gross Rate of Return[1] (Supplemental)	18.6%	17.4%	11.1%	11.9%
Assumed 3% Annual Fee Net Rate of Return[1]	15.1%	14.0%	7.9%	8.6%
Benchmark Return of Russell 3000® Value Index	13.3%	13.9%	9.0%	10.3%

Table Notes:
[1] Gross returns, presented as supplemental information, are "pure" gross and do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, for SMA accounts. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns with an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0%, applied monthly.
**Inception Date: January 1, 1986

Disclosures:
Equity Investment Corporation (EIC) is an SEC-registered, independent investment adviser incorporated in the state of Georgia. EIC has been providing investment advisory services to clients since 1986.

From January 1, 1986, through December 31, 1999, Jim Barksdale was primarily responsible for creating and achieving the performance results. Over that time period, the All-Cap Value SMA composite gained 14.4% (annualized) (11.1% net of an assumed maximum annual 3% fee), while the Russell 3000® Value Index rose 15.6% (annualized).

Andrew Bruner joined as the second member of EIC's investment team in December 1999. From that point through the present day, portfolios have been managed using a team-based approach. Terry Irrgang became the third member of our investment team in April of 2003. Ian Zabor became the fourth member of our team, joining EIC in July of 2005. From January 1, 2000 through June 30, 2025, our investment team was responsible for the All-Cap Value SMA composite increasing by 10.5% (annualized) (7.3% net of an assumed maximum annual 3% fee); the Russell 3000 Value Index gained 7.6% (annualized).

Effective September 30, 2016, we implemented a succession plan to ensure the continuity and stability of our firm. In a transaction that closed on that date, a new investment adviser entity formed by Messrs. Bruner, Irrgang, and Zabor purchased substantially all of the assets and assumed all of the liabilities necessary for EIC's continuous operation from Mr. Barksdale. That new registrant succeeded to all of EIC's business. As planned, Mr. Barksdale's tenure at EIC ended in August of 2019 when his transitional employment agreement expired. From the date of the succession through June 30, 2025, our investment team was responsible for the All-Cap Value SMA composite advancing by 12.1% (annualized) (8.8% net of an assumed maximum annual 3% fee), versus an 9.6% (annualized) increase for the Russell 3000 Value Index.

During all times after 1999, our investment team has been responsible for achieving the performance results shown in the tables.

Performance numbers (beginning July 1, 1995) are the value-weighted, time-weighted, total return composite results of fully discretionary All-Cap Value equity wrap fee (SMA) accounts. The strategy employs a flexible framework (not constrained by any cap size limitations) of investing in high-quality, well-managed companies, while at the same time avoiding those that look inexpensive relative to their historical record but are actually in structural decline. Prior to January 1, 2013, the composite was called the All-Cap Value Wrap Composite. Returns are generally presented net of foreign withholding taxes on dividends, interest income, and capital gains; however, returns for some accounts are presented gross of foreign taxes depending on the treatment by their custodian. Prior to July 1, 1995, the returns are that of the All-Cap Value composite. Results for the period January 1, 1989, through July 1, 1995, include both SMA and non-SMA accounts. During this period, SMA accounts represent on average 24% of the composite. Since July 1, 1995, SMA accounts comprise 100% of the composite. The composite creation date is July 1, 1995, and the inception date is January 1, 1986. All accounts included in the composite are managed according to similar investment guidelines. The benchmark index is the Russell 3000 Value Index (which excludes an advisory fee), and was chosen because it is representative of the composite's investment style. The Russell 3000 Value Index measures the performance of the largest 3000 US companies in the value segment of the US equity universe. The Russell 3000 Value Index is based on the Russell 3000® Index, a market-capitalization weighted equity index representing approximately 98% of the investable US equity market.

Equity Investment Corporation
All-Cap Value SMA Composite Report

									Advisory-Only (UMA) and Managed Assets		
Year Ended Dec - 31	Gross* Rate of Return[1] (Supplemental)	Assumed 3% Annual Fee Net Rate of Return[1]	Benchmark Return of Russell 3000® Value Index	Composite 3-Yr St Dev	Benchmark 3-Yr St Dev	Dispersion[2] of Annual Returns (St Dev)	Number of Portfolios[3]	Composite Assets ($ Millions)	UMA Assets[4] ($ Millions) (Supplemental)	GIPS® Firm Assets ($ Millions)	Total Assets[4] ($ Millions) (Supplemental)
2025 (through 6/30)	10.0%	8.4%	5.5%	14.3%	15.9%	0.3%	2644	$1,543.0	$3,909.2	$3,297.5	$7,206.8
2024	13.0%	9.7%	14.0%	15.4%	16.9%	0.7%	2544	$1,429.3	$3,441.9	$3,051.2	$6,493.1
2023	13.4%	10.1%	11.7%	15.9%	16.7%	0.8%	2243	$1,231.0	$2,818.0	$2,654.3	$5,472.3
2022	1.6%	-1.4%	-8.0%	19.3%	21.5%	0.6%	1841	$1,021.8	$2,392.5	$2,267.8	$4,660.4
2021	31.0%	27.2%	25.4%	17.1%	19.3%	0.8%	1565	$937.9	$2,108.2	$2,027.4	$4,135.6
2020	5.0%	1.9%	2.9%	17.3%	20.0%	1.0%	1574	$784.3	$1,694.6	$1,607.6	$3,302.2
2019	22.7%	19.1%	26.3%	10.6%	12.0%	0.6%	2065	$1,151.4	$1,942.4	$2,245.1	$4,187.5
2018	-6.4%	-9.2%	-8.6%	9.3%	11.1%	0.3%	2341	$1,064.9	$1,721.0	$2,219.9	$3,940.9
2017	15.6%	12.2%	13.2%	8.0%	10.3%	0.4%	2486	$1,264.8	$2,044.9	$2,790.7	$4,835.6
2016	12.2%	8.9%	18.4%	8.6%	11.0%	0.5%	2893	$1,406.1	$2,044.5	$2,994.4	$5,038.9
2015	-4.4%	-7.2%	-4.1%	8.9%	10.7%	0.5%	4727	$1,964.8	$1,590.0	$3,658.9	$5,248.9
2014	14.9%	11.5%	12.7%	8.1%	9.4%	0.5%	5272	$2,259.6	$1,657.7	$3,862.6	$5,520.3
2013	24.7%	21.1%	32.7%	9.2%	12.9%	0.6%	4290	$1,703.6	$1,009.2	$3,286.3	$4,295.5
2012	10.0%	6.7%	17.6%	11.5%	15.8%	0.4%	2742	$1,016.1	$665.6	$2,301.1	$2,966.7
2011	7.4%	4.2%	-0.1%	16.3%	21.0%	0.6%	1398	$556.0	$314.5	$1,127.9	$1,442.5
2010	18.2%	14.7%	16.2%	18.7%	23.5%	0.5%	937	$432.6	$77.9	$836.9	$914.8
2009	26.9%	23.2%	19.8%	17.3%	21.3%	1.3%	743	$282.7	$10.5	$541.2	$551.8
2008	-22.9%	-25.2%	-36.3%	11.7%	15.5%	1.0%	946	$220.2	$0.0	$362.6	$362.6
2007	3.3%	0.3%	-1.0%	7.0%	8.3%	0.8%	935	$283.5	$0.0	$448.1	$448.1
2006	16.6%	13.1%	22.3%	6.2%	7.0%	0.8%	758	$252.7	$0.0	$487.2	$487.2
2005	2.8%	-0.3%	6.9%	8.8%	9.7%	0.7%	675	$195.5	$0.0	$463.6	$463.6
2004	13.9%	10.6%	16.9%	11.4%	14.8%	0.8%	531	$137.4	$0.0	$388.1	$388.1
2003	25.2%	21.6%	31.1%	13.6%	16.0%	0.8%	289	$70.0	$0.0	$231.0	$231.0
2002	-4.1%	-6.9%	-15.2%	15.9%	16.6%	1.5%	59	$14.6	$0.0	$110.7	$110.7
2001	16.9%	13.5%	-4.3%	15.7%	14.1%	0.8%	13	$5.4	$0.0	$82.2	$82.2
2000	18.6%	15.2%	8.0%	18.0%	16.8%	0.8%	16	$6.5	$0.0	$62.3	$62.3
1999	2.1%	-0.9%	6.6%	15.7%	15.9%	1.0%	27	$13.0	$0.0	$64.1	$64.1
1998	16.2%	12.8%	13.5%	14.5%	14.9%	0.9%	11	$2.8	$0.0	$35.2	$35.2
1997	30.1%	26.4%	34.8%	8.8%	9.5%	0.8%	12	$4.9	$0.0	$38.8	$38.8
1996	8.0%	4.8%	21.6%	7.7%	9.2%	0.6%	19	$16.6	$0.0	$69.7	$69.7
1995	19.7%	16.2%	37.0%	6.2%	8.3%	0.6%	42	$23.0	$0.0	$93.4	$93.4
1994	0.2%	-2.8%	-1.9%	5.7%	8.2%	0.8%	65	$32.7	$0.0	$92.6	$92.6
1993	11.3%	8.0%	18.7%	8.0%	9.5%	0.7%	72	$44.0	$0.0	$84.5	$84.5
1992	10.6%	7.4%	14.9%	12.5%	13.7%	0.9%	69	$53.3	$0.0	$84.1	$84.1
1991	37.0%	33.0%	25.4%	13.3%	14.5%	1.3%	58	$35.6	$0.0	$48.9	$48.9
1990	-8.0%	-10.7%	-8.8%	13.2%	13.5%	0.7%	59	$25.8	$0.0	$30.4	$30.4
1989	20.8%	17.3%	24.2%	18.0%	17.6%	1.6%	51	$21.4	$0.0	$27.8	$27.8
1988	27.4%	23.7%	23.6%	19.9%	18.9%	1.7%	14	$6.0	$0.0	$8.0	$8.0
1987	10.6%	7.4%	-0.1%	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	$0.5	$0.0	$0.6	$0.6
1986	25.0%	21.3%	18.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	$0.2	$0.0	$0.2	$0.2

Table Notes:

[1] *Gross returns, presented as supplemental information, are "pure" gross and do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, for SMA accounts. "Pure" gross returns from 10/1/02 through 12/31/06, reflect the deduction of trading costs but not any additional expenses. For the period 1/1/89 through 7/1/95, SMA accounts represent on average 24% of the composite assets. Prior to 7/1/95 and for the periods 10/1/02 through 12/31/06, the returns are that of EIC's All-Cap Value composite. For all other periods, SMA accounts represent 100% of the composite assets. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns with an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0%, applied monthly.

[2] Dispersion is an asset-weighted standard deviation for the accounts in the composite for the entire year (or year-to-date) and is calculated using gross returns. "N/A" represents when dispersion is not statistically meaningful due to an insufficient number of portfolios in the composite for the entire year. For 1986 through 1995 dispersion represents EIC's All-Cap Value composite, which contains both SMA and non-SMA accounts. For 1996 through 2005, dispersion represents EIC's internally administered SMA accounts.

[3] Number of Portfolios/Composite Assets significantly decreased in 2016 due to transitioning of a major SMA program to a model based (UMA) program during Q416.

[4] "Total Assets" include our regulatory assets under management ("GIPS® Firm Assets") and our advisory-only "UMA Assets". EIC has no trading discretion for UMA accounts and provides a model portfolio to the program sponsor or overlay manager. The "UMA Assets" and "Total Assets" amounts are shown as supplemental information.

<u>Additional Notes</u>: The three year annualized standard deviation measures variability of the composite (gross of fees) and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period.

Disclosures *(cont.)*:
Performance has been measured on a monthly basis from January 1, 1986, to present. Periods are geometrically linked to obtain the quarterly and annual results. Eligible new accounts are added to the composite at the beginning of the first full quarter under EIC management. Trade-date accounting with monthly valuations and adjustments for large cash flows are used. Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management, including those accounts no longer with the firm. The US Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Returns include the reinvestment of all income. Economic and market conditions have differed over the time period displayed, and likewise will be different in the future. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance and preparing GIPS Composite Reports are available upon request.

EIC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. EIC has been independently verified for the periods January 1, 1986, through March 31, 2025. 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 the 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 firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report. The verification reports, as well as a complete list and description of all the firm's composites, are available upon request by contacting Equity Investment Corporation, 1776 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 600S, Atlanta, GA 30309. The firm's list of broad distribution pooled funds is available upon request. Prospective clients should be aware that results are historical and do not imply future rates of return or volatility for EIC or the indices, which may be materially different from the past and from each other.

Investment management fees are based on market values of the assets under management. In addition to a management fee, some accounts pay an all-inclusive fee based on a percentage of assets under management. Other than brokerage commissions, this fee includes portfolio monitoring, consulting services, and in some cases, custodial services provided by a program sponsor. The assumed maximum fees for SMA accounts (charged quarterly) are 0.75%. Total fees charged may equal 3% per year (which is assumed to be equal to or higher than the highest actual SMA fee charged by a program sponsor). SMA schedules are provided by independent SMA sponsors and are available upon request from the individual sponsor. Further information about fees and compensation is discussed in EIC's form ADV Part 2 (www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

Equity Investment Corporation
Large-Cap Value SMA Composite Report

As of 6/30/2025	1 Year	5 Year (annualized)	10 Year (annualized)	Since Inception** (annualized)
Gross Rate of Return[1] (Supplemental)	17.2%	17.4%	11.1%	9.8%
Assumed 3% Annual Fee Net Rate of Return[1]	13.8%	13.9%	7.8%	6.6%
Benchmark Return of Russell 1000® Value Index	13.7%	13.9%	9.2%	7.5%

Table Notes:
[1] Gross returns, presented as supplemental information, are "pure" gross and do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, for SMA accounts. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns by an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0% (0.75%/quarter during 2001 and 0.25%/month thereafter).
**Inception Date: January 1, 2001

Disclosures:
Equity Investment Corporation (EIC) is an SEC-registered, independent investment adviser incorporated in the state of Georgia. EIC has been providing investment advisory services to clients since 1986.

From January 1, 1986, through December 31, 1999, Jim Barksdale was primarily responsible for creating and achieving the performance results. Andrew Bruner joined as the second member of EIC's investment team in December 1999. From that point through the present day, portfolios have been managed using a team-based approach. Terry Irrgang became the third member of our investment team in April of 2003. Ian Zabor became the fourth member of our team, joining EIC in July of 2005.

Effective September 30, 2016, we implemented a succession plan to ensure the continuity and stability of our firm. In a transaction that closed on that date, a new investment adviser entity formed by Messrs. Bruner, Irrgang, and Zabor purchased substantially all of the assets and assumed all of the liabilities necessary for EIC's continuous operation from Mr. Barksdale. That new registrant succeeded to all of EIC's business. As planned, Mr. Barksdale's tenure at EIC ended in August of 2019 when his transitional employment agreement expired.

Our investment team has been responsible for achieving the performance results shown in the tables.

Performance numbers are the value-weighted, time-weighted, total return composite results of fully discretionary Large-Cap Value equity wrap fee (SMA) accounts managed in the style of the firm's traditional value methodology with a large-cap bias. The strategy employs a flexible framework of investing in high-quality, well-managed companies, while at the same time avoiding those that look inexpensive relative to their historical record but are actually in structural decline. Prior to January 1, 2013, the composite was called the Large-Cap Value Wrap Composite. Returns are generally presented net of foreign withholding taxes on dividends, interest income, and capital gains; however, returns for some accounts are presented gross of foreign taxes depending on the treatment by their custodian. The composite creation and inception date is January 1, 2001, and SMA accounts comprise 100% of the composite. The benchmark index is the Russell 1000® Value Index (which excludes an advisory fee), and was chosen because it is representative of the composite's investment style. The Russell 1000 Value Index measures the performance of the large-cap value segment of the US equity universe. It is a subset of the Russell 3000® Value Index and includes those Russell 1000® companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower expected long-term mean earnings growth rates. The Russell 1000 represents approximately 93% of the investable US equity market.

Performance has been measured on a monthly basis from January 1, 2001, to present. Periods are geometrically linked to obtain the quarterly and annual results. Eligible new accounts are added to the composite at the beginning of the first full quarter under EIC management. Trade-date accounting with monthly valuations and adjustments for large cash flows are used. Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management, including those accounts no longer with the firm. The US Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Returns include the reinvestment of all income. During 2002, 2% of the assets are non-fee paying accounts. There are no non-fee paying accounts during any other period. Economic and market conditions have differed over the time period displayed, and likewise will be different in the future. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance and preparing GIPS Composite Reports are available upon request.

Equity Investment Corporation
Large-Cap Value SMA Composite Report

									Advisory-Only (UMA) and Managed Assets		
Year Ended Dec - 31	Gross* Rate of Return[1] (Supplemental)	Assumed 3% Annual Fee Net Rate of Return[1]	Benchmark Return of Russell 1000® Value Index	Composite 3-Yr St Dev	Benchmark 3-Yr St Dev	Dispersion[2] of Annual Returns (St Dev)	Number of Portfolios[3]	Composite Assets ($ Millions)	UMA Assets[4] ($ Millions) (Supplemental)	GIPS® Firm Assets ($ Millions)	Total[4] ($ Millions) (Supplemental)
2025 (through 6/30)	9.1%	7.5%	6.0%	13.6%	15.7%	0.3%	924	$432.6	$3,909.2	$3,297.5	$7,206.8
2024	13.1%	9.8%	14.4%	14.8%	16.7%	0.4%	1185	$490.3	$3,441.9	$3,051.2	$6,493.1
2023	13.8%	10.4%	11.5%	15.4%	16.5%	0.7%	938	$365.5	$2,818.0	$2,654.3	$5,472.3
2022	2.6%	-0.4%	-7.5%	19.0%	21.3%	0.6%	689	$258.5	$2,392.5	$2,267.8	$4,660.4
2021	30.9%	27.1%	25.2%	17.1%	19.1%	0.8%	548	$235.1	$2,108.2	$2,027.4	$4,135.6
2020	4.3%	1.2%	2.8%	17.3%	19.6%	0.8%	590	$206.6	$1,694.6	$1,607.6	$3,302.2
2019	22.6%	19.1%	26.5%	10.6%	11.8%	0.6%	786	$279.4	$1,942.4	$2,245.1	$4,187.5
2018	-6.4%	-9.2%	-8.3%	9.1%	10.8%	0.4%	898	$262.8	$1,721.0	$2,219.9	$3,940.9
2017	15.6%	12.3%	13.7%	7.8%	10.2%	0.7%	902	$301.6	$2,044.9	$2,790.7	$4,835.6
2016	11.9%	8.6%	17.3%	8.5%	10.8%	0.5%	938	$289.0	$2,044.5	$2,994.4	$5,038.9
2015	-4.5%	-7.3%	-3.8%	8.9%	10.7%	0.4%	1146	$318.5	$1,590.0	$3,658.9	$5,248.9
2014	15.0%	11.6%	13.5%	8.1%	9.2%	0.5%	361	$159.4	$1,657.7	$3,862.6	$5,520.3
2013	24.8%	21.2%	32.5%	9.4%	12.7%	0.5%	863	$328.7	$1,009.2	$3,286.3	$4,295.5
2012	10.0%	6.8%	17.5%	11.5%	15.5%	0.3%	658	$197.2	$665.6	$2,301.1	$2,966.7
2011	8.2%	5.0%	0.4%	15.9%	20.7%	0.3%	465	$130.1	$314.5	$1,127.9	$1,442.5
2010	16.8%	13.4%	15.5%	18.5%	23.2%	0.4%	409	$98.2	$77.9	$836.9	$914.8
2009	25.0%	21.4%	19.7%	17.2%	21.1%	1.0%	386	$80.0	$10.5	$541.2	$551.8
2008	-22.8%	-25.2%	-36.9%	12.1%	15.4%	N/A	3	$0.9	$0.0	$362.6	$362.6
2007	2.1%	-0.9%	-0.2%	6.9%	8.1%	N/A	3	$1.1	$0.0	$448.1	$448.1
2006	17.7%	14.3%	22.2%	6.0%	6.7%	N/A	3	$1.0	$0.0	$487.2	$487.2
2005	5.7%	2.6%	7.1%	8.7%	9.5%	0.4%	18	$9.3	$0.0	$463.6	$463.6
2004	13.1%	9.8%	16.5%	12.7%	14.8%	0.4%	18	$8.9	$0.0	$388.1	$388.1
2003	23.3%	19.7%	30.0%	14.2%	16.0%	1.1%	21	$8.5	$0.0	$231.0	$231.0
2002	-9.0%	-11.7%	-15.5%	N/A	N/A	0.5%	42	$11.0	$0.0	$110.7	$110.7
2001	14.6%	11.3%	-5.6%	N/A	N/A	1.2%	45	$12.4	$0.0	$82.2	$82.2

Table Notes:

[1] *Gross returns, presented as supplemental information, are "pure" gross and do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, for SMA accounts. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns by an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0% (0.75%/quarter during 2001 and 0.25%/month thereafter).

[2] Dispersion is an asset-weighted standard deviation for the accounts in the composite the entire year (or year-to-date) and is calculated using gross returns. "N/A" represents when dispersion is not statistically meaningful due to an insufficient number of portfolios in the composite for the entire year.

[3] Number of Portfolios/Composite Assets significantly decreased in Q4 2014 and Q4 2016 due to transitioning of two major SMA programs to model based (UMA) programs.

[4] "Total Assets" include our regulatory assets under management ("GIPS® Firm Assets") and our advisory-only "UMA Assets". EIC has no trading discretion for UMA accounts and provides a model portfolio to the program sponsor or overlay manager. The "UMA Assets" and "Total Assets " amounts are shown as supplemental information.

<u>Additional Note</u>: The three year annualized standard deviation measures variability of the composite (gross of fees) and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period.

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EIC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. EIC has been independently verified for the periods January 1, 1986, through March 31, 2025. 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 the 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 firm-wide basis. The Large-Cap Value SMA composite has had a performance examination for the periods January 1, 2001, through March 31, 2025. The verification and composite examination reports, as well as a complete list and description of the firm's composites, are available upon request by contacting Equity Investment Corporation, 1776 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 600S, Atlanta, GA 30309. The firm's list of broad distribution pooled funds is available upon request. Prospective clients should be aware that results are historical and do not imply future rates of return or volatility for EIC or the indices, which may be materially different from the past and from each other.

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