

PRESS RELEASE - JULY 9, 2019

## Di Costa Partners Bolsters Senior Leadership with Key Industry Hires

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NEW YORK—Di Costa Partners (DCP), a strategic advisory and proxy solicitation company focused exclusively on registered funds (mutual funds and ETFs) and subsidiary of Morrow Sodali, today announced the addition of two senior hires, Steve Messinger, as President, and John Bibas, as Senior Managing Director.

Mr. Messinger joins DCP from BlackRock where he most recently served as Managing Director and Executive Vice President of the iShares funds. In this role, Steve oversaw the governance of the largest ETF complex including leading shareholder proxy solicitations. He has also worked for Morgan Stanley Investment Management and advised asset managers at Ernst & Young and Beacon Consulting, now part of Accenture. As President at DCP, Steve will lead day-to-day operations of the firm.

“I can’t think of anyone who understands better how ’40 Act registered funds operate and are governed than Steve. He’s lived the challenges faced by asset managers today in holding successful shareholder meetings on behalf of both the advisor and the funds,” commented Vincent Di Costa, founder and Chief Executive Officer of DCP.

“Overseeing ETFs and mutual funds is more challenging today than it has ever been,” said Mr. Messinger. “From regulatory changes to M&A activity, I look forward to helping our clients navigate the path ahead.”

John Bibas joins DCP as Senior Managing Director, bringing 20+ years of high-level industry experience to the team. Most recently, John served as Managing Director, Head of Europe for D.F. King Worldwide, LLC in London and, prior to that, as Managing Director of Corporate Proxy for D.F. King in New York. In both roles, Mr. Bibas and his respective teams specialized in complex cross-border tender, proxy and consent solicitations for equity and debt securities of public companies located across North America and EMEA.

“It’s exciting,” Mr. Bibas added. “We’re energized, experienced and nimble. It’s clear our clients will be the primary beneficiaries of such a strong team so singularly focused.”

### **About Di Costa Partners**

Di Costa Partners (DCP) is the premier provider of mutual fund and ETF proxy solicitation and corporate governance advisory services. DCP brings more than 35 years of knowledge assisting registered fund companies in connection with all aspects of the shareholder meeting process. DCP offers its clients a proven shareholder analytical voting model that drives solicitation communication strategy to retail and institutional shareholders. A full-service company that offers printing and mailing of proxy material, solicitation mechanics and comprehensive advisory services for routine, non-routine and contested (proxy fight) shareholder meetings, DCP is a subsidiary of Morrow Sodali, the leading global consultancy providing comprehensive governance and shareholder services to corporate clients around the world. For more information visit: [www.dicostapartners.com](http://www.dicostapartners.com).

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