CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND Form N-2/A March 07, 2008

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 7, 2008 1933 Act File No. 333-146943 1940 Act File No. 811-21484

# U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 Form N-2 (Check appropriate box or boxes)

# o REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 b Pre-Effective Amendment No. 3 o Post-Effective Amendment No.

and

# 

CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND 2020 Calamos Court

2020 Calamos Court Naperville, Illinois 60563 (630) 245-7200 Agent for Service John P. Calamos, Sr. President Calamos Advisors LLC 2020 Calamos Court Naperville, Illinois 60563 Copies of Communications to:

David A. Sturms, Esq. Vedder Price P.C. 222 N. LaSalle Street Chicago, IL 60601 Cameron S. Avery, Esq. Bell, Boyd & Lloyd LLP 70 West Madison Street Chicago, IL 60602

Approximate Date of Proposed Public Offering: From time to time after the effective date of the Registration Statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box. b

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box)

o when declared effective pursuant to section 8(c)

		Proposed Maximum	
<b>Title of Securities</b>	Amount	Aggregate	Amount of
			Registration
Being Registered	<b>Registered</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	Offering Price <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>Fee</b> <sup>(3)</sup>
		\$350,000,000	\$10,745

Common shares, no par value per share; preferred shares, no par value per share; debt securities

(1) There are being

registered hereunder a presently indeterminate number of shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock and debt securities to be offered on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis.

(2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933. In no event will the aggregate initial offering price of all securities offered from time to time pursuant to the prospectus included as a part of this Registration Statement exceed \$350,000,000.

(3) Transmitted

prior to filing.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such dates as the Commission, acting

pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

#### **Table of Contents**

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

#### SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED MARCH 7, 2008

**Base Prospectus** 

# \$350,000,000 Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund Common Shares Preferred Shares Debt Securities

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund (the Fund, we or our ) is a diversified, closed-end management investment company which commenced investment operations in March 2004. Our investment objective is to provide total return through a combination of capital appreciation and current income.

We may offer, on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis, up to \$350,000,000 aggregate initial offering price of our common shares (no par value per share), preferred shares (liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share) or debt securities, which we refer to in this prospectus collectively as our securities, in one or more offerings. We may offer our common shares, preferred shares and debt securities separately or together, in amounts, at prices and on terms set forth in a prospectus supplement to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the related prospectus supplement carefully before you decide to invest in any of our securities.

We may offer our securities directly to one or more purchasers, through agents that we or they designate from time to time, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the particular offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of our securities, and will set forth any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and such agents or underwriters or among the underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. For more information about the manner in which we may offer our securities, see Plan of Distribution. Our securities may not be sold through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement.

Our common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CSQ. As of March 6, 2008, the last reported sale price for our common shares was \$11.91.

Investing in our securities involves certain risks. You could lose some or all of your investment. See Risk Factors beginning on page 30 of this prospectus. You should consider carefully these risks together with all of the other information contained in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement before making a decision to purchase our securities.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Prospectus dated March \_\_\_\_\_, 2008

This prospectus, together with any prospectus supplement, sets forth concisely the information that you should know before investing. You should read the prospectus and prospectus supplement, which contain important information, before deciding whether to invest in our securities. You should retain the prospectus and prospectus supplement for future reference. A statement of additional information, dated March \_\_\_\_\_, 2008, as supplemented from time to time, containing additional information, has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (Commission) and is incorporated by reference in its entirety into this prospectus. You may request a free copy of the statement of additional information, the table of contents of which is on page 66 of this prospectus, request a free copy of our annual and semi-annual reports, request other information or make shareholder inquiries, by calling toll-free 1-800-582-6959 or by writing to the Fund at 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563. The Fund s annual and semi-annual reports also are available on our website at <u>www.calamos.com</u>, which also provides a link to the Commission s website, as described below, where the Fund s statement of additional information can be obtained. Information included on our website does not form part of this prospectus. You can review and copy documents we have filed at the Commission s Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Call 1-202-551-8090 for information. The Commission charges a fee for copies. You can get the same information free from the Commission s website (http://www.sec.gov). You may also e-mail requests for these documents to publicinfo@sec.gov or make a request in writing to the Commission s Public Reference Section, Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102.

Our securities do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution and is not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

	Page
Prospectus Summary	1
Summary of Fund Expenses	13
Financial Highlights	15
Market and Net Asset Value Information	16
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	17
The Fund	18
Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies	19
Leverage	25
Interest Rate Transactions	28
Risk Factors	30
Management of the Fund	38
Closed-End Fund Structure	41
Certain Federal Income Tax Matters	42
Net Asset Value	48
Dividends and Distributions; Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan	49
Description of Securities	53
Rating Agency Guidelines	58
Certain Provisions of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws	60
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	61
Custodian, Transfer Agent, Dividend Disbursing Agent and Registrar	64
Legal Matters	64
Available Information	65
Table of Contents of the Statement of Additional Information	66
Consent of Auditors	

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any related prospectus supplement in making your investment decisions. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with different or inconsistent information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus and any prospectus supplement do not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. The information appearing in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the dates on their covers. Our business, financial condition and prospects may have changed since such dates. We will advise investors of any material changes to the extent required by applicable law.

i

#### CAUTIONARY NOTICE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and the statement of additional information contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the words may, will, intend, expect, estimate, continue, plan, anticipate, and similar terms and the negative of such terms. Such forward-looking statements may be contained in this prospectus as well as in any accompanying prospectus supplement. By their nature, all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Several factors that could materially affect our actual results are the performance of the portfolio of securities we hold, the price at which our shares will trade in the public markets and other factors discussed in our periodic filings with the Commission.

Although we believe that the expectations expressed in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results could differ materially from those projected or assumed in our forward-looking statements. Our future financial condition and results of operations, as well as any forward-looking statements, are subject to change and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties, such as those disclosed in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus. All forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement are made as of the date of this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement, as the case may be. Except for our ongoing obligations under the federal securities laws, we do not intend, and we undertake no obligation, to update any forward-looking statement. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and the statement of additional information are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the 1933 Act ).

Currently known risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations include, but are not limited to, the factors described in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus. We urge you to review carefully that section for a more detailed discussion of the risks of an investment in our securities.

ii

#### **PROSPECTUS SUMMARY**

The following summary contains basic information about us and our securities. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information you may want to consider. You should review the more detailed information contained in this prospectus and in any related prospectus supplement and in the statement of additional information, especially the information set forth under the heading Risk Factors beginning on page 30 of this prospectus. The Fund

The Fund is a diversified, closed-end management investment company. We commenced operations in March 2004 following our initial public offering. As of the date of this prospectus, we have \$1,080,000,000 of auction rate preferred shares ( Preferred Shares ) outstanding. Our fiscal year ends on October 31. Our investment objective is to provide total return through a combination of capital appreciation and current income.

# **Investment Adviser**

Calamos Advisors LLC (the Adviser or Calamos ) serves as our investment adviser. Calamos is responsible on a day-to-day basis for investment of the Fund s portfolio in accordance with its investment objective and policies. Calamos makes all investment decisions for the Fund and places purchase and sale orders for the Fund s portfolio securities. As of December 31, 2007, Calamos managed approximately \$46.2 billion in assets of individuals and institutions. Calamos is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Calamos Holdings, LLC ( Holdings ) and an indirect subsidiary of Calamos Asset Management, Inc., a publicly traded holding company.

The Fund pays Calamos an annual fee, payable monthly, for its investment management services equal to 1.00% of the Fund s average weekly managed assets. Managed Assets means the total assets of the Fund (including any assets attributable to any leverage that may be outstanding) minus the sum of accrued liabilities (other than debt representing financial leverage). See Management of the Fund.

The principal business address of the Adviser is 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563. The Offering

We may offer, on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis, up to \$350,000,000 of our securities on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. Our securities will be offered at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more prospectus supplements to this prospectus. Preferred shares and debt securities (collectively, senior securities ) may be auction rate securities, in which case the senior securities will not be listed on any exchange or automated quotation system. Rather, investors generally may only buy and sell senior securities through an auction conducted by an auction agent and participating broker-dealers.

We may offer our securities directly to one or more purchasers, through agents that we or they designate from time to time, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of our securities, and will set forth any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and such agents or underwriters or among underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution. Our securities may not be sold through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of our securities.

#### **Use of Proceeds**

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities primarily to invest in accordance with our investment objective and policies within approximately three months of receipt of such proceeds. We also may use sale proceeds to retire all or a portion of any short-term debt, and for working capital purposes, including the payment of interest and operating expenses, although there is currently no intent to issue securities primarily for this purpose.

# **Dividends and Distributions on Common Shares**

The Fund has made regular monthly distributions to its common shareholders in amounts ranging from \$0.0750 to \$0.1025 per share since June 2004. Additionally, the Fund made a distribution of \$0.0398 in January 2008. The Fund intends to distribute to common shareholders all or a portion of its net investment income monthly and net realized capital gains, if any, at least annually.

The Fund currently intends to make monthly distributions to common shareholders at a level rate established by the Board of Trustees. The rate may be modified by the Board of Trustees from time to time. Monthly distributions may include net investment income, net realized short-term capital gains and, if necessary to maintain a level distribution, return of capital. The Fund may at times in its discretion pay out less than the entire amount of net investment income earned in any particular period and may at times pay out such accumulated undistributed income in addition to net investment income earned in other periods in order to permit the Fund to maintain a more stable level of distributions. As a result, the dividends paid by the Fund to holders of common shares for any particular period may be more or less than the amount of net investment income earned by the Fund during such period. Net realized short-term capital gain distributed to shareholders will be taxed as ordinary income for federal income tax purposes. In addition, one distribution per calendar year may include net realized long-term capital gain (if any), which will be taxed for federal income tax purposes at long-term capital gain rates. To the extent the Fund distributes an amount in excess of the Fund s current and accumulated earnings and profits, such excess, if any, will be treated by a shareholder for federal income tax purposes as a tax-free return of capital to the extent of the shareholder s adjusted tax basis in his, her or its shares and thereafter as a gain from the sale or exchange of such shares. Any such distributions made by the Fund will reduce the shareholder s adjusted tax basis in his, her or its shares to the extent that the distribution constitutes a return of capital. To date, however, none of the Fund s distributions have included a return of capital as determined on a tax basis during any calendar year. To the extent that the Fund s distributions exceed the Fund s current and accumulated earnings and profits, the distribution payout rate will exceed the yield generated from the Fund s investments. There is no guarantee that the Fund will realize capital gain in any given year. Pursuant to the requirements of the 1940 Act and other applicable laws, a notice would accompany each monthly distribution with respect to the estimated source of the distribution made. Distributions are subject to re-characterization for federal income tax purposes after the end of the fiscal year.

In January 2004, Calamos, on behalf of itself and certain funds that it manages, filed an exemptive application with the Commission seeking an order under the 1940 Act facilitating the implementation of a dividend policy calling for monthly distributions of a fixed percentage of its net asset value (Managed Dividend Policy). In March 2007, an amended and restated exemptive application was filed with the Commission. If, and when, Calamos, on behalf of itself and other parties, receives the requested relief, the Fund may, subject to the determination of its Board of Trustees, implement a Managed Dividend Policy. Under a Managed Dividend Policy, if, for any distribution, net investment income and net realized capital gains were less than the amount of the distribution, the differences would be distributed from the Fund s other assets. There can be no assurance that the Fund will receive the requested relief.

Pursuant to the Fund s Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan, unless a shareholder is ineligible or elects otherwise, all dividends and capital gain distributions on common shares are automatically reinvested in additional common shares of the Fund. However, an investor can choose to receive dividends and distributions in cash. Since investors can participate in the automatic dividend

reinvestment plan only if their broker or nominee participates in our plan, you should contact your broker or nominee to confirm that you are eligible to participate in the plan. See Dividends and Distributions; Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

# **Investment Policies**

*Primary Investments.* Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest primarily in common and preferred stocks, convertible securities and income producing securities such as investment grade and below investment grade (high yield/high risk) debt securities. The Fund, under normal circumstances, will invest at least 50% of its managed assets in equity securities (including securities that are convertible into equity securities). The Fund may invest up to 35% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers, including debt and equity securities of corporate issuers and debt securities of government issuers, in developed and emerging markets. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers in emerging markets. Managed assets means the total assets of the Fund (including any assets attributable to any leverage that may be outstanding) minus the sum of accrued liabilities (other than debt representing financial leverage). For this purpose the liquidation preference on any preferred shares will not constitute a liability.

Calamos will dynamically allocate the Fund s investments among multiple asset classes, seeking to obtain an appropriate balance of risk and reward through all market cycles using multiple strategies and combining them to seek to achieve favorable risk adjusted returns. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Principal Investment Strategies.

*Equity Securities*. Equity securities include common and preferred stocks, warrants, rights, and depository receipts. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 50% of its managed assets in equity securities (including securities that are convertible into equity securities). An investment in the equity securities of a company represents a proportionate ownership interest in that company. Therefore, the Fund participates in the financial success or failure of any company in which it has an equity interest.

*High Yield Securities*. The Fund may invest in high yield securities for either current income or capital appreciation or both. These securities are rated Ba or lower by Moody s or BB or lower by Standard & Poor s or are unrated securities of comparable quality as determined by Calamos, the Fund s investment adviser. The Fund may invest in high yield securities of any rating. Non-convertible debt securities rated below investment grade are commonly referred to as junk bonds and are considered speculative with respect to the issuer s capacity to pay interest and repay principal. They involve greater risk of loss, are subject to greater price volatility and are less liquid, especially during periods of economic uncertainty or change, than higher rated securities. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Principal Investment Strategies High Yield Securities.

*Foreign Issuers*. Although the Fund primarily invests in securities of U.S. issuers, the Fund may invest up to 35% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers in developed and emerging markets, including debt and equity securities of corporate issuers and debt securities of government issuers. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers in emerging markets. A foreign issuer is a foreign government or a company organized under the laws of a foreign country. For purposes of these percentage limitations, foreign securities do not include securities represented by American Depository Receipts ( ADRs ) or securities guaranteed by a U.S. person. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Principal Investment Strategies Foreign Securities.

*Convertible Securities.* The Fund may invest in convertible securities. A convertible security is a debt security or preferred stock that is exchangeable for an equity security (typically of the same issuer) at a predetermined price (the conversion price). Depending upon the relationship of the conversion price to the market value of the underlying security, a convertible security may trade more like an equity

security than a debt instrument. The Fund may invest in convertible securities of any rating. Securities that are convertible into equity securities are considered equity securities for purposes of the Fund s policy to invest at least 50% of its managed assets in equity securities. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Principal Investment Strategies Convertible Securities.

*Synthetic Convertible Securities.* The Fund may invest in synthetic convertible securities. A synthetic convertible security is a financial instrument that is designed to simulate the characteristics of another instrument (i.e., a convertible security) through the combined features of a collection of other securities or assets. Calamos may create a synthetic convertible security by combining separate securities that possess the two principal characteristics of a true convertible security, i.e., a fixed-income security (fixed-income component, which may be a convertible or non-convertible security) and the right to acquire an equity security (convertible component). The fixed-income component is achieved by investing in non-convertible, fixed-income securities such as bonds, preferred stocks and money market instruments. The convertible component is achieved by investing in warrants or options to buy common stock at a certain exercise price, or options on a stock index.

The Fund may also invest in synthetic convertible securities created by third parties, typically investment banks. Synthetic convertible securities created by such parties may be designed to simulate the characteristics of traditional convertible securities or may be designed to alter or emphasize a particular feature. Traditional convertible securities typically offer stable cash flows with the ability to participate in capital appreciation of the underlying common stock. Because traditional convertible securities are exercisable at the option of the holder, the holder is protected against downside risk. Synthetic convertible securities may alter these characteristics by offering enhanced yields in exchange for reduced capital appreciation or less downside protection, or any combination of these features. Synthetic convertible structured notes, equity-linked notes, mandatory convertibles and combinations of securities are considered equity securities for purposes of the Fund s holdings of synthetic convertible securities. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Principal Investment Strategies Synthetic Convertible Securities.

*Rule 144A Securities.* The Fund may invest without limit in certain securities (Rule 144A Securities), such as convertible and debt securities, that are typically purchased in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act pursuant to Rule 144A under that act. Rule 144A Securities may only be sold to qualified institutional buyers, such as the Fund. Any resale of these securities must generally be effected through a sale that is registered under the 1933 Act or otherwise exempted or excepted from such registration requirements. Under the supervision of the Fund s Board of Trustees, Calamos will determine whether Rule 144A Securities are illiquid. Typically, the Fund purchases Rule 144A Securities only if Calamos has determined them to be liquid. If any Rule 144A Security held by the Fund should become illiquid, the value of the security may be reduced and a sale of the security may be more difficult. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Principal Investment Strategies Rule 144A Securities.

*Zero Coupon Securities.* The securities in which the Fund invests may include zero coupon securities, which are debt obligations that are issued or purchased at a significant discount from face value. The discount approximates the total amount of interest the security will accrue and compound over the period until maturity or the particular interest payment date at a rate of interest reflecting the market rate of the security at the time of issuance. Zero coupon securities do not require the periodic payment of interest. These investments benefit the issuer by mitigating its need for cash to meet debt service, but generally require a higher rate of return to attract investors who are willing to defer receipt of cash. These investments may experience greater volatility in market value than U.S. government or other securities

that make regular payments of interest. The Fund accrues income on these investments for tax and accounting purposes, which is distributable to shareholders and which, because no cash is received at the time of accrual, may require the liquidation of other portfolio securities to satisfy the Fund s distribution obligations, in which case the Fund will forgo the opportunity to purchase additional income producing assets with the liquidation proceeds. Zero coupon U.S. government securities include STRIPS and CUBES, which are issued by the U.S. Treasury as component parts of U.S. Treasury bonds and represent scheduled interest and principal payments on the bonds. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Principal Investment Strategies Zero Coupon Securities.

*Options Writing*. The Fund may seek to generate income from option premiums by writing (selling) options. The Fund may write call options (i) on a portion of the equity securities (including securities that are convertible into equity securities) in the Fund s portfolio and (ii) on broad-based securities indexes (such as the S&P 500) or certain ETFs (exchange traded funds) that trade like common stocks but seek to replicate such market indexes.

In addition, to seek to offset some of the risk of a potential decline in value of certain long positions, the Fund may also purchase put options on individual securities, broad-based securities indexes (such as the S&P 500), or certain ETFs that trade like common stocks but seek to replicate such market indexes.

*Other Securities.* The Fund may invest in other securities of various types to the extent consistent with its investment objective. Normally, the Fund invests substantially all of its assets to meet its investment objective. For temporary defensive purposes, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies and invest part or all of its assets in securities with remaining maturities of less than one year, cash equivalents, or may hold cash. During such periods, the Fund may not be able to achieve its investment objective. There are no restrictions as to the ratings of debt securities acquired by the Fund or the portion of the Fund s assets that may be invested in debt securities in a particular ratings category. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Principal Investment Strategies. **Use of Leverage by the Fund** 

The Fund currently uses, and may in the future use, financial leverage. On May 4, 2004, the Fund issued preferred shares with an aggregate liquidation preference of \$1,080,000,000. As of December 31, 2007, the aggregate liquidation preference of outstanding preferred shares represented approximately 31.18% of the Fund s total assets. The Fund may make further use of financial leverage through the issuance of additional preferred shares or may borrow money or issue debt securities. As a non-fundamental policy, the aggregate liquidation preference of preferred shares and the aggregate principal amount of debt securities or borrowings may not exceed 38% of the Fund s total assets. However, the Board of Trustees reserves the right to issue preferred shares or debt securities or borrow to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act. See Leverage.

The Fund may not be leveraged at all times and the amount of leverage, if any, may vary depending upon a variety of factors, including Calamos outlook for the market and the costs that the Fund would incur as a result of such leverage. Leverage involves greater risks to common shareholders. The Fund s leveraging strategy may not be successful. By leveraging its investment portfolio, the Fund creates an opportunity for increased net income or capital appreciation. However, the use of leverage also involves risks, which can be significant. These risks include the possibility that the value of the assets acquired with the proceeds of leverage decreases although the Fund s liability to holders of preferred shares or other types of leverage is fixed, greater volatility in the Fund s net asset value and the market price of the Fund s common shares, and higher expenses. In addition, the rights of lenders, the holders of common shares with respect to the payment of dividends or upon liquidation. Holders of preferred shares have voting rights in addition to, and separate from, the voting rights of common shareholders. See Description of Securities Preferred Shares and Certain Provisions of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws. The holders of preferred shares, on the one hand, and the holders of the common shares, on the other, may have interests that conflict in certain situations.

Because Calamos management fee is based upon a percentage of the Fund s managed assets, which include assets attributable to any outstanding leverage, Calamos fee is higher when the Fund is leveraged and Calamos will have an incentive to leverage the Fund. The Fund pays and common shareholders effectively bear any costs and expenses relating to any borrowings and to the issuance and ongoing maintenance of preferred shares or debt securities. See Leverage and Risk Factors Leverage.

#### **Interest Rate Transactions**

In order to seek to reduce the interest rate risk inherent in the Fund s underlying investments and capital structure, the Fund, if market conditions are deemed favorable, may enter into interest rate swap or cap transactions to attempt to protect itself from increasing dividend or interest expenses on its leverage. The use of interest rate swaps and caps is a highly specialized activity that involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio security transactions.

In an interest rate swap, the Fund would agree to pay to the other party to the interest rate swap (which is known as the counterparty ) a fixed rate payment in exchange for the counterparty agreeing to pay to the Fund a payment at a variable rate that is expected to approximate the rate on any variable rate payment obligation on the Fund's leverage. The payment obligations would be based on the notional amount of the swap.

In an interest rate cap, the Fund would pay a premium to the counterparty to the interest rate cap and, to the extent that a specified variable rate index exceeds a predetermined fixed rate, would receive from the counterparty payments of the difference based on the notional amount of such cap. Depending on the state of interest rates in general, the Fund s use of interest rate swap or cap transactions could enhance or harm the overall performance of the common shares. See Interest Rate Transactions.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

Conflicts of interest may arise from the fact that Calamos and its affiliates carry on substantial investment activities for other clients, in which we have no interest. Calamos or its affiliates may have financial incentives to favor certain of these accounts over us. Any of their proprietary accounts or other customer accounts may compete with us for specific trades. Calamos or its affiliates may give advice and recommend securities to, or buy or sell securities for, other accounts and customers, which advice or securities recommended may differ from advice given to, or securities recommended or bought or sold for, us, even though their investment objectives may be the same as, or similar to, our objective.

Situations may occur when we could be disadvantaged because of the investment activities conducted by Calamos and its affiliates for their other accounts. Such situations may be based on, among other things, the following: (1) legal or internal restrictions on the combined size of positions that may be taken for us or the other accounts, thereby limiting the size of our position; or (2) the difficulty of liquidating an investment for us or the other accounts where the market cannot absorb the sale of the combined position. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Conflicts of Interest.

## **Fund Risks**

*Equity Securities Risk.* Equity investments are subject to greater fluctuations in market value than other asset classes as a result of such factors as the issuer s business performance, investor perceptions, stock market trends and general economic conditions. Equity securities are subordinated to bonds and other debt instruments in a company s capital structure in terms of priority to corporate income and liquidation payments. See Risk Factors Fund Risks Equity Securities Risk.

*High Yield Securities Risk.* The Fund may invest in high yield securities of any rating. Investment in high yield securities involves substantial risk of loss. Below investment grade non-convertible debt securities or comparable unrated securities are commonly referred to as junk bonds and are considered predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer s ability to pay interest and principal and are susceptible to default or decline in market value due to adverse economic and business

<sup>6</sup> 

developments. The market values for high yield securities tend to be very volatile, and these securities are less liquid than investment grade debt securities. For these reasons, your investment in the Fund is subject to the following specific risks:

increased price sensitivity to changing interest rates and to a deteriorating economic environment;

greater risk of loss due to default or declining credit quality;

greater sensitivity to adverse company specific events, which are more likely to render the issuer unable to make interest and/or principal payments; and

if a negative perception of the high yield market develops, the price and liquidity of high yield securities may be depressed. This negative perception could last for a significant period of time.

Adverse changes in economic conditions are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of a high yield issuer to make principal payments and interest payments than an investment grade issuer. The principal amount of high yield securities outstanding has proliferated in the past decade as an increasing number of issuers have used high yield securities for corporate financing. An economic downturn could severely affect the ability of highly leveraged issuers to service their debt obligations or to repay their obligations upon maturity.

The secondary market for high yield securities may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities, a factor which may have an adverse effect on the Fund s ability to dispose of a particular security. There are fewer dealers in the market for high yield securities than for investment grade obligations. The prices quoted by different dealers may vary significantly and the spread between the bid and asked price is generally much larger than for higher quality instruments. Under adverse market or economic conditions, the secondary market for high yield securities could contract further, independent of any specific adverse changes in the condition of a particular issuer, and these instruments may become illiquid. As a result, the Fund could find it more difficult to sell these securities or may be able to sell the securities only at prices lower than if such securities were widely traded. Prices realized upon the sale of such lower rated or unrated securities, under these circumstances, may be less than the prices used in calculating the Fund s net asset value. See Risk Factors Fund Risks High Yield Securities Risk.

*Interest Rate Risk.* In addition to the risks discussed above, debt securities, including high yield securities, are subject to certain risks, including:

if interest rates go up, the value of debt securities in the Fund s portfolio generally will decline;

during periods of declining interest rates, the issuer of a security may exercise its option to prepay principal earlier than scheduled, forcing the Fund to reinvest in lower yielding securities. This is known as call or prepayment risk. Debt securities frequently have call features that allow the issuer to repurchase the security prior to its stated maturity. An issuer may redeem an obligation if the issuer can refinance the debt at a lower cost due to declining interest rates or an improvement in the credit standing of the issuer;

during periods of rising interest rates, the average life of certain types of securities may be extended because of slower than expected principal payments. This may lock in a below



market interest rate, increase the security s duration (the estimated period until the security is paid in full) and reduce the value of the security. This is known as extension risk; and

market interest rates currently are near historically low levels. See Risk Factors Fund Risks Interest Rate Risk.

*Default Risk.* Default risk refers to the risk that a company who issues a debt security will be unable to fulfill its obligations to repay principal and interest. The lower a debt security is rated, the greater the default risk. See Risk Factors Fund Risks Default Risk.

Liquidity Risk. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its managed assets in securities that, at the time of investment, are illiquid (determined using the Commission s standard applicable to investment companies, i.e., securities that cannot be disposed of within 7 days in the ordinary course of business at approximately the value at which the Fund has valued the securities). The Fund may also invest without limit in securities that have not been registered for public sale, but that are eligible for purchase and sale by certain qualified institutional buyers. Calamos, under the supervision of the Board of Trustees, will determine whether securities purchased under Rule 144A are illiquid (that is, not readily marketable) and thus subject to the Fund s limit of investing no more than 15% of its managed assets in illiquid securities. Investments in Rule 144A Securities could have the effect of increasing the amount of the Fund s assets invested in illiquid securities if qualified institutional buyers are unwilling to purchase these Rule 144A Securities. Illiquid securities may be difficult to dispose of at a fair price at the times when the Fund believes it is desirable to do so. Investment of the Fund s assets in illiquid securities may restrict the Fund s ability to take advantage of other market opportunities. The market price of illiquid securities generally is more volatile than that of more liquid securities, which may adversely affect the price that the Fund pays for or recovers upon the sale of illiquid securities. Illiquid securities are also more difficult to value and Calamos judgment may play a greater role in the valuation process. The risks associated with illiquid securities may be particularly acute in situations in which the Fund s operations require cash and could result in the Fund borrowing to meet its short-term needs or incurring losses on the sale of illiquid securities. See Risk Factors Liquidity Risk.

*Foreign Securities Risk.* Investments in non-U.S. issuers may involve unique risks compared to investing in securities of U.S. issuers. These risks are more pronounced to the extent that the Fund invests a significant portion of its non-U.S. investments in one region or in the securities of emerging market issuers. These risks may include:

less information about non-U.S. issuers or markets may be available due to less rigorous disclosure or accounting standards or regulatory practices;

many non-U.S. markets are smaller, less liquid and more volatile. In a changing market, Calamos may not be able to sell the Fund s portfolio securities at times, in amounts and at prices it considers reasonable;

an adverse effect of currency exchange rates or controls on the value of the Fund s investments;

the economies of non-U.S. countries may grow at slower rates than expected or may experience a downturn or recession;

economic, political and social developments may adversely affect the securities markets, including expropriation and nationalization;

the difficulty in obtaining or enforcing a court judgment in non-U.S. countries;

restrictions on foreign investments in non-U.S. jurisdictions;

difficulties in effecting the repatriation of capital invested in non-U.S. countries; and

withholding and other non-U.S. taxes may decrease the Fund s return.

See Risk Factors Fund Risks Foreign Securities Risk.

*Convertible Securities Risk.* The value of a convertible security is influenced by both the yield of non-convertible securities of comparable issuers and by the value of the underlying common stock. The value of a convertible security viewed without regard to its conversion feature (i.e., strictly on the basis of its yield) is sometimes referred to as its investment value. A convertible security s investment value tends to decline as prevailing interest rate levels increase. Conversely, a convertible security s investment value increases as prevailing interest rate levels decline.

However, the convertible s market value tends to reflect the market price of the common stock of the issuing company when that stock price is greater than the convertible s conversion price. The conversion price is defined as the predetermined price at which the convertible could be exchanged for the associated stock. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, the price of the convertible security tends to be influenced more by the yield of the convertible security. Thus, the convertible security may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock. In the event of a liquidation of the issuing company, holders of convertible securities would be paid before the company s common stockholders. Consequently, the issuer s convertible securities generally entail less risk than its common stock. See Risk Factors Fund Risks Convertible Securities Risk.

*Synthetic Convertible Securities Risk.* The value of a synthetic convertible security may respond differently to market fluctuations than a convertible security because a synthetic convertible is composed of two or more separate securities, each with its own market value. In addition, if the value of the underlying common stock or the level of the index involved in the convertible component falls below the exercise price of the warrant or option, the warrant or option may lose all value. See Risk Factors Fund Risks Synthetic Convertible Securities Risk.

*Risks Associated with Options.* There are several risks associated with transactions in options. For example, there are significant differences between the securities markets and options markets that could result in an imperfect correlation among these markets, causing a given transaction not to achieve its objectives. A decision as to whether, when and how to use options involves the exercise of skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived transaction may be unsuccessful to some degree because of market behavior or unexpected events. The Fund s ability to utilize options successfully will depend on Calamos ability to predict pertinent market movements, which cannot be assured.

The Fund may sell call options on individual securities and securities indices. All calls sold by the Fund must be covered. Even though the Fund will receive the option premium to help protect it against loss, a call option sold by the Fund exposes the Fund during the term of the option to possible loss of opportunity to realize appreciation in the market price of the underlying security or instrument and may require the Fund to hold a security or instrument that it might otherwise have sold. The Fund may purchase and sell put options on individual securities and securities indices. In selling put options, there is a risk that the Fund may be required to buy the underlying security at a disadvantageous price above the market price. See Risk Factors Fund Risks Risks Associated with Options.

*Tax Risk.* The Fund may invest in certain securities, such as certain convertible securities, for which the federal income tax treatment may not be clear or may be subject to re-characterization by the Internal Revenue Service. It could be more difficult for the Fund to comply with the tax requirements applicable to regulated investment companies if the tax characterization of the Fund s investments or the tax treatment of the income from such investments were successfully challenged by the Internal Revenue Service. See Certain Federal Income Tax Matters.

*Management Risk.* Calamos judgment about the attractiveness, relative value or potential appreciation of a particular sector, security or investment strategy may prove to be incorrect. See Risk Factors Fund Risks Management Risk.

Antitakeover Provisions. The Fund s Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws include provisions that could limit the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or to change the composition of its Board of

Trustees. Such provisions could limit the ability of shareholders to sell their shares at a premium over prevailing market prices by discouraging a third party from seeking to obtain control of the Fund. These provisions include staggered terms of office for the Trustees, advance notice requirements for shareholder proposals, and super-majority voting requirements for

certain transactions with affiliates, converting the Fund to an open-end investment company or a merger, asset sale or similar transaction. Holders of preferred shares will have voting rights in addition to and separate from the voting rights of common shareholders with respect to certain of these matters. See Description of Shares Preferred Shares and

Certain Provisions of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws. The holders of preferred shares, on the one hand, and the holders of the common shares, on the other, may have interests that conflict in these situations. See Risk Factors Fund Risks Antitakeover Provisions.

*Market Disruption Risk.* Certain events have a disruptive effect on the securities markets, such as terrorist attacks, war and other geopolitical events, earthquakes, storms and other disasters. The Fund cannot predict the effects of similar events in the future on the U.S. economy or any foreign economy.

#### Additional Risks to Common Shareholders

*Leverage Risk.* The Fund has issued Preferred Shares and may issue additional preferred shares or borrow money or issue debt securities. The borrowing of money or issuance of debt securities and preferred shares, including the outstanding Preferred Shares, represents the leveraging of the Fund s common shares. As a non-fundamental policy, the aggregate liquidation preference of preferred shares and the aggregate principal amount of debt securities or borrowings may not exceed 38% of the Fund s total assets. Leverage creates risks which may adversely affect the return for the holders of common shares, including:

the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of the Fund s common shares;

fluctuations in the dividend rates on any preferred shares or in interest rates on borrowings and short-term debt;

increased operating costs, which are effectively borne by common shareholders, may reduce the Fund s total return; and

the potential for a decline in the value of an investment acquired with borrowed funds, while the Fund s obligations under such borrowing or preferred shares remain fixed.

Leverage is a speculative technique that could adversely affect the returns to common shareholders. Leverage can cause the Fund to lose money and can magnify the effect of any losses. To the extent the income or capital appreciation derived from securities purchased with funds received from leverage exceeds the cost of leverage, the Fund s return will be greater than if leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the income or capital appreciation from the securities purchased with such funds is not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage or if the Fund incurs capital losses, the return of the Fund will be less than if leverage had not been used, and therefore the amount available for distribution to common shareholders as dividends and other distributions will be reduced or potentially eliminated.

The Fund will pay, and common shareholders will effectively bear, any costs and expenses relating to any borrowings and to the issuance and ongoing maintenance of preferred shares or debt securities. Such costs and expenses include the higher management fee resulting from the use of any such leverage, offering and/or issuance costs, and interest and/or dividend expense and ongoing maintenance. The markets for auction rate securities have continued to face widening spreads, reduced demand and, more recently, an increased number of failed auctions. These conditions may result in higher leverage costs to common stockholders.

Certain types of borrowings may result in the Fund being subject to covenants in credit agreements, including those relating to asset coverage, borrowing base and portfolio composition requirements and additional covenants that may affect the Fund s ability to pay dividends and

distributions on common shares in certain instances. The Fund may also be required to pledge its assets to the lenders in connection with certain types of borrowings. The Fund may be subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by guidelines of one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations ( NRSROs ) which may issue ratings for the preferred shares or short-term debt instruments issued by the Fund. These guidelines may impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act. See Risk Factors Leverage.

*Interest Rate Transactions Risk.* The Fund may enter into an interest rate swap or cap transaction to attempt to protect itself from increasing dividend or interest expense on its leverage resulting from increasing short-term interest rates. A decline in interest rates may result in a decline in the value of the swap or cap, which may result in a decline in the net asset value of the Fund. See Risk Factors Interest Rate Transactions Risk.

*Market Impact Risk.* The sale of our common shares (or the perception that such sales may occur) may have an adverse effect on prices in the secondary market for our common shares by increasing the number of shares available, which may put downward pressure on the market price for our common shares. These sales also might make it more difficult for us to sell additional equity securities in the future at a time and price we deem appropriate.

*Dilution Risk.* The voting power of current shareholders will be diluted to the extent that such shareholders do not purchase shares in any future common share offerings or do not purchase sufficient shares to maintain their percentage interest. In addition, if we are unable to invest the proceeds of such offering as intended, our per share distribution may decrease (or may consist of return of capital) and we may not participate in market advances to the same extent as if such proceeds were fully invested as planned.

*Market Discount Risk.* The Fund s common shares have traded both at a premium and at a discount relative to net asset value. Common shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at prices lower than their net asset value. Depending on the premium of the Fund s common shares, the Fund s net asset value may be reduced immediately following an offering of the Fund s common shares by the offering expenses paid by the Fund, including the sales load. See Use of Proceeds.

In addition to net asset value, the market price of the Fund s common shares may be affected by such factors as the Fund s use of leverage, dividend stability, portfolio credit quality, liquidity, market supply and demand of the common shares and the Fund s dividends paid (which are, in turn, affected by expenses), call protection for portfolio securities and interest rate movements. See Leverage, Risk Factors and Description of Securities. The Fund s common shares a designed primarily for long-term investors, and you should not purchase common shares if you intend to sell them shortly after purchase.

See Risk Factors Additional Risks to Common Shareholders for a more detailed discussion of these risks. Additional Risks to Senior Security Holders

# Additional risks of investing in senior securities include the following:

Interest Rate Risk. To the extent that senior securities trade through an auction, such securities pay dividends or interest based on short-term interest rates. If short-term interest rates rise, dividends or interest on the auction rate senior securities may rise so that the amount of dividends or interest due to

holders of auction rate senior securities would exceed the cash flow generated by our portfolio securities. This might require that we sell portfolio securities at a time when we would otherwise not do so, which may affect adversely our future ability to generate cash flow. In addition, rising market interest rates could impact negatively the value of our investment portfolio, reducing the amount of assets serving as asset coverage for the senior securities.

Senior Leverage Risk. Our preferred shares will be junior in liquidation and with respect to distribution rights to our debt securities and any other borrowings. Senior securities representing indebtedness may constitute a substantial lien and burden on preferred shares by reason of their prior claim against our income and against our net assets in liquidation. We may not be permitted to declare dividends or other distributions with respect to any series of our preferred shares unless at such time we meet applicable asset coverage requirements and the payment of principal or interest is not in default with respect to any borrowings.

*Ratings and Asset Coverage Risk.* To the extent that senior securities are rated, a rating does not eliminate or necessarily mitigate the risks of investing in our senior securities, and a rating may not fully or accurately reflect all of the credit and market risks associated with that senior security. A rating agency could downgrade the rating of our preferred shares or debt securities, which may make such securities less liquid at an auction or in the secondary market, though probably with higher resulting interest rates. If a rating agency downgrades the rating assigned to a senior security, we may alter our portfolio or redeem the senior security. We may voluntarily redeem senior securities under certain circumstances.

*Inflation Risk.* Inflation is the reduction in the purchasing power of money resulting from an increase in the price of goods and services. Inflation risk is the risk that the inflation adjusted or real value of an investment in preferred shares or debt securities or the income from that investment will be worth less in the future. As inflation occurs, the real value of the preferred shares or debt securities and the dividend payable to holders of preferred shares or interest payable on debt securities declines.

*Auction Risk.* To the extent that senior securities trade through an auction, there are certain risks associated with participating in an auction and certain risks if you try to sell senior securities outside of an auction in the secondary market. The markets for auction rate securities have continued to face widening spreads, reduced demand and, more recently, an increased number of failed auctions. A failed auction results when there are not enough bidders in the auction at rates below the maximum rate as prescribed by the terms of the security. When an auction fails, all holders receive the maximum rate and may be unable to sell their shares until the next auction, which may be for an indefinite period of time. Auction risk will be described in an applicable prospectus supplement if we issue senior securities pursuant to this registration statement.

*Decline in Net Asset Value Risk.* A material decline in our net asset value ( NAV ) may impair our ability to maintain required levels of asset coverage for our preferred shares or debt securities.

See Risk Factors Additional Risks to Senior Security Holders for a more detailed discussion of these risks.

12

#### **Table of Contents**

#### SUMMARY OF FUND EXPENSES

The following table and example contain information about the costs and expenses that common shareholders will bear directly or indirectly. In accordance with Commission requirements, the table below shows our expenses, including leverage costs, as a percentage of our average net assets as of October 31, 2007, and not as a percentage of gross assets or managed assets. By showing expenses as a percentage of average net assets, expenses are not expressed as a percentage of all of the assets we invest. The table and example are based on our capital structure as of October 31, 2007. As of that date, we had \$1,080,000,000 in senior securities outstanding. Such senior securities represent 29.23% of total assets as of October 31, 2007.

## **Shareholder Transaction Expense**

Sales Load (as a percentage of offering price) Offering Expenses Borne by the Fund (as a percentage of offering price) Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	4.5 <sub>(1)</sub> (1) None
A musel Evenences	Percentage of Net Assets Attributable to Common Shareholders
Annual Expenses	
Management Fee <sup>(3)</sup>	1.43
Leverage Costs <sup>(4)</sup>	.11
Other Expenses	.08
Total Annual Expenses	1.62
Less Expense Reductions	(.01)
Net Annual Expenses	1.61

#### **Example:**

The following example illustrates the expenses that common shareholders would pay on a \$1,000 investment in common shares, assuming (1) net annual expenses of 1.62% of net assets attributable to common shares; (2) a 5% annual return; and (3) all distributions are reinvested at net asset value:

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Total Expenses Paid by Common Shareholders <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 16	\$ 51	\$ 88	\$ 192
The example should not be considered a representation of	f future ex	penses. Actual ex	penses may be	e greater or
less than those assumed. Moreover, our actual rate of retu	urn may b	e greater or less t	han the hypot	hetical 5%
return shown in the example.				

 If the securities to which this prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters, the prospectus supplement will set forth any applicable sales load and the estimated offering expenses borne by us.

(2) Shareholders will pay a transaction fee plus brokerage charges if they direct the Plan Agent to sell common stock held in a Plan account. See Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

(3) The Fund pays Calamos an annual management fee, payable monthly, for its investment management services equal to 1.00% of the Fund s average weekly managed assets. In accordance with the requirements of the Commission, the table above shows the Fund s management fee as a percentage of average net assets. By showing the management fee as a percentage of net assets, the management fee is not expressed as a percentage of all of the

assets the Fund intends to invest. For purposes of the table, the management fee has been converted to 1.43% of the Fund s average daily net assets as of October 31, 2007 by dividing the total dollar amount of the management fee by the Fund s average daily net assets (managed assets less outstanding leverage). (4) Leverage Costs in the table reflect the cost of auction and

rating agency fees on preferred shares, expressed as a percentage of net assets. The table assumes outstanding **Preferred Shares** of \$1.08 billion, which reflects leverage in an amount representing approximately 29.23% of total assets.

(5) The example does not include sales load or estimated offering costs.

The purpose of the table and the example above is to help investors understand the fees and expenses that they, as common shareholders, would bear directly or indirectly. For additional information with respect to our expenses, see Management of the Fund.

14

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The information in this table is derived from our financial statements audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report on such financial statements is contained in our 2007 Annual Report and included in the statement of additional information, both of which are available from us.

# **Financial Highlights**

# Selected data for a common share outstanding throughout each period were as follows:

			e Year	Ended Octob	per 31,	2005	t	farch 26, 2004* hrough tober 31,
Not accept welling the significant of married	¢	2007	¢	2006	¢	2005	¢	2004
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$	15.71	\$	14.44	\$	14.23	\$	14.32 <sub>(a)</sub>
Income from investment operations: Net investment income (loss)		0.86**		0.89		0.93		0.51
Net realized and unrealized gain		0.80		0.89		0.95		0.51
(loss) from investments, written								
options, foreign currency and interest								
rate swaps		1.89		1.86		0.48		(0.09)
Distributions to preferred shareholders		1.09		1.00		0.10		(0.0))
from:								
Net investment income (common share								
equivalent basis)		(0.32)		(0.33)		(0.21)		(0.06)
Capital gains (common share						~ /		
equivalent basis)		(0.05)						
Total from investment operations		2.38		2.42		1.20		0.36
Less distributions to common								
shareholders from:								
Net investment income		(1.01)		(0.77)		(0.71)		(0.37)
Capital gains		(0.16)		(0.38)		(0.28)		
Capital charge resulting from issuance								
of common and preferred shares								(0.08)
Net asset value, end of period	\$	16.92	\$	15.71	\$	14.44	\$	14.23
Market value, end of period	\$	14.70	\$	14.91	\$	13.71	\$	13.34
Total investment return based on <sup>(b)</sup> :		16000		10.029		0.05%		<b>0</b> 10 m
Net asset value		16.33%		18.03%		8.95%		2.10%
Market value		6.49%		17.99%		10.35%		(8.59)%
Ratios and supplemental data:								
Net assets applicable to common								
shareholders, end of period (000 s	¢Э	615 012	¢Э	107 622	¢Э	721 240	¢ 0	100 220
omitted)	\$2,	615,012	\$2,	427,632	\$2,	231,348	\$2,	199,229
Preferred shares, at redemption value								
(\$25,000 per share liquidation preference) (000 s omitted)	¢ 1	080,000	¢ 1	080,000	¢ 1	080,000	¢1	080,000
Ratios to average net assets applicable	φ1,	000,000	φ1,	000,000	φı,	000,000	φ1,	000,000
to common shareholders:								
Net expenses <sup>(c)(d)</sup>		1.61%		1.66%		1.67%		1.61%
		1.01 /0		1.0070		1.0770		1.0170

Gross expenses	1.62%	1.66%		
Net investment income (loss) <sup>(c)(d)</sup>	5.30%	5.92%	6.25%	6.27%
Preferred share distributions from net				
investment income <sup>(c)</sup>	1.95%	2.18%	1.40%	0.67%
Net investment income (loss), net of				
preferred share distributions from net				
investment income <sup>(c)</sup>	3.35%	3.74%	4.85%	5.60%
Portfolio turnover rate	48%	48%	71%	11%
Average commission rate paid	\$ 0.0283	\$ 0.0342	\$ 0.0381	\$ 0.0197
Asset coverage per preferred share, at				
end of period <sup>(e)</sup>	\$ 85,552	\$ 81,216	\$ 76,667	\$ 75,916
	15			

- \* Commencement of operations.
- \*\* Net investment income allocated based on average shares method.
- (a) Net of sales load of \$0.675 on initial shares issued and beginning net asset value of \$14.325.
- (b) Total

investment return is calculated assuming a purchase of common shares on the opening of the first day and a sale on the closing of the last day of the period reported. Dividends and distributions are assumed, for purposes of this calculation. to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund s dividend reinvestment plan. Total return is not annualized for periods less than one year. Brokerage commissions are not reflected.

NAV per share is determined by dividing the value of the Fund s portfolio securities, cash and other assets, less all liabilities, by the total number of common shares outstanding. The common share market price is the price the market is willing to pay for shares of the Fund at a given time. Common share market price is influenced by a range of factors, including supply and demand and market conditions.

- (c) Annualized for periods less than one year.
- (d) Does not reflect the effect of dividend payments to the shareholders of Preferred Shares.
- (e) Calculated by subtracting the Fund s total liabilities (not including Preferred Shares) from the Fund s total assets and dividing this by

the number of Preferred Shares outstanding.

#### MARKET AND NET ASSET VALUE INFORMATION

Our common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange ( NYSE ) under the symbol CSQ. Our common shares commenced trading on the NYSE on March 25, 2004.

Our common shares have traded both at a premium and at a discount in relation to NAV. We cannot predict whether our shares will trade in the future at a premium or discount to NAV. The provisions of the 1940 Act generally require that the public offering price of common shares (less any underwriting commissions and discounts) must equal or exceed the NAV per share of a company s common stock (calculated within 48 hours of pricing). Our issuance of common shares may have an adverse effect on prices in the secondary market for our common shares by increasing the number of common shares available, which may put downward pressure on the market price for our common shares. Shares of common stock of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount from NAV. See Risk Factors Additional Risks to Common Shareholders Market Discount Risk.

The following table sets forth for each of the periods indicated the high and low closing market prices for our common shares on the NYSE, the NAV per share and the premium or discount to NAV per share at which our common shares were trading. NAV is determined on the last business day of each month. See Determination of Net Asset Value for information as to the determination of our NAV.

16

		Market	<b>Pri</b> co(1)		Prem (Discou Net A Valu	nt) To Asset
		WIAI KEL		v alu		
				Net Asset		
Quarte	er Ended	High	Low	Value <sup>(2)</sup>	High	Low
April 3	0, 2004	15.20	14.55	14.05	8.19%	3.56%
July 31	, 2004	14.55	12.59	13.83	5.21%	-8.97%
Octobe	r 31, 2004	13.93	12.79	14.23	-2.11%	-10.12%
January	31, 2005	14.16	13.39	14.84	-4.58%	-9.77%
April 3	0, 2005	14.24	12.65	14.42	-1.25%	-12.27%
July 31		14.50	13.26	15.34	-5.48%	-13.56%
	r 31, 2005	14.49	13.18	14.44	0.35%	-8.73%
January	31, 2006	14.14	12.88	15.31	-7.64%	-15.87%
April 3	0, 2006	14.30	13.77	15.51	-7.80%	-11.22%
July 31	, 2006	14.20	13.60	15.00	-5.33%	-9.33%
Octobe	r 31, 2006	15.00	14.12	15.71	-4.52%	-10.12%
January	31, 2007	15.74	14.79	16.29	-3.38%	-9.21%
April 3	0, 2007	15.71	14.64	16.58	-5.25%	-11.70%
July 31	, 2007	15.74	14.03	15.67	0.45%	-10.47%
Octobe	r 31, 2007	14.90	13.00	16.92	-11.94%	-23.17%
Source:	Bloomberg Financial and Fund Accounting Records.					
(1)	Based on high and low closing market price during the respective quarter.					
(2)	Based on the NAV calculated on the close of business on the last business day of each calendar quarter.					
(3)	Based on the Fund s computations.					

The last reported sale price, NAV per common share and percentage discount to NAV per common share on December 31, 2007 were \$14.00, \$15.43 and -9.27%, respectively. As of December 31, 2007, we had 154,514,000 common shares outstanding and net assets of approximately \$3,463,870,143.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, we will invest the net proceeds of any sales of securities in accordance with our investment objective and policies as described under Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies within approximately three months of receipt of such proceeds. We may also use proceeds from the sale of our securities to retire all or a portion of any short-term debt we incur in pursuit of our investment objective and policies, and for working capital purposes, including the payment of interest and operating expenses, although there is currently no intent to issue securities primarily for this purpose. Such investments may be delayed if suitable investments are unavailable at the time or for other reasons. Pending such investment, we anticipate that we will invest the proceeds in securities issued by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalities or in high quality, short-term or long-term debt obligations. A delay in the anticipated use of proceeds could lower returns, reduce our distribution to common shareholders and reduce the amount of cash available to make dividend and interest payments on preferred shares and debt securities, respectively.

17

#### THE FUND

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund is a diversified, closed-end management investment company which commenced investment operations in March 2004. The Fund was organized under the laws of the State of Delaware on December 31, 2003, and has registered under the 1940 Act. On May 30, 2004, the Fund issued an aggregate of 140,500,000 common shares, no par value, in an initial public offering and commenced its operations. On April 20, 2004, the Fund issued an additional 14,000,000 common shares, in connection with exercise by the underwriters of their over-allotment option. The net proceeds of the initial public offering and subsequent exercise of the over-allotment option were approximately \$ 2,213,413,000 million after the payment of offering expenses. On May 5, 2004, the Fund issued Preferred Shares, liquidation preference \$25,000 per share (\$1,080,000,000 in the aggregate). The Fund s common shares are listed on the NYSE under the symbol CSQ. The Fund s principal office is located at 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563, and its telephone number is 1-800-582-6959.

18

The following table provides information about our outstanding securities as of December 31, 2007:

	Amount	Amount Held by the Fund or for its	Amount
Title of Class	Authorized	Account	Outstanding
Common Shares	Unlimited	0	154,514,000
Preferred Shares	Unlimited	0	43,200
Series M		0	7,040
Series TU		0	7,040
Series W		0	7,040
Series TH		0	7,040
Series F		0	7,040
Series A		0	4,000
Series B		0	4,000

The following sets forth information about the Fund s outstanding Preferred Shares as of the dates indicated below:

		Asset Coverage	Average Fair
		Per	Value Per
			\$25,000
	Total Liquidation	Share (\$25,000	<b>Denomination or</b>
	Preference	Liquidation	Per Share
<b>Fiscal Year Ended</b>	Outstanding	Preference)	Amount <sup>(a)</sup>
October 31, 2007	\$ 1,080,000,000	\$ 85,552	\$ 25,000
October 31, 2006	\$ 1,080,000,000	\$ 81,216	\$ 25,000
October 31, 2005	\$ 1,080,000,000	\$ 76,667	\$ 25,000
October 31, 2004	\$ 1,080,000,000	\$ 75,916	\$ 25,000

(a) Fair value of the Preferred Shares approximates the liquidation preference because dividend rates payable on the Preferred Shares are determined at auctions and fluctuate with changes in current market interest rates.

# INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES Investment Objective

The Fund s investment objective is to provide total return through a combination of capital appreciation and current income. The Fund s investment objective may be changed by the Board of Trustees without a shareholder vote. The Fund makes no assurance that it will realize its objective. An investment in the Fund may be speculative in that it involves a high degree of risk and should not constitute a complete investment program. See Risk Factors. **Principal Investment Strategies** 

Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest primarily in common and preferred stocks, convertible securities and income-producing securities such as investment grade and below investment grade (high yield/high risk) debt securities. The Fund, under normal circumstances, will invest at least 50% of its managed assets in equity securities (including securities that are convertible into equity securities). The Fund may invest up to 35% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers, including debt and equity securities of corporate issuers and debt securities of government issuers in developed and emerging markets. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers in emerging markets.

19

Calamos will dynamically allocate the Fund s investments among multiple asset classes (rather than maintaining a fixed or static allocation), seeking to obtain an appropriate balance of risk and reward on a long-term basis through all market cycles using multiple strategies and combining them to seek to achieve favorable risk adjusted returns.

Calamos analyzes securities for the Fund s portfolio using an approach that focuses on assessing a total enterprise value before assessing the value of the securities issued by a company. Calamos seeks to assess the value of an issuer s total enterprise by studying its financial statements, including its balance sheet. Once enterprise value is determined, Calamos seeks to assess the value of the issuer s different types of securities, taking into account the business risk of the issuer, its competitive position and the seniority of each type of security relative to the rest of the issuer s capital structure. This approach serves as the basis for the Calamos research team s design and use of proprietary models which, along with risk management and portfolio construction techniques, assist in determining whether a given security presents an investment opportunity for the Fund.

*Equity Securities*. Equity securities include common and preferred stocks, warrants, rights, and depository receipts. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 50% of its managed assets in equity securities (including securities that are convertible into equity securities). An investment in the equity securities of a company represents a proportionate ownership interest in that company. Therefore, the Fund participates in the financial success or failure of any company in which it has a equity interest.

*High Yield Securities.* The Fund may invest in high yield securities for either current income or capital appreciation or both. The high yield securities in which the Fund invests are rated Ba or lower by Moody s or BB or lower by Standard & Poor s or are unrated but determined by Calamos to be of comparable quality. The Fund may invest in high yield securities of any rating. Non-convertible debt securities rated below investment grade are commonly referred to as junk bonds and are considered speculative with respect to the issuer s capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Below investment grade non-convertible debt securities involve greater risk of loss, are subject to greater price volatility and are less liquid, especially during periods of economic uncertainty or change, than higher rated debt securities.

*Other Income Securities.* The Fund may also invest in investment grade debt securities. The Fund s investments in investment grade debt securities may have fixed or variable principal payments and all types of interest rate and dividend payment and reset terms, including fixed rate, adjustable rate, zero coupon, contingent, deferred, payment in kind and auction rate features.

*Foreign Securities*. Although the Fund primarily invests in securities of U.S. issuers, the Fund may invest up to 35% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers in developed and emerging markets, including debt and equity securities of corporate issuers and debt securities of government issuers. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers in emerging markets. A foreign issuer is a foreign government or a company organized under the laws of a foreign country. For purposes of these percentage limitations, foreign securities do not include securities represented by American Depository Receipts ( ADRs ) or securities guaranteed by a U.S. person.

*Convertible Securities.* A convertible security is a debt security or preferred stock that is exchangeable for an equity security (typically of the same issuer) at a predetermined price. Depending upon the relationship of the conversion price to the market value of the underlying security, a convertible security may trade more like an equity security than a debt instrument. The Fund may invest in convertible securities of any rating. Securities that are convertible into equity securities are considered equity securities for purposes of the Fund s policy to invest at least 50% of its managed assets in equity securities.

*Synthetic Convertible Securities.* The Fund may invest in synthetic convertible securities. A synthetic convertible security is a financial instrument that is designed to simulate the characteristics of another instrument (i.e., a convertible security) through the combined features of a collection of other securities or assets. Calamos may create a synthetic convertible security by combining separate securities that possess the two principal characteristics of a true convertible security, i.e., a fixed-income security (fixed-income component , which may be a convertible or non-convertible security) and the right to acquire an equity security (convertible component). The fixed-income component is achieved by investing in non-convertible, fixed-income securities such as bonds, preferred stocks and money market instruments. The convertible component is achieved by investing in convertible component is achieved by other parties, typically investment banks, including convertible structured notes. Convertible security; however, the investment bank that issued the convertible note assumes the credit risk associated with the investment, rather than the issuer of the underlying common stock into which the note is convertible. Different companies may issue the fixed-income and convertible components, which may be purchased separately and at different times.

The Fund may also invest in synthetic convertible securities created by third parties, typically investment banks. Synthetic convertible securities created by such parties may be designed to simulate the characteristics of traditional convertible securities or may be designed to alter or emphasize a particular feature. Traditional convertible securities typically offer stable cash flows with the ability to participate in capital appreciation of the underlying common stock. Because traditional convertible securities are exercisable at the option of the holder, the holder is protected against downside risk. Synthetic convertible securities may alter these characteristics by offering enhanced yields in exchange for reduced capital appreciation or less downside protection, or any combination of these features. Synthetic convertible instruments may include structured notes, equity-linked notes, mandatory convertibles and combinations of securities and instruments, such as a debt instrument combined with a forward contract.

Some examples of these securities include:

Preferred equity redeemable cumulative stock ( PERCS ) are shares that automatically convert into one ordinary share upon maturity. They are usually issued at the prevailing share price, convertible into one ordinary share, with an enhanced dividend yield. PERCS pay a higher dividend than common shares, but the equity upside is capped. Above a certain share price, the conversion ratio will fall as the stock rises, capping the upside at that level. Below this level, the conversion ratio remains one-for-one, giving the same downside exposure as the ordinary shares, excluding the income difference.

Dividend enhanced convertible stock ( DECS ) are either preference shares or subordinated bonds. These, like PERCS, mandatorily convert into ordinary shares at maturity, if not already converted. DECS give no significant downside protection and are very equity sensitive with minimal direct bond characteristics and interest rate exposure. As with PERCS, some of the upside performance is given away and in return, the investor receives an enhanced yield over the ordinary shares. Unlike PERCS, however, the investor s upside is not capped. Instead, the investor trades a zone of flat exposure to the share price for the enhanced income.

Preferred Redeemable Increased Dividend Equity Security (PRIDES) are synthetic securities consisting of a forward contract to purchase the issuer s underlying security and an interest bearing deposit. Interest payments are made at regular intervals, and conversion into the underlying security is mandatory at maturity. Similar to convertible securities, PRIDES allow investors to earn stable cash

flows while still participating in the capital gains of an underlying stock. This is possible because these products are valued along the same lines as the underlying security. The Fund s holdings of synthetic convertible securities are considered equity securities for purposes of the Fund s policy to invest at least 50% of its managed assets in equity securities.

*Options Writing*. The Fund may seek to generate income from option premiums by writing (selling) options. The Fund may write call options (i) on a portion of the equity securities (including securities that are convertible into equity securities) in the Fund s portfolio and (ii) on broad-based securities indexes (such as the S&P 500) or certain ETFs (exchange traded funds) that trade like common stocks but seek to replicate such market indexes.

In addition, to seek to offset some of the risk of a potential decline in value of certain long positions, the Fund may also purchase put options on individual securities, broad-based securities indexes (such as the S&P 500), or certain ETFs that trade like common stocks but seek to replicate such market indexes.

*Rule 144A Securities.* The Fund may invest without limit in Rule 144A Securities. Calamos, under the supervision of the Board of Trustees, will consider whether securities purchased under Rule 144A are illiquid and thus subject to the Fund s limit of investing no more than 15% of its managed assets in illiquid securities. A determination of whether a Rule 144A security is liquid or not is a question of fact. In making this determination, Calamos will consider the trading markets for the specific security, taking into account the unregistered nature of a Rule 144A security. In addition, Calamos could consider the (1) frequency of trades and quotes, (2) number of dealers and potential purchasers, (3) dealer undertakings to make a market and (4) nature of a security and of marketplace trades (e.g., the time needed to dispose of the security, the method of soliciting offers and the mechanics of transfer). The liquidity of Rule 144A Securities will be monitored and, if as a result of changed conditions, it is determined that a Rule 144A Security is no longer liquid, the Fund s holdings of illiquid securities would be reviewed to determine what, if any, steps are required to assure that the Fund does not invest more than 15% of its assets in illiquid securities. Investing in Rule 144A Securities could have the effect of increasing the amount of the portfolio s assets invested in illiquid securities if qualified institutional buyers are unwilling to purchase such securities.

U.S. Government Securities. U.S. government securities in which the Fund invests include debt obligations of varying maturities issued by the U.S. Treasury or issued or guaranteed by an agency or instrumentality of the U.S. government, including the Federal Housing Administration, Federal Financing Bank, Farmers Home Administration, Export-Import Bank of the United States, Small Business Administration, Government National Mortgage Association, General Services Administration, Central Bank for Cooperatives, Federal Farm Credit Banks, Federal Home Loan Banks, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA), Maritime Administration, Tennessee Valley Authority, District of Columbia Armory Board, Student Loan Marketing Association, Resolution Fund Corporation and various institutions that previously were or currently are part of the Farm Credit System (which has been undergoing reorganization since 1987). Some U.S. government securities, such as U.S. Treasury bills, Treasury notes and Treasury bonds, which differ only in their interest rates, maturities and times of issuance, are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States. Others are supported by: (i) the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury, such as securities of the Federal Home Loan Banks; (ii) the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase the agency s obligations, such as securities of the FNMA; or (iii) only the credit of the issuer. No assurance can be given that the U.S. government will provide financial support in the future to U.S. government agencies, authorities or instrumentalities that are not supported by the full faith and credit of the United States. Securities guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. government, its agencies, authorities or instrumentalities include: (i) securities for which the payment of principal and interest is backed by an irrevocable letter of credit issued by the U.S. government or any of its agencies, authorities or instrumentalities; and (ii) participations in loans made to non-U.S. governments or other entities that are so guaranteed. The secondary market for certain of these participations is limited and, therefore, may be regarded as illiquid. U.S. government securities include STRIPS and CUBES, which are issued by the U.S. Treasury as component parts of U.S. Treasury bonds and represent scheduled interest and principal payments on the bonds.

*Zero Coupon Securities*. The securities in which the Fund invests may include zero coupon securities, which are debt obligations that are issued or purchased at a significant discount from face value. The discount approximates the total amount of interest the security will accrue and compound over

the period until maturity or the particular interest payment date at a rate of interest reflecting the market rate of the security at the time of issuance. Zero coupon securities do not require the periodic payment of interest. These investments benefit the issuer by mitigating its need for cash to meet debt service, but generally require a higher rate of return to attract investors who are willing to defer receipt of cash. These investments may experience greater volatility in market value than U.S. government or other securities that make regular payments of interest. The Fund accrues income on these investments for tax and accounting purposes, which is distributable to shareholders and which, because no cash is received at the time of accrual, may require the liquidation of other portfolio securities to satisfy the Fund s distribution obligations, in which case the Fund will forgo the opportunity to purchase additional income producing assets with the liquidation proceeds. Zero coupon U.S. government securities include STRIPS and CUBES, which are issued by the U.S. Treasury as component parts of U.S. Treasury bonds and represent scheduled interest and principal payments on the bonds.

*Other Investment Companies.* The Fund may invest in the securities of other investment companies to the extent that such investments are consistent with the Fund s investment objective and policies and are permissible under the 1940 Act. Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may not acquire the securities of other domestic or non-U.S. investment companies if, as a result, (1) more than 10% of the Fund s total assets would be invested in securities of other investment companies, (2) such purchase would result in more than 3% of the total outstanding voting securities of any one investment company being held by the Fund, or (3) more than 5% of the Fund s total assets would be invested in any one investment company. These limitations do not apply to the purchase of shares of money market funds or of any investment company in connection with a merger, consolidation, reorganization or acquisition of substantially all the assets of another investment company.

The Fund, as a holder of the securities of other investment companies, will bear its pro rata portion of the other investment companies expenses, including advisory fees. These expenses are in addition to the direct expenses of the Fund s own operations.

*Temporary Defensive Investments.* Under unusual market or economic conditions or for temporary defensive purposes, the Fund may invest up to 100% of its total assets in securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or its instrumentalities or agencies, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances and other bank obligations, commercial paper rated in the highest category by a NRSRO or other fixed income securities deemed by Calamos to be consistent with a defensive posture, or may hold cash. The yield on such securities may be lower than the yield on lower rated fixed income securities. During such periods, the Fund may not be able to achieve its investment objective.

*Repurchase Agreements.* The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with broker-dealers, member banks of the Federal Reserve System and other financial institutions. Repurchase agreements are arrangements under which the Fund purchases securities and the seller agrees to repurchase the securities within a specific time and at a specific price. The repurchase price is generally higher than the Fund s purchase price, with the difference being income to the Fund. The counterparty s obligations under the repurchase agreement are collateralized with U.S. Treasury and/or agency obligations with a market value of not less than 100% of the obligations, valued daily. Collateral is held by the Fund s custodian in a segregated, safekeeping account for the benefit of the Fund. Repurchase agreements afford the Fund an opportunity to earn income on temporarily available cash at low risk. In the event of commencement of bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings with respect to the seller of the security before repurchase of the security under a repurchase agreement, the Fund may encounter delay and incur costs before being able to sell the security. Such a delay may involve loss of interest or a decline in price of the security. If the court characterizes the transaction as a loan and the Fund has not perfected a security interest in the

security, the Fund may be required to return the security to the seller s estate and be treated as an unsecured creditor of the seller. As an unsecured creditor, the Fund would be at risk of losing some or all of the principal and interest involved in the transaction.

Lending of Portfolio Securities. The Fund may lend portfolio securities to registered broker-dealers or other institutional investors deemed by Calamos to be of good standing under agreements which require that the loans be secured continuously by collateral in cash, cash equivalents or U.S. Treasury bills maintained on a current basis at an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned. The Fund continues to receive the equivalent of the interest or dividends paid by the issuer on the securities loaned as well as the benefit of an increase and the detriment of any decrease in the market value of the securities loaned and would also receive compensation based on investment of the collateral. The Fund would not, however, have the right to vote any securities having voting rights during the existence of the loan, but could call the loan in anticipation of an important vote to be taken among holders of the securities or of the giving or withholding of consent on a material matter affecting the investment.

As with other extensions of credit, there are risks of delay in recovery or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. At no time would the value of the securities loaned exceed 33 1/3% of the value of the Fund s total assets.

*Portfolio Turnover*. Although the Fund does not purchase securities with a view to rapid turnover, there are no limitations on the length of time that portfolio securities must be held. Portfolio turnover can occur for a number of reasons, including calls for redemption, general conditions in the securities markets, more favorable investment opportunities in other securities, or other factors relating to the desirability of holding or changing a portfolio investment. The portfolio turnover rates may vary greatly from year to year. A high rate of portfolio turnover in the Fund would result in increased transaction expense, which must be borne by the Fund. High portfolio turnover may also result in the realization of capital gains or losses and, to the extent net short-term capital gains are realized, any distributions resulting from such gains will be considered ordinary income for federal income tax purposes.

# **Conflicts of Interest**

Conflicts of interest may arise from the fact that Calamos and its affiliates carry on substantial investment activities for other clients, in which we have no interest, some of which may have similar investment strategies as us. Calamos or its affiliates may have financial incentives to favor certain of such accounts over us. Any of their proprietary accounts and other customer accounts may compete with us for specific trades. Calamos or its affiliates may give advice and recommend securities to, or buy or sell securities for, us which advice or securities may differ from advice given to, or securities recommended or bought or sold for, other accounts and customers, even though their investment objectives may be the same as, or similar to, our objectives. When two or more clients advised by Calamos or its affiliates seek to purchase or sell the same publicly traded securities, the securities actually purchased or sold will be allocated among the clients on a good faith equitable basis by Calamos in its discretion and in accordance with the client s various investment objectives and the Calamos procedures. In some cases, this system may adversely affect the price or size of the position we may obtain or sell. In other cases, our ability to participate in volume transactions may produce better execution for us.

Calamos will evaluate a variety of factors in determining whether a particular investment opportunity or strategy is appropriate and feasible for the relevant account at a particular time, including, but not limited to, the following: (1) the nature of the investment opportunity taken in the context of the

other investments at the time; (2) the liquidity of the investment relative to the needs of the particular entity or account; (3) the availability of the opportunity (i.e., size of obtainable position); (4) the transaction costs involved; and (5) the investment or regulatory limitations applicable to the particular entity or account. Because these considerations may differ when applied to us and relevant accounts under management in the context of any particular investment opportunity, our investment activities, on the one hand, and other managed accounts, on the other hand, may differ considerably from time to time. In addition, our fees and expenses will differ from those of the other managed accounts. Accordingly, investors should be aware that our future performance and future performance of other accounts of Calamos may vary.

Situations may occur when we could be disadvantaged because of the investment activities conducted by Calamos and its affiliates for its other funds or accounts. Such situations may be based on, among other things, the following: (1) legal or internal restrictions on the combined size of positions that may be taken for us or the other accounts, thereby limiting the size of our position; (2) the difficulty of liquidating an investment for us or the other accounts where the market cannot absorb the sale of the combined position; or (3) limits on co-investing in negotiated transactions under the 1940 Act, as discussed further below.

Calamos and its principals, officers, employees, and affiliates may buy and sell securities or other investments for their own accounts and may have actual or potential conflicts of interest with respect to investments made on our behalf. As a result of differing trading and investment strategies or constraints, positions may be taken by principals, officers, employees, and affiliates of Calamos that are the same as, different from, or made at a different time than positions taken for us.

### LEVERAGE

The Fund may issue preferred shares or debt securities or borrow to increase its assets available for investment. The Fund has Preferred Shares outstanding with an aggregate liquidation preference representing approximately 31.18% of the Fund s total assets as of December 31, 2007. As a non-fundamental policy, the aggregate liquidation of preferred shares and the aggregate principal amount of debt securities or borrowings may not exceed 38% of the Fund s total assets. However, the Board of Trustees reserves the right to issue preferred shares or debt securities or borrow to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act. The Fund generally will not issue preferred shares or debt securities or borrow unless Calamos expects that the Fund will achieve a greater return on such leverage than the additional costs the Fund incurs as a result of such leverage. The Fund also may borrow money as a temporary measure for extraordinary or emergency purposes, including the payment of dividends and the settlement of securities transactions, which otherwise might require untimely dispositions of the Fund s holdings. When the Fund leverage because Calamos for investment management services will be higher than if the Fund did not leverage because Calamos fees are calculated based on the Fund s managed assets, which include the proceeds of the issuance of preferred shares or debt securities or any outstanding borrowings. Consequently, the Fund and Calamos may have differing interests in determining whether to leverage the Fund s assets. The Fund s Board of Trustees monitors any potential conflicts of interest on an ongoing basis.

The Fund s use of leverage is premised upon the expectation that the Fund s leverage costs will be lower than the return the Fund achieves on its investments with the leverage proceeds. Such difference in return may result from the Fund s higher credit rating or the short-term nature of its borrowing compared to the long-term nature of its investments. Because Calamos seeks to invest the Fund s total assets (including the assets obtained from leverage) in the higher yielding portfolio investments or portfolio investments with the potential for capital appreciation, the holders of common shares will be the

# Edgar Filing: CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND - Form N-2/A

### **Table of Contents**

beneficiaries of any incremental return. Should the differential between the underlying assets and cost of leverage narrow, the incremental return pick up will be reduced. Furthermore, if long-term interest rates rise without a corresponding increase in the yield on the Fund s portfolio investments or the Fund otherwise incurs losses on its investments, the Fund s net asset value attributable to its common shares will reflect the decline in the value of portfolio holdings resulting therefrom.

Leverage creates risks which may adversely affect the return for the holders of common shares, including: the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of common shares;

fluctuations in the dividend rates on any preferred shares or in interest rates on borrowings and short-term debt;

increased operating costs, which are effectively borne by common shareholders, may reduce the Fund s total return; and

the potential for a decline in the value of an investment acquired with borrowed funds, while the Fund s obligations under such borrowing remains fixed.

Leverage is a speculative technique that could adversely affect the returns to common shareholders. Leverage can cause the Fund to lose money and can magnify the effect of any losses. To the extent the income or capital appreciation derived from securities purchased with funds received from leverage exceeds the cost of leverage, the Fund s return will be greater than if leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the income or capital appreciation from the securities purchased with such funds is not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage or if the Fund incurs capital losses, the return of the Fund will be less than if leverage had not been used, and therefore the amount available for distribution to common shareholders as dividends and other distributions will be reduced or potentially eliminated (or will consist of return of capital).

Calamos may determine to maintain the Fund s leveraged position if it expects that the long-term benefits to the Fund s common shareholders of maintaining the leveraged position will outweigh the current reduced return. Capital raised through the issuance of preferred shares or debt securities or borrowing will be subject to dividend payments or interest costs that may or may not exceed the income and appreciation on the assets purchased. The issuance of additional classes of preferred shares involves offering expenses and other costs and may limit the Fund s freedom to pay dividends on common shares or to engage in other activities. The Fund also may be required to maintain minimum average balances in connection with borrowings or to pay a commitment or other fee to maintain a line of credit; either of these requirements would increase the cost of borrowing over the stated interest rate. The Fund will pay (and common shareholders will bear) any costs and expenses relating to any borrowings and to the issuance and ongoing maintenance of preferred shares or debt securities (for example, distribution related expenses such as a participation fee paid at an annual rate of 0.25% of preferred share liquidation preference to broker-dealers successfully participating in preferred share auctions, the higher management fee resulting from the use of any such leverage, and interest and/or dividend expense and ongoing maintenance). Net asset value will be reduced immediately following any additional offering of preferred shares or debt securities by the costs of that offering paid by the Fund.

Under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to issue preferred shares unless immediately after such issuance the Fund has an asset coverage of at least 200% of the liquidation value of the aggregate amount of outstanding preferred shares (i.e., such liquidation value may not exceed 50% of the value of

the Fund s total assets). Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may only issue one class of senior securities representing equity. So long as preferred shares are outstanding, additional senior equity securities must rank on a parity with the preferred shares. In addition, the Fund is not permitted to declare any cash dividend or other distribution on its common shares unless, at the time of such declaration, the net asset value of the Fund s portfolio (determined after deducting the amount of such dividend or distribution) is at least 200% of such liquidation value. Under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to incur indebtedness unless immediately after such borrowing the Fund has an asset coverage of at least 300% of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of indebtedness (i.e., such indebtedness may not exceed 33 1/3% of the value of the Fund s total assets). Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may only issue one class of senior securities representing indebtedness. Additionally, under the 1940 Act, the Fund may not declare any dividend or other distribution upon any class of its shares, or purchase any such shares, unless the aggregate indebtedness of the Fund has, at the time of the declaration of any such dividend or distribution or at the time of any such purchase, an asset coverage of at least 300% after deducting the amount of such dividend, distribution, or purchase price, as the case may be.

The Fund is subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by guidelines of Moody s Investor Services, Inc. (Moody s) and Standard & Poor s Corporation (S&P), which have issued ratings for the Preferred Shares and may do see for any debt securities or preferred shares issued by the Fund in the future. These guidelines impose asset coverage and portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act. Certain types of borrowings may result in the Fund being subject to covenants in credit agreements, including those relating to asset coverage, borrowing base and portfolio composition requirements and additional covenants that may affect the Fund s ability to pay dividends and distributions on common shares in certain instances. The Fund also may be required to pledge its assets to the lenders in connection with certain types of borrowings. Calamos does not anticipate that these covenants or restrictions will adversely affect its ability to manage the Fund s portfolio in accordance with the Fund s investment objective and policies. Due to these covenants or restrictions, the Fund may be forced to liquidate investments at times and at prices that are not favorable to the Fund, or the Fund may be forced to forgo investments that Calamos otherwise views as favorable.

The extent to which the Fund employs leverage will depend on many factors, the most important of which are investment outlook, market conditions and interest rates. Successful use of a leveraging strategy depends on Calamos ability to predict correctly interest rates and market movements. There is no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful during any period in which it is employed.

# **Effects of Leverage**

On May 4, 2004, the Fund issued Preferred Shares with an aggregate liquidation preference of \$1,080,000,000. The aggregate liquidation preference of Preferred Shares represented approximately 31.18% of the Fund s total assets as of December 31, 2007. Asset coverage with respect to Preferred Shares was 320.73% as of that date. The dividend rate payable by the Fund on the Preferred Shares varies based on auctions normally held every 7 or 28 days. As of December 31, 2007, a dividend rate of 5.91%, 6.01%, 5.50%, 5.96%, 5.94%, 5.89%, and 6.20% per year was in effect for Series M, TU, W, TH, F, A and B preferred shares, respectively.

The following table illustrates the hypothetical effect on the return to a holder of the Fund s common shares of the leverage obtained by issuing preferred shares with a liquidation value equal to 33% of the Fund s total assets, assuming hypothetical annual returns of the Fund s portfolio of minus 10% to plus 10% and dividends on preferred shares at an annual dividend rate of 5.92%. The purpose of the table is to assist you in understanding the effects of leverage. As the table shows, leverage generally increases the return to shareholders when portfolio return is positive and greater than the cost of leverage

and decreases the return when the portfolio return is negative or less than the cost of leverage. The figures appearing in the table are hypothetical and actual returns may be greater or less than those appearing in the table.

Assumed Portfolio Return (Net of					
Expenses)	(10)%	(5)%	0%	5%	10%
Corresponding Common Share					
Return	-17.96%	-10.46%	-2.96%	4.54%	12.04%
For further information about leveraging, see Risk Factors Additional Risks to Common Shareholders Leverage.					
INTEREST RATE TRANSACTIONS					

In order to reduce the interest rate risk inherent in the Fund s underlying investments and capital structure, the Fund, if market conditions are deemed favorable, may enter into interest rate swap or cap transactions to attempt to protect itself from increasing dividend or interest expenses on its leverage and to hedge portfolio securities from interest rate changes. Interest rate swaps involve the Fund s agreement with the swap counterparty to pay a fixed rate payment in exchange for the counterparty agreeing to pay the Fund a payment at a variable rate that is expected to approximate the rate of any variable rate payment obligation on the Fund s leverage. The payment obligations would be based on the notional amount of the swap.

The Fund may use an interest rate cap, which would require it to pay a premium to the counterparty and would entitle it, to the extent that a specified variable rate index exceeds a predetermined fixed rate, to receive from the counterparty payment of the difference based on the notional amount of such cap. The Fund would use interest rate swaps or caps only with the intent to reduce or eliminate the risk that an increase in short-term interest rates could have on common share net earnings as a result of leverage.

The Fund will usually enter into swaps or caps on a net basis; that is, the two payment streams will be netted out in a cash settlement on the payment date or dates specified in the instrument, with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments. The Fund intends to segregate with its custodian cash or liquid securities having a value at least equal to the Fund s net payment obligations under any swap transaction, marked-to-market daily.

The use of interest rate swaps and caps is a highly specialized activity that involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio security transactions. Depending on the state of interest rates in general, the Fund s use of interest rate swaps or caps could enhance or harm the overall performance of the Fund s common shares. To the extent that there is a decline in interest rates for maturities equal to the remaining maturity on the Fund s fixed rate payment obligation under the interest rate swap or equal to the remaining term of the interest rate cap, the value of the swap or cap (which initially has a value of zero) could decline, and could result in a decline in the net asset value of the common shares. If, on the other hand, such rates were to increase, the value of the swap or cap could increase, and thereby increase the net asset value of the common shares. As interest rate swaps or caps approach their maturity, their positive or negative value due to interest rate changes will approach zero.

In addition, if the short-term interest rates effectively received by the Fund during the term of an interest rate swap are lower than the Fund s fixed rate of payment on the swap, the swap will increase the Fund s operating expenses and reduce common share net earnings. For example, if the Fund were to (A) issue Preferred Shares representing 33% of the Fund s total assets and (B) enter into one or more interest

rate swaps in a notional amount equal to 75% of its outstanding Preferred Shares under which the Fund would receive a short-term swap rate of 5.12% and pay a fixed swap rate of 5.35% over the term of the swap, the swap would effectively increase Fund expenses and reduce Fund common share net earnings by approximately 0.09% as a percentage of net assets attributable to common shares and approximately 0.06% as a percentage of managed assets. If, on the other hand, the short-term interest rates effectively received by the Fund are higher than the Fund s fixed rate of payment on the interest rate swap, the swap would enhance common share net earnings. In either case, the swap would have the effect of reducing fluctuations in the Fund s cost of leverage due to changes in short-term interest rates during the term of the swap. The example above is purely for illustrative purposes and is not predictive of the actual percentage of the Fund s leverage that will be hedged by a swap, the actual fixed rates that the Fund will pay under the swap (which will depend on market interest rates for the applicable maturities at the time the Fund enters into swaps) or the actual short-term rates that the Fund will receive on any swaps (which fluctuate frequently during the term of the swap, and may change significantly from initial levels), or the actual impact such swaps will have on the Fund s expenses and common share net earnings.

Buying interest rate caps could enhance the performance of the Fund s common shares by providing a maximum leverage expense. Buying interest rate caps could also increase the operating expenses of the Fund and decrease the net earnings of the common shares in the event that the premium paid by the Fund to the counterparty exceeds the additional amount the Fund would have been required to pay on its preferred shares due to increases in short-term interest rates during the term of the cap had it not entered into the cap agreement. The Fund has no current intention of selling an interest rate swap or cap. The Fund will monitor any interest rate swaps or caps with a view to ensuring that it remains in compliance with the federal income tax requirements for qualification as a regulated investment company.

Interest rate swaps and caps do not involve the delivery of securities or other underlying assets or principal. Accordingly, the risk of loss with respect to interest rate swaps and caps is limited to the net amount of interest payments that the Fund is contractually obligated to make. If the counterparty defaults, the Fund would not be able to use the anticipated net receipts under the swap or cap to offset the dividend or interest payments on the Fund s leverage. Depending on whether the Fund would be entitled to receive net payments from the counterparty on the swap or cap, which in turn would depend on the general state of short-term interest rates at that point in time, such a default could negatively impact the performance of the common shares.

The Fund will not enter into an interest rate swap or cap transaction with any counterparty that Calamos believes does not have the financial resources to honor its obligation under the interest rate swap or cap transaction. Further, Calamos will continually monitor the financial stability of a counterparty to an interest rate swap or cap transaction in an effort to proactively protect the Fund s investments.

In addition, at the time the interest rate swap or cap transaction reaches its scheduled termination date, there is a risk that the Fund will not be able to obtain a replacement transaction or that the terms of the replacement will not be as favorable as on the expiring transaction. If this occurs, it could have a negative impact on the performance of the Fund s common shares.

The Fund may choose or be required to redeem some or all preferred shares or prepay any borrowings. This redemption or prepayment would likely result in the Fund seeking to terminate early all or a portion of any swap or cap transaction. Such early termination of a swap could result in a termination payment by or to the Fund. An early termination of a cap could result in a termination payment to the Fund.

## **RISK FACTORS**

Investing in any of our securities involves risk, including the risk that you may receive little or no return on your investment or even that you may lose part or all of your investment. Therefore, before investing in any of our securities you should consider carefully the following risks, as well as any risk factors included in the applicable prospectus supplement.

# **Fund Risks**

*General.* The Fund is a diversified, closed-end management investment company designed primarily as a long-term investment and not as a trading tool. The Fund invests in a diversified portfolio of common and preferred stocks and income producing securities such as investment grade and below investment grade debt securities. An investment in the Fund s common shares may be speculative and it involves a high degree of risk. The Fund should not constitute a complete investment program. Due to the uncertainty in all investments, there can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

*Equity Securities Risk.* Equity investments are subject to greater fluctuations in market value than other asset classes as a result of such factors as the issuer s business performance, investor perceptions, stock market trends and general economic conditions. Equity securities are subordinated to bonds and other debt instruments in a company s capital structure in terms of priority to corporate income and liquidation payments.

*High Yield Securities Risk.* The Fund may invest in high yield securities of any rating. Investment in high yield securities involves substantial risk of loss. Below investment grade non-convertible debt securities or comparable unrated securities are commonly referred to as junk bonds and are considered predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer s ability to pay interest and principal and are susceptible to default or decline in market value due to adverse economic and business developments. The market values for high yield securities tend to be very volatile, and these securities are less liquid than investment grade debt securities. For these reasons, your investment in the Fund is subject to the following specific risks:

increased price sensitivity to changing interest rates and to a deteriorating economic environment;

greater risk of loss due to default or declining credit quality;

adverse company specific events are more likely to render the issuer unable to make interest and/or principal payments; and

if a negative perception of the high yield market develops, the price and liquidity of high yield securities may be depressed. This negative perception could last for a significant period of time.

Securities rated below investment grade are speculative with respect to the capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of such securities. A rating of C from Moody s means that the issue so rated can be regarded as having extremely poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing. Standard & Poor s assigns a rating of C to issues that are currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the C rating may be used to cover a situation where a bankruptcy petition has been filed or similar action taken, but payments on the obligation are being continued (a C rating is

also assigned to a preferred stock issue in arrears on dividends or sinking fund payments, but that is currently paying). See the statement of additional information for a description of Moody s and Standard & Poor s ratings.

Adverse changes in economic conditions are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of a high yield issuer to make principal payments and interest payments than an investment grade issuer. The principal amount of high yield securities outstanding has proliferated in the past decade as an increasing number of issuers have used high yield securities for corporate financing. An economic downturn could severely affect the ability of highly leveraged issuers to service their debt obligations or to repay their obligations upon maturity. Similarly, downturns in profitability in specific industries could adversely affect the ability of high yield issuers in those industries to meet their obligations. The market values of lower quality debt securities tend to reflect individual developments of the issuer to a greater extent than do higher quality securities, which react primarily to fluctuations in the general level of interest rates. Factors having an adverse impact on the market value of lower quality securities may have an adverse effect on the Fund s net asset value and the market value of its common shares. In addition, the Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek recovery upon a default in payment of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. In certain circumstances, the Fund may be required to foreclose on an issuer s assets and take possession of its property or operations. In such circumstances, the Fund would incur additional costs in disposing of such assets and potential liabilities from operating any business acquired.

The secondary market for high yield securities may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities, a factor which may have an adverse effect on the Fund s ability to dispose of a particular security. There are fewer dealers in the market for high yield securities than for investment grade obligations. The prices quoted by different dealers may vary significantly and the spread between the bid and asked price is generally much larger than for higher quality instruments. Under adverse market or economic conditions, the secondary market for high yield securities could contract further, independent of any specific adverse changes in the condition of a particular issuer, and these instruments may become illiquid. As a result, the Fund could find it more difficult to sell these securities or may be able to sell the securities only at prices lower than if such securities were widely traded. Prices realized upon the sale of such lower rated or unrated securities, under these circumstances, may be less than the prices used in calculating the Fund s net asset value.

Because investors generally perceive that there are greater risks associated with lower quality debt securities of the type in which the Fund may invest a portion of its assets, the yields and prices of such securities may tend to fluctuate more than those for higher rated securities. In the lower quality segments of the debt securities market, changes in perceptions of issuers creditworthiness tend to occur more frequently and in a more pronounced manner than do changes in higher quality segments of the debt securities market, resulting in greater yield and price volatility.

If the Fund invests in high yield securities that are rated C or below, the Fund will incur significant risk in addition to the risks associated with investments in high yield securities and corporate loans. Distressed securities frequently do not produce income while they are outstanding. The Fund may purchase distressed securities that are in default or the issuers of which are in bankruptcy. The Fund may be required to bear certain extraordinary expenses in order to protect and recover its investment.

Interest Rate Risk. Fixed income securities, including high yield securities, are subject to certain common risks, including:

if interest rates go up, the value of debt securities in the Fund s portfolio generally will decline;

during periods of declining interest rates, the issuer of a security may exercise its option to prepay principal earlier than scheduled, forcing the Fund to reinvest in lower yielding securities. This is known as call or prepayment risk. Debt securities frequently have call features that allow the issuer to repurchase the security prior to its stated maturity. An issuer may redeem an obligation if the issuer can refinance the debt at a lower cost due to declining interest rates or an improvement in the credit standing of the issuer;

during periods of rising interest rates, the average life of certain types of securities may be extended because of slower than expected principal payments. This may lock in a below market interest rate, increase the security s duration (the estimated period until the security is paid in full) and reduce the value of the security. This is known as extension risk; and

market interest rates currently are near historically low levels.

*Default Risk.* Default risk refers to the risk that a company who issues a debt security will be unable to fulfill its obligations to repay principal and interest. The lower a debt security is rated, the greater its default risk.

Liquidity Risk. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its managed assets in securities that, at the time of investment, are illiquid (determined using the Commission s standard applicable to investment companies, i.e., securities that cannot be disposed of within 7 days in the ordinary course of business at approximately the value at which the Fund has valued the securities). The Fund may also invest without limit in securities that have not been registered for public sale, but that are eligible for purchase and sale by certain qualified institutional buyers. Calamos, under the supervision of the Board of Trustees, will determine whether securities purchased under Rule 144A are illiquid (that is, not readily marketable) and thus subject to the Fund s limit of investing no more than 15% of its managed assets in illiquid securities. Investments in Rule 144A Securities could have the effect of increasing the amount of the Fund s assets invested in illiquid securities if qualified institutional buyers are unwilling to purchase these Rule 144A Securities. Illiquid securities may be difficult to dispose of at a fair price at the times when the Fund believes it is desirable to do so. Investment of the Fund s assets in illiquid securities may restrict the Fund s ability to take advantage of market opportunities. The market price of illiquid securities generally is more volatile than that of more liquid securities, which may adversely affect the price that the Fund pays for or recovers upon the sale of illiquid securities. Illiquid securities are also more difficult to value and Calamos judgment may play a greater role in the valuation process. The risks associated with illiquid securities may be particularly acute in situations in which the Fund s operations require cash and could result in the Fund borrowing to meet its short-term needs or incurring losses on the sale of illiquid securities.

*Foreign Securities Risk.* Investments in non-U.S. issuers may involve unique risks compared to investing in securities of U.S. issuers. These risks are more pronounced to the extent that the Fund invests a significant portion of its non-U.S. investments in one region or in the securities of emerging market issuers. These risks may include:

less information about non-U.S. issuers or markets may be available due to less rigorous disclosure or accounting standards or regulatory practices;

# Edgar Filing: CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND - Form N-2/A

#### **Table of Contents**

many non-U.S. markets are smaller, less liquid and more volatile. In a changing market, Calamos may not be able to sell the Fund s portfolio securities at times, in amounts and at prices it considers reasonable;

the adverse effect of currency exchange rates or controls on the value of the Fund s investments;

the economies of non-U.S. countries may grow at slower rates than expected or may experience a downturn or recession;

economic, political and social developments may adversely affect the securities markets, including expropriation and nationalization;

the difficulty in obtaining or enforcing a court judgment in non-U.S. countries;

restrictions on foreign investments in non-U.S. jurisdictions;

difficulties in effecting the repatriation of capital invested in non-U.S. countries; and

withholding and other non-U.S. taxes may decrease the Fund s return.

There may be less publicly available information about non-U.S. markets and issuers than is available with respect to U.S. securities and issuers. Non-U.S. companies generally are not subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. The trading markets for most non-U.S. securities are generally less liquid and subject to greater price volatility than the markets for comparable securities in the United States. The markets for securities in certain emerging markets are in the earliest stages of their development. Even the markets for relatively widely traded securities in certain non-U.S. markets, including emerging market countries, may not be able to absorb, without price disruptions, a significant increase in trading volume or trades of a size customarily undertaken by institutional investors in the United States.

Additionally, market making and arbitrage activities are generally less extensive in such markets, which may contribute to increased volatility and reduced liquidity.

Economies and social and political conditions in individual countries may differ unfavorably from the United States. Non-U.S. economies may have less favorable rates of growth of gross domestic product, rates of inflation, currency valuation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments positions. Many countries have experienced substantial, and in some cases extremely high, rates of inflation for many years. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had, and may continue to have, very negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain emerging market countries. Unanticipated political or social developments may also affect the values of the Fund s investments and the availability to the Fund of additional investments in such countries.

*Convertible Securities Risk.* The value of a convertible security is influenced by both the yield of non-convertible securities of comparable issuers and by the value of the underlying common stocks. The value of a convertible security viewed without regard to its conversion feature (i.e., strictly on the basis of its yield) is sometimes referred to as its investment value. A convertible security s investment value tends to decline as prevailing interest rate levels increase. Conversely, a convertible security s investment value increases as prevailing interest rate levels decline.

However, a convertible security s market value will also be influenced by its conversion price, which is the market value of the underlying common stock that would be obtained if the convertible security were converted. A convertible security s conversion price tends to increase as the price of the underlying common stock increases, and decrease as the price of the underlying common stock decreases. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines such that the conversion price is substantially below the investment value of the convertible security, the price of the convertible security tends to be influenced more by the yield of the convertible security. Thus, the convertible security may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock. If the market price of the underlying common stock increases to a point where the conversion value approximates or exceeds the investment value, the price of the convertible security tends to be influenced more by the market price of the underlying common stock. In the event of a liquidation of the issuing company, holders of convertible securities would be paid before the company s common stockholders. Consequently, an issuer s convertible securities generally entail less risk than its common stock.

*Synthetic Convertible Securities Risk.* The value of a synthetic convertible security may respond differently to market fluctuations than a convertible security because a synthetic convertible is composed of two or more separate securities, each with its own market value. In addition, if the value of the underlying common stock or the level of the index involved in the convertible component falls below the exercise price of the warrant or option, the warrant or option may lose all value.

*Risks Associated with Options.* There are several risks associated with transactions in options. For example, there are significant differences between the securities markets and options markets that could result in an imperfect correlation among these markets, causing a given transaction not to achieve its objectives. A decision as to whether, when and how to use options involves the exercise of skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived transaction may be unsuccessful to some degree because of market behavior or unexpected events. The ability of the Fund to utilize options successfully will depend on Calamos ability to predict pertinent market movements, which cannot be assured.

The Fund may sell options on individual securities and securities indices. All calls sold by the Fund must be covered. Even though the Fund will receive the option premium to help protect it against loss, a call option sold by the Fund exposes the Fund during the term of the option to possible loss of opportunity to realize appreciation in the market price of the underlying security or instrument and may require the Fund to hold a security or instrument that it might otherwise have sold. The Fund may purchase and sell put options on individual securities and securities indices. In selling put options, there is a risk that the Fund may be required to buy the underlying security at a disadvantageous price above the market price.

*Tax Risk.* The Fund may invest in certain securities, such as certain convertible securities, for which the federal income tax treatment may not be clear or may be subject to recharacterization by the Internal Revenue Service. It could be more difficult for the Fund to comply with the federal income tax requirements applicable to regulated investment companies if the tax characterization of the Fund s investments or the tax treatment of the income from such investments were successfully challenged by the Internal Revenue Service. See Certain Federal Income Tax Matters.

*Management Risk.* Calamos judgment about the attractiveness, relative value or potential appreciation of a particular sector, security or investment strategy may prove to be incorrect.

Antitakeover Provisions. The Fund's Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws include provisions that could limit the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or to change the composition of its Board of Trustees. Such provisions could limit the ability of shareholders to sell their shares at a premium over prevailing market prices by discouraging a third party from seeking to obtain control of the Fund. These provisions include staggered terms of office for the Trustees, advance notice requirements for shareholder proposals, and super-majority voting requirements for certain transactions with affiliates, converting the Fund to an open-end investment company or a merger, asset sale or similar transaction. Holders of preferred shares will have voting rights in addition to and separate from the voting rights of common shareholders with respect to certain of these matters. See Description of Shares Preferred Shares and Certain Provisions of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws. The holders of preferred shares, on the one hand, and the holders of the common shares, on the other, may have interests that conflict in these situations.

# Edgar Filing: CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND - Form N-2/A

*Market Disruption Risk.* Certain events have a disruptive effect on the securities markets, such as terrorist attacks, war and other geopolitical events, earthquakes, storms and other disasters. The Fund cannot predict the effects of similar events in the future on the U.S. economy or any foreign economy.

### **Additional Risks to Common Shareholders**

*Leverage Risk.* The Fund has issued Preferred Shares and may issue additional preferred shares or borrow money or issue debt securities. The Fund s use of leverage creates risk. As a non-fundamental policy, such preferred shares, borrowing or debt securities may not exceed 38% of the Fund s total assets. However, the Board of Trustees reserves the right to issue preferred shares or borrow to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act.

Leverage creates risks which may adversely affect the return for the holders of common shares, including: the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of common shares;

fluctuations in the dividend rates on any preferred shares or in interest rates on borrowings and short-term debt;

increased operating costs, which are effectively borne by common shareholders, may reduce the Fund s total return; and

the potential for a decline in the value of an investment acquired with borrowed funds, while the Fund s obligations under such borrowing remain fixed.

The Fund s use of leverage is premised upon the expectation that the Fund s preferred share dividends or borrowing cost will be lower than the return the Fund achieves on its investments with the proceeds of the issuance of preferred shares or debt securities or borrowing. Such difference in return may result from the Fund s higher credit rating or the short-term nature of its borrowing compared to the long-term nature of its investments. Because Calamos seeks to invest the Fund s total assets (including the assets obtained from leverage) in the higher yielding portfolio investments or portfolio investments with the potential for capital appreciation, the holders of common shares will be the beneficiaries of the incremental return. Should the differential between the underlying assets and cost of leverage narrow, the incremental return pick up will be reduced. Furthermore, if long-term interest rates rise without a corresponding increase in the yield on the Fund s portfolio investments or the Fund otherwise incurs losses on its investments, the Fund s net asset value attributable to its common shares will reflect the decline in the value of portfolio holdings resulting therefrom.

Leverage is a speculative technique that could adversely affect the returns to common shareholders. Leverage can cause the Fund to lose money and can magnify the effect of any losses. To the extent the income or capital appreciation derived from securities purchased with funds received from leverage exceeds the cost of leverage, the Fund s return will be greater than if leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the income or capital appreciation from the securities purchased with such funds is not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage or if the Fund incurs capital losses, the return of the Fund will be less than if leverage had not been used, and therefore the amount available for distribution to common shareholders as dividends and other distributions will be reduced or potentially eliminated.

The Fund will pay, and common shareholders will effectively bear, any costs and expenses relating to any borrowings and to the issuance and ongoing maintenance of preferred shares or debt securities. Such costs and expenses include the higher management fee resulting from the use of any such leverage, offering and/or issuance costs, and interest and/or dividend expense and ongoing maintenance. The markets for auction rate securities have continued to face widening spreads, reduced demand and, more recently, an increased number of failed auctions. When a failed auction occurs, the dividend rate for the Fund s auction rate preferred shares is set at the maximum rate as determined by the terms of such securities. In summary, the maximum rate that goes into effect in the event of a failed auction is determined by a formula equal to the applicable percentage of a reference rate, which percentage ranges from 150% to 275%, depending upon the rating then assigned to the preferred shares. The reference rate is LIBOR for dividend periods of less than 365 days, and a U.S. Treasury average index rate for dividend periods of more than 365 days. These reference rates, and thus the maximum rate, can fluctuate over time. The formula for determining the maximum rate will be described in more detail in an applicable prospectus supplement if the Fund issues senior securities pursuant to this registration statement. These conditions may result in higher leverage costs to common stockholders.

Certain types of borrowings may result in the Fund being subject to covenants in credit agreements, including those relating to asset coverage, borrowing base and portfolio composition requirements and additional covenants that may

affect the Fund s ability to pay dividends and distributions on common shares in certain instances. The Fund may also be required to pledge its assets to the lenders in connection with certain types of borrowings. The Fund is subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by guidelines of Moody s and S&P, which have issued ratings for the Preferred

Shares and may do so for short-term debt instruments issued by the Fund. These guidelines may impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act.

If the Fund s ability to make dividends and distributions on its common shares is limited, such limitation could, under certain circumstances, impair the ability of the Fund to maintain its qualification for taxation as a regulated investment company, which would have adverse tax consequences for common shareholders. To the extent that the Fund is required, in connection with maintaining 1940 Act asset coverage requirements or otherwise, or elects to redeem any preferred shares or debt securities or prepay any borrowings, the Fund may need to liquidate investments to fund such redemptions or prepayments. Liquidation at times of adverse economic conditions may result in capital loss and reduce returns to common shareholders.

Because Calamos investment management fee is a percentage of the Fund s managed assets, Calamos fee will be higher if the Fund is leveraged and Calamos will have an incentive to be more aggressive and leverage the Fund. Consequently, the Fund and Calamos may have differing interests in determining whether to leverage the Fund s assets. Any additional use of leverage by the Fund would require approval by the Board of Trustees of the Fund. In considering whether to approve the use of additional leverage, the Board would be presented with all relevant information necessary to make a determination whether or not additional leverage would be in the best interests of the Fund, including information regarding any potential conflicts of interest.

*Interest Rate Transactions Risk.* The Fund may enter into an interest rate swap or cap transaction to attempt to protect itself from increasing dividend or interest expenses on its leverage resulting from increasing short-term interest rates. A decline in interest rates may result in a decline in the value of the swap or cap, which may result in a decline in the net asset value of the Fund.

Depending on the state of interest rates in general, the Fund s use of interest rate swap or cap transactions could enhance or harm the overall performance of the common shares. To the extent there is a decline in interest rates, the value of the interest rate swap or cap could decline, and could result in a decline in the net asset value of the common shares. In addition, if the counterparty to an interest rate swap or cap defaults, the Fund would not be able to use the anticipated net receipts under the swap or cap to offset the dividend or interest payments on the Fund s leverage.

Depending on whether the Fund would be entitled to receive net payments from the counterparty on the swap or cap, which in turn would depend on the general state of short-term interest rates at that point in time, such a default could negatively impact the performance of the common shares. In addition, at the time an interest rate swap or cap transaction reaches its scheduled termination date, there is a risk that the Fund would not be able to obtain a replacement transaction or that the terms of the replacement would not be as favorable as on the expiring transaction. If either of these events occurs, it could have a negative impact on the performance of the common shares.

If the Fund fails to maintain a required 200% asset coverage of the liquidation value of the outstanding preferred shares or if the Fund loses its rating on its preferred shares or fails to maintain other covenants with respect to the preferred shares, the Fund may be required to redeem some or all of the preferred shares. Similarly, the Fund could be required to prepay the principal amount of any debt securities or other borrowings. Such redemption or prepayment would likely result in the Fund seeking to terminate early all or a portion of any swap or cap transaction. Early termination of a swap could result in a termination payment by or to the Fund. Early termination of a cap could result in a termination payment to the Fund. The Fund intends to segregate with its custodian cash or liquid securities having a value at least equal to the Fund s net payment obligations under any swap transaction, marked-to-market daily.

*Market Impact Risk.* The sale of our common shares (or the perception that such sales may occur) may have an adverse effect on prices in the secondary market for our common shares. An increase in the number of common shares available may put downward pressure on the market price for our common shares. These sales also might make it more difficult for us to sell additional equity securities in the future at a time and price we deem appropriate.

*Dilution Risk.* The voting power of current shareholders will be diluted to the extent that current shareholders do not purchase shares in any future common share offerings or do not purchase sufficient shares to maintain their percentage interest. In addition, if we are unable to invest the proceeds of such offering as intended, our per share distribution may decrease and we may not participate in market advances to the same extent as if such proceeds were fully invested as planned.

*Market Discount Risk.* The Fund s common shares have traded both at a premium and at a discount in relation to net asset value. Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount from net asset value, but in some cases trade above net asset value. The risk of the common shares trading at a discount is a risk separate from the risk of a decline in the Fund s net asset value as a result of investment activities. The Fund s net asset value may be reduced immediately following this offering by the offering costs for common shares, including the sales load, which will be borne entirely by all common shareholders.

Whether shareholders will realize a gain or loss upon the sale of the Fund s common shares depends upon whether the market value of the shares at the time of sale is above or below the price the shareholder paid, taking into account transaction costs for the shares, and is not directly dependent upon the Fund s net asset value. Because the market value of the Fund s common shares will be determined by factors such as the relative demand for and supply of the shares in the market, general market conditions and other factors beyond the control of the Fund, the Fund cannot predict whether its common shares will trade at, below or above net asset value, or below or above the public offering price for the common shares.

## **Additional Risks to Senior Security Holders**

Generally, an investment in preferred shares or debt securities (collectively, senior securities ) is subject to the following risks:

*Interest Rate Risk.* Auction rate senior securities pay dividends or interest based on short-term interest rates. If short-term interest rates rise, dividends or interest on the auction rate senior securities may rise so that the amount of dividends or interest due to holders of auction rate senior securities would exceed the cash flow generated by our portfolio securities. This might require us to sell portfolio securities at a time when we would otherwise not do so, which may affect adversely our future ability to generate cash flow. In addition, rising market interest rates could impact negatively the value of our investment portfolio, reducing the amount of assets serving as asset coverage for the senior securities.

Senior Leverage Risk. Preferred shares will be junior in liquidation and with respect to distribution rights to debt securities and any other borrowings. Senior securities representing indebtedness may constitute a substantial lien and burden on preferred shares by reason of their prior claim against our income and against our net assets in liquidation. We may not be permitted to declare dividends or other distributions with respect to any series of preferred shares unless at such time we meet applicable asset coverage requirements and the payment of principal or interest is not in default with respect to any borrowings.

*Ratings and Asset Coverage Risk.* To the extent that senior securities are rated, a rating does not eliminate or necessarily mitigate the risks of investing in our senior securities, and a rating may not fully or accurately reflect all of the credit and market risks associated with a security. A rating agency could downgrade the rating of our shares of preferred stock or debt securities, which may make such securities less liquid at an auction or in the secondary market, though probably with higher resulting interest rates. If a rating agency downgrades the rating assigned to a senior security, we may alter our portfolio or redeem the senior security. We may voluntarily redeem a senior security under certain circumstances.

*Inflation Risk.* Inflation is the reduction in the purchasing power of money resulting from an increase in the price of goods and services. Inflation risk is the risk that the inflation adjusted or real value of an investment in preferred stock or debt securities or the income from that investment will be worth less in the future. As inflation occurs, the real value of the preferred stock or debt securities and the dividend payable to holders of preferred stock or interest payable to holders of debt securities declines. In an inflationary period, however, it is expected that, through the auction process, dividend or interest rates would increase, tending to offset this risk.

*Auction Risk.* To the extent that senior securities trade through an auction, there are certain risks associated with participating in an auction and certain risks if you try to sell senior securities outside of an auction in the secondary market. The markets for auction rate securities have continued to face widening spreads, reduced demand and, more recently, an increased number of failed auctions. A failed auction results when there are not enough bidders in the auction at rates below the maximum rate as prescribed by the terms of the security. When an auction fails, all holders receive the maximum rate and may be unable to sell their shares until the next auction, which may be for an indefinite period of time. Auction risk will be described in an applicable prospectus supplement if we issue senior securities pursuant to this registration statement.

Decline in Net Asset Value Risk. A material decline in our NAV may impair our ability to maintain required levels of asset coverage for our preferred shares or debt securities.

# MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

#### **Trustees and Officers**

The Fund's Board of Trustees provides broad supervision over the affairs of the Fund. The officers of the Fund are responsible for the Fund's operations. There are seven Trustees of the Fund, one of whom is an interested person of the Fund (as defined in the 1940 Act) and six of whom are not interested persons. The names and business addresses of the trustees and officers of the Fund and their principal occupations and other affiliations during the past five years are set forth under Management of the Fund in the statement of additional information.

# **Investment Adviser**

The Fund s investments are managed by Calamos, 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, IL. On December 31, 2007, Calamos managed approximately \$46.2 billion in assets of individuals and institutions. Calamos is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings and indirect subsidiary of Calamos Asset Management, Inc., a publicly traded holding company whose shares are listed on the NASDAQ exchange under the ticker symbol CLMS.

# **Investment Management Agreement**

Subject to the overall authority of the Board of Trustees, Calamos regularly provides the Fund with investment research, advice and supervision and furnishes continuously an investment program for the Fund. In addition, Calamos furnishes for use of the Fund such office space and facilities as the Fund may require for its reasonable needs, supervises the business and affairs of the Fund and provides the following other services on behalf of the Fund and not provided by persons not a party to the investment

management agreement: (a) preparing or assisting in the preparation of reports to and meeting materials for the Trustees; (b) supervising, negotiating contractual arrangements with, to the extent appropriate, and monitoring the performance of, accounting agents, custodians, depositories, transfer agents and pricing agents, accountants, attorneys, printers, underwriters, brokers and dealers, insurers and other persons in any capacity deemed to be necessary or desirable to Fund operations; (c) assisting in the preparation and making of filings with the Commission and other regulatory and self-regulatory organizations, including, but not limited to, preliminary and definitive proxy materials, amendments to the Fund s registration statement on Form N-2 and semi-annual reports on Form N-SAR; (d) overseeing the tabulation of proxies by the Fund s transfer agent; (e) assisting in the preparation and filing of the Fund s federal, state and local tax returns; (f) assisting in the preparation and filing of the Fund s federal excise tax return pursuant to Section 4982 of the Code; (g) providing assistance with investor and public relations matters; (h) monitoring the valuation of portfolio securities and the calculation of net asset value; (i) monitoring the registration of shares of beneficial interest of the Fund under applicable federal and state securities laws; (j) maintaining or causing to be maintained for the Fund all books, records and reports and any other information required under the 1940 Act, to the extent that such books, records and reports and other information are not maintained by the Fund s custodian or other agents of the Fund; (k) assisting in establishing the accounting policies of the Fund; (1) assisting in the resolution of accounting issues that may arise with respect to the Fund s operations and consulting with the Fund s independent accountants, legal counsel and the Fund s other agents as necessary in connection therewith; (m) reviewing the Fund s bills; (n) assisting the Fund in determining the amount of dividends and distributions available to be paid by the Fund to its shareholders, preparing and arranging for the printing of dividend notices to shareholders, and providing the transfer and dividend paying agent, the custodian, and the accounting agent with such information as is required for such parties to effect the payment of dividends and distributions; and (o) otherwise assisting the Fund as it may reasonably request in the conduct of the Fund s business, subject to the direction and control of the Trustees.

Under the investment management agreement, the Fund pays to Calamos a fee based on the average weekly managed assets that is computed weekly and paid on a monthly basis. The fee paid by the Fund is at the annual rate of 1.00% of managed assets. Because the fees paid to Calamos are determined on the basis of the Fund s managed assets, Calamos interest in determining whether to leverage the Fund may differ from the interests of the Fund and its common shareholders.

Under the terms of its investment management agreement, except for the services and facilities provided by Calamos as set forth therein, the Fund shall assume and pay all expenses for all other Fund operations and activities and shall reimburse Calamos for any such expenses incurred by Calamos. The expenses borne by the Fund shall include, without limitation: (a) organization expenses of the Fund (including out-of-pocket expenses, but not including Calamos overhead or employee costs); (b) fees payable to Calamos; (c) legal expenses; (d) auditing and accounting expenses; (e) maintenance of books and records that are required to be maintained by the Fund s custodian or other agents of the Fund; (f) telephone, telex, facsimile, postage and other communications expenses; (g) taxes and governmental fees; (h) fees, dues and expenses incurred by the Fund in connection with membership in investment company trade organizations and the expense of attendance at professional meetings of such organizations; (i) fees and expenses of accounting agents, custodians, subcustodians, transfer agents, dividend disbursing agents and registrars; (j) payment for portfolio pricing or valuation services to pricing agents, accountants, bankers and other specialists, if any; (k) expenses of preparing share certificates; (l) expenses in connection with the issuance, offering, distribution, sale, redemption or repurchase of securities issued by the Fund; (m) expenses relating to investor and public relations provided by parties other than Calamos; (n) expenses and fees of registering or qualifying shares of beneficial interest of the Fund for sale; (o) interest charges, bond premiums and other insurance expenses; (p) freight, insurance and other charges in connection with the shipment of the Fund s portfolio securities; (q) the compensation

and all expenses (specifically including travel expenses relating to Fund business) of Trustees, officers and employees of the Fund who are not affiliated persons of Calamos; (r) brokerage commissions or other costs of acquiring or disposing of any portfolio securities of the Fund; (s) expenses of printing and distributing reports, notices and dividends to shareholders; (t) expenses of preparing and setting in type, printing and mailing prospectuses and statements of additional information of the Fund and supplements thereto; (u) costs of stationery; (v) any litigation expenses; (w) indemnification of Trustees and officers of the Fund; (x) costs of shareholders and other meetings; (y) interest on borrowed money, if any; and (z) the fees and other expenses of listing the Fund s shares on the NYSE or any other national stock exchange.

# **Portfolio Managers**

Calamos employs a team approach to portfolio management, with teams led by the Co-Chief Investment Officers (the Co-CIOs ) and comprised generally of the Co-CIOs, senior strategy analysts, intermediate analysts and junior analysts. The Co-CIOs and senior strategy analysts are supported by and lead a team of investment professionals whose valuable contributions create a synergy of expertise that can be applied across many different investment strategies.

Portfolio holdings are reviewed and trading activity is discussed on a regular basis by team members. Team members generally may make trading decisions guided by the Fund s investment objective and strategy.

While day-to-day management of each portfolio is a team effort, the Co-CIOs, along with the Director of Fixed Income and certain of the senior strategy analysts, have joint primary and supervisory responsibility for the Fund and work with all team members in developing and executing each respective portfolio s investment program. The Fund s portfolio investment program includes implementation of distinct strategies, including a fixed income approach which is lead by the Director of Fixed Income of Calamos. All team leaders are further identified below.

John P. Calamos, Sr., Co-CIO of Calamos, generally focuses on the top-down approach of diversification by industry sector and macro-level investment themes. Nick P. Calamos, Co-CIO of Calamos, also focuses on the top-down approach of diversification by industry sector and macro-level investment themes and, in addition, focuses on the bottom-up approach and corresponding research and analysis. Matthew Toms is Director of Fixed Income. John P. Calamos, Jr., John Hillenbrand, Steve Klouda, Jeff Scudieri and Jon Vacko are each senior strategy analysts.

During the past five years, John P. Calamos, Sr. has been President and Trustee of the Fund and chairman, CEO and Co-CIO of Calamos and its predecessor company. Nick P. Calamos has been Vice President of the Fund and Senior Executive Vice President and Co-CIO of Calamos and its predecessor company. Matthew Toms joined Calamos in March 2007 as Director of Fixed Income. John P. Calamos, Jr., Executive Vice President of Calamos, joined the firm in 1985 and has held various senior investment positions since that time. John Hillenbrand joined Calamos in 2002 and has been a senior strategy analyst since August 2002. Steve Klouda joined Calamos in 1994 and has been a senior strategy analyst since July 2002. Jeff Scudieri joined Calamos in 1997 and has been a senior strategy analyst since July 2002. July 2002 and has been a senior strategy analyst since July 2002. July 2002 and has been a senior strategy analyst since July 2002. July 2002 and has been a senior strategy analyst since September 2002. Jon Vacko joined Calamos in 2000 and has been a senior strategy analyst since July 2002.

For over 20 years, the Calamos portfolio management team has managed money for its clients in convertible, high yield and global strategies. Furthermore, Calamos has extensive experience investing in foreign markets through its convertible securities and high yield securities strategies. Such experience

has included investments in established as well as emerging foreign markets. The Fund s statement of additional information provides additional information about the team leaders, including other accounts they manage, their ownership in the Calamos Family of Funds and their compensation.

# **Fund Accounting**

Under the arrangements with State Street to provide fund accounting services, State Street provides certain administrative and accounting services to the Fund and such other funds advised by Calamos that may be part of those arrangements (the Fund and such other fund are collectively referred to as the Calamos Funds ) as described more fully in the statement of additional information. For the services rendered to the Calamos Funds, State Street receives fees based on the combined managed assets of the Calamos Funds ( Combined Assets ). Each fund of the Calamos Funds pays its pro-rata share of the fees payable to State Street described below based on relative managed assets of each fund. State Street receives a fee at the annual rate of .009% for the first \$5.0 billion of Combined Assets, .0075% for the next \$5.0 billion of Combined Assets and .0035% for the Combined Assets in excess of \$15.0 billion. Because the fees payable to State Street are based on the managed assets of the Calamos Funds \$5.0 billion of Combined Assets and .0035% for the Calamos Funds, the fees increase as the Calamos Funds increase their leverage.

In addition, Calamos also provides certain other financial accounting services to the Calamos Funds described more fully in the statement of additional information. For providing those services, Calamos receives a fee at the annual rate of .0175% on the first \$1 billion of the daily average net assets of the Calamos Funds; .0150% on the next \$1 billion of the daily average net assets of the Calamos Funds; and .0110% on the daily average net assets of the Calamos Funds above \$2 billion (financial accounting service fee). Each fund of the Calamos Funds will pay its pro-rata share of the financial accounting service fee to Calamos based on relative net assets of each fund.

# **CLOSED-END FUND STRUCTURE**

The Fund is a diversified, closed-end management investment company (commonly referred to as a closed-end fund) which commenced investment operations in March 2004. Closed-end funds differ from open-end management investment companies (which are generally referred to as mutual funds) in that closed-end funds generally list their shares for trading on a stock exchange and do not redeem their shares at the request of the shareholder. This means that if you wish to sell your shares of a closed-end fund you must trade them on the market like any other stock at the prevailing market price at that time. In a mutual fund, if the shareholder wishes to sell shares of the fund, the mutual fund will redeem or buy back the shares at net asset value. Also, mutual funds generally offer new shares on a continuous basis to new investors, and closed-end funds generally do not. The continuous inflows and outflows of assets in a mutual fund can make it difficult to manage the fund s investments. By comparison, closed-end funds are generally able to stay more fully invested in securities that are consistent with their investment objectives and also have greater flexibility to make certain types of investments and to use certain investment strategies, such as financial leverage and investments in illiquid securities.

Shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. To the extent the common shares do trade at a discount, the Fund s Board of Trustees may from time to time engage in open-market repurchases or tender offers for shares after balancing the benefit to shareholders of the increase in the net asset value per share resulting from such purchases against the decrease in the assets of the Fund and potential increase in the expense ratio of expenses to assets of the Fund. The Board of Trustees believes that in addition to the beneficial effects described above, any such purchases or tender

offers may result in the temporary narrowing of any discount but will not have any long-term effect on the level of any discount. We cannot guarantee or assure, however, that the Fund s Board of Trustees will decide to engage in any of these actions. Nor is there any guarantee or assurance that such actions, if undertaken, would result in the shares trading at a price equal or close to net asset value per share. The Board of Trustees might also consider converting the Fund to an open-end mutual fund, which would also require a vote of the shareholders of the Fund. Conversion of the Fund to an open-end mutual fund would require an amendment to the Fund s Declaration of Trust. Such an amendment would require the favorable vote of the holders of at least 75% of the Fund s outstanding shares (including any preferred shares) entitled to be voted on the matter, voting as a single class (or a majority of such shares if the amendment were previously approved, adopted or authorized by 75% of the total number of Trustees fixed in accordance with the Bylaws), and, assuming preferred shares are issued, the affirmative vote of a majority of outstanding preferred shares, voting as a separate class.

# **CERTAIN FEDERAL INCOME TAX MATTERS**

The following is a general summary of certain federal income tax considerations affecting us and our security holders. This discussion does not purport to be complete or to deal with all aspects of federal income taxation that may be relevant to shareholders in light of their particular circumstances or who are subject to special rules, such as banks, thrift institutions and certain other financial institutions, REITs, regulated investment companies, insurance companies, brokers and dealers in securities or currencies, certain securities traders, tax-exempt investors, individual retirement accounts, certain tax-deferred accounts, and foreign investors. Tax matters are very complicated, and the tax consequences of an investment in and holding of our securities will depend on the particular facts of each investor s situation. Investors are advised to consult their own tax advisors with respect to the application to their own circumstances of the general federal income taxation rules described below and with respect to other federal, state, local or foreign tax consequences to them before making an investment in our securities. Unless otherwise noted, this discussion assumes that investors are U.S. persons and hold our securities as capital assets. More detailed information regarding the federal income tax consequences of investing in our securities is in the statement of additional information.

Pursuant to U.S. Treasury Department Circular 230, we are informing you that (1) this discussion is not intended to be used, was not written to be used, and cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding penalties under the U.S. federal tax laws, (2) this discussion was written by us in connection with the registration of our securities and our promotion or marketing, and (3) each taxpayer should seek advice based on his, her or its particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.

# **Federal Income Taxation of the Fund**

The Fund has elected to be treated, and intends to qualify each year, as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ), so that it will not pay U.S. federal income tax on income and capital gains timely distributed to shareholders. If the Fund qualifies as a regulated investment company and distributes to its shareholders at least 90% of the sum of (i) its investment company taxable income as that term is defined in the Code (which includes, among other things, dividends, taxable interest, the excess of any net short-term capital gains over net long-term capital losses and certain net foreign exchange gains, less certain deductible expenses) without regard to the deduction for dividends paid, and (ii) the excess of its gross tax-exempt interest, if any, over certain disallowed deductions, the Fund will be relieved of U.S. federal income tax on any income of the Fund, including long-term capital gains, distributed to shareholders. However, if the Fund retains any investment company taxable income or net capital gain (i.e., the excess of net long-term capital gain over

net short-term capital loss), it will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at regular corporate federal income tax rates (currently at a maximum rate of 35%) on the amount retained. The Fund intends to distribute at least annually all or substantially all of its investment company taxable income, net tax-exempt interest, and net capital gain. Under the Code, the Fund will generally be subject to a nondeductible 4% federal excise tax on its undistributed ordinary income and capital gains if it fails to meet certain distribution requirements with respect to each calendar year. The Fund intends to make distributions in a timely manner in amounts necessary to avoid the excise tax and accordingly does not expect to be subject to this tax.

If, for any taxable year, the Fund does not qualify as a regulated investment company for U.S. federal income tax purposes, it would be treated in the same manner as a regular corporation subject to U.S. federal income tax and distributions to its shareholders would not be deducted by the Fund in computing its taxable income. In such event, the Fund's distributions, to the extent derived from the Fund's current or accumulated earnings and profits, would generally constitute ordinary dividends, which would generally be eligible for the dividends received deduction available to corporate shareholders, and non-corporate shareholders would generally be able to treat such distributions as qualified dividend income eligible for reduced rates of U.S. federal income taxation in taxable years beginning on or before December 31, 2010.

Certain of the Fund s investment practices are subject to special and complex federal income tax provisions that may, among other things, (i) disallow, suspend or otherwise limit the allowance of certain losses or deductions, (ii) convert tax-advantaged, long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income into higher taxed short-term capital gain or ordinary income, (iii) convert an ordinary loss or a deduction into a capital loss (the deductibility of which is more limited), (iv) cause the Fund to recognize income or gain without a corresponding receipt of cash, (v) adversely affect the timing as to when a purchase or sale of stock or securities is deemed to occur, and (vi) adversely alter the characterization of certain complex financial transactions. The Fund will monitor its transactions and may make certain tax elections where applicable in order to mitigate the effect of these provisions, if possible.

Dividends, interest and some capital gains received by the Fund on foreign securities may be subject to foreign tax withholdings or other foreign taxes. If it meets certain requirements, the Fund may make an election under the Code to pass through such taxes to shareholders of the Fund. If such an election is not made, any foreign taxes paid or accrued by the Fund will represent an expense of the Fund. If an election is made, shareholders will generally be able to claim a credit or deduction on their federal income tax return for, and will be required to treat as part of the amounts distributed to them, their pro rata portion of the income taxes paid by the Fund to foreign countries (which taxes relate primarily to investment income). The Fund does not currently anticipate that it will qualify to make such an election. **Federal Income Taxation of Common and Preferred Shares** 

*Federal Income Tax Treatment of Common Share Distributions.* Unless a shareholder is ineligible to participate or elects otherwise, all distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of common stock of the Fund pursuant to the Fund s Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the Plan ). For taxpayers subject to U.S. federal income tax, all dividends will generally be taxable regardless of whether a shareholder takes them in cash or they are reinvested pursuant to the Plan in additional shares of the Fund. Distributions of the Fund s investment company taxable income (determined without regard to the deduction for dividends paid) will generally be taxable at ordinary federal income tax rates to the extent of the Fund s current and accumulated earnings and profits. However, a portion of such distributions derived from certain corporate dividends, if any, may qualify for either the dividends received deduction available to corporate shareholders under Section 243 of the Code or the reduced rates of U.S. federal income taxation for qualified dividend

income currently available to noncorporate shareholders under Section 1(h)(11) of the Code, provided certain holding period and other requirements are met at both the Fund and shareholder levels. The provisions of the Code applicable to qualified dividend income are currently effective for taxable years beginning on or before December 31, 2010. Distributions of net capital gain, if any, are generally taxable as long-term capital gains for U.S. federal income tax purposes without regard to the length of time a shareholder has held shares of the Fund. A distribution of an amount in excess of the Fund s current and accumulated earnings and profits, if any, will be treated by a shareholder as a tax-free return of capital, which is applied against and reduces the shareholder s basis in his, her or its shares. To the extent that the amount of any such distribution exceeds the shareholder s basis in his, her or its shares, the excess will be treated by the shareholder as gain from the sale or exchange of shares. The U.S. federal income tax status of all dividends and distributions will be designated by the Fund and reported to the shareholders annually.

If the Fund retains any net capital gain, the Fund may designate the retained amount as undistributed capital gains in a notice to shareholders who, if subject to U.S. federal income tax on long-term capital gains, (i) will be required to include in income as long-term capital gain their proportionate share of such undistributed amount, and (ii) will be entitled to credit their proportionate share of the federal income tax paid by the Fund on the undistributed amount against their U.S. federal income tax liabilities, if any, and to claim refunds to the extent the credit exceeds such liabilities. If such an event occurs, the tax basis of shares owned by a shareholder of the Fund will, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, generally be increased by the difference between the amount of undistributed net capital gain included in the shareholder s gross income and the federal income tax deemed paid by the shareholders.

If a shareholder s distributions are automatically reinvested pursuant to the Plan and the plan agent invests the distribution in shares acquired on behalf of the shareholder in open-market purchases, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the shareholder will be treated as having received a taxable distribution in the amount of the cash dividend that the shareholder would have received if the shareholder had elected to receive cash. If a shareholder s distributions are automatically reinvested pursuant to the Plan and the plan agent invests the distribution in newly issued shares of the Fund, the shareholder will be treated as receiving a taxable distribution equal to the fair market value of the stock the shareholder receives.

Dividends declared by the Fund in October, November or December with a record date in such month that are paid during the following January will be treated for federal income tax purposes as paid by the Fund and received by the shareholders on December 31 of the calendar year in which they were declared.

*Federal Income Tax Treatment of Preferred Share Distributions.* Under present law, we are of the opinion that our preferred shares will constitute equity, and thus distributions with respect to preferred shares (other than distributions in redemption of preferred shares subject to Section 302(b) of the Code) will generally constitute dividends to the extent of the Fund s current or accumulated earnings and profits, as calculated for federal income tax purposes. Except in the case of distributions of net capital gain, such dividends generally will be taxable to holders at ordinary federal income tax rates but may qualify for the dividends received deduction available to corporate shareholders under Section 243 of the Code or the reduced rates of U.S. federal income taxation under Section 1(h)(11) of the Code that apply to qualified dividend income received by noncorporate shareholders. Distributions designated by the Fund as net capital gain distributions will be taxable as long-term capital gain regardless of the length of time a shareholder has held shares of the Fund. Please see the discussion above on qualified dividend income, dividends received deductions and net capital gain.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) currently requires that a regulated investment company that has two or more classes of stock allocate to each such class proportionate amounts of each type of its income (such as ordinary income and capital gains). Accordingly, the Fund intends to designate distributions made with respect to preferred shares as ordinary income, capital gain distributions, dividends qualifying for the dividends received deduction, if any, and qualified dividend income, if any, in proportion to the preferred shares

share of total dividends paid during the year. See Federal Income Tax Matters in the statement of additional information.

Earnings and profits are generally treated, for federal income tax purposes, as first being used to pay distributions on the preferred shares, and then to the extent remaining, if any, to pay distributions on the common shares. Distributions in excess of the Fund s earnings and profits, if any, will first reduce a shareholder s adjusted tax basis in his or her preferred shares and, after the adjusted tax basis is reduced to zero, will constitute capital gains to a shareholder who holds such shares as a capital asset.

Dividends declared by the Fund in October, November or December with a record date in such month that are paid during the following January will be treated for federal income tax purposes as paid by the Fund and received by the shareholders on December 31 of the calendar year in which they were declared.

Sale of Shares. Sales and other dispositions of the Fund s shares generally are taxable events for shareholders that are subject to U.S. federal income tax. Shareholders should consult their own tax advisors with reference to their individual circumstances to determine whether any particular transaction in the Fund s shares is properly treated as a sale or exchange for federal income tax purposes, as the following discussion assumes, and the tax treatment of any gains or losses recognized in such transactions. Gain or loss will generally be equal to the difference between the amount of cash and the fair market value of other property received and the shareholder s adjusted tax basis in the shares sold or exchanged. Such gain or loss will generally be characterized as capital gain or loss and will be long-term or short-term depending on the shareholder s holding period in the shares disposed. However, any loss realized by a shareholder upon the sale or other disposition of shares with a federal income tax holding period of six months or less will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any amounts treated as distributions of long-term capital gain with respect to such shares. The ability to deduct capital losses may be limited. In addition, losses on sales or other dispositions of shares may be disallowed under the wash sale rules in the event that substantially identical stock or securities are acquired (including those made pursuant to reinvestment of dividends) within a period of 61 days beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after a sale or other disposition of shares. In such a case, the disallowed portion of any loss generally would be included in the U.S. federal tax basis of the shares acquired.

*Backup Withholding*. The Fund is required in certain circumstances to withhold federal income tax (backup withholding) at a current rate of 28% on reportable payments including dividends, capital gain distributions, and proceeds of sales or other dispositions of the Fund s shares paid to certain holders of the Fund s shares who do not furnish the Fund with their correct social security number or other taxpayer identification number and certain other certifications, or who are otherwise subject to backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld from payments made to a shareholder may be refunded or credited against such shareholder s U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.

## **Federal Income Taxation of Debt Securities**

*Federal Income Tax Treatment of Holders of Debt Securities.* Under present law, we are of the opinion that the debt securities will constitute indebtedness of the Fund for federal income tax purposes, which the discussion below assumes. We intend to treat all payments made with respect to the debt securities consistent with this characterization.

*Taxation of Interest.* Payments or accruals of interest on debt securities generally will be taxable to you as ordinary interest income at the time such interest is received (actually or constructively) or accrued, in accordance with your regular method of accounting for federal income tax purposes.

*Purchase, Sale and Redemption of Debt Securities.* Initially, your tax basis in debt securities acquired generally will be equal to your cost to acquire such debt securities. This basis will increase by the amounts, if any, that you include in income under the rules governing market discount, and will

decrease by the amount of any amortized premium on such debt securities, as discussed below. When you sell or exchange any of your debt securities, or if any of your debt securities are redeemed, you generally will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount you realize on the transaction (less any accrued and unpaid interest, which will be subject to federal income tax as interest in the manner described above) and your tax basis in the debt securities relinquished.

Except as discussed below with respect to market discount, the gain or loss that you recognize on the sale, exchange or redemption of any of your debt securities generally will be capital gain or loss. Such gain or loss will generally be long-term capital gain or loss if the disposed debt securities were held for more than one year and will be short-term capital gain or loss if the disposed debt securities were held for one year or less. Net long-term capital gain recognized by a noncorporate U.S. holder generally will be subject to federal income tax at a lower rate (currently a maximum rate of 15%, although this rate will increase to 20% for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2010) than net short-term capital gain or ordinary income (currently a maximum rate of 35%). For corporate holders, capital gain is generally taxed for federal income tax purposes at the same rate as ordinary income, that is, currently at a maximum rate of 35%. A holder s ability to deduct capital losses may be limited.

Amortizable Premium. If you purchase debt securities at a cost greater than their stated principal amount, plus accrued interest, you will be considered to have purchased the debt securities at a premium, and you generally may elect to amortize this premium as an offset to interest income, using a constant yield method, over the remaining term of the debt securities. If you make the election to amortize the premium, it generally will apply to all debt instruments that you hold at the beginning of the first taxable year to which the election applies, as well as any debt instruments that you subsequently acquire. In addition, you may not revoke the election without the consent of the IRS. If you elect to amortize the premium, you will be required to reduce your tax basis in the debt securities by the amount of the premium amortized during your holding period. If you do not elect to amortize the premium and you hold the debt securities to maturity, you generally will be required to treat the premium as a capital loss when the debt securities are redeemed.

*Market Discount*. If you purchase debt securities at a price that reflects a market discount, any principal payments on, or any gain that you realize on the disposition of the debt securities generally will be treated as ordinary interest income to the extent of the market discount that accrued on the debt securities during the time you held such debt securities. Market discount is defined under the Code as, in general, the excess of the stated redemption price at maturity over the purchase price of the debt security, except that if the market discount is less than 0.25% of the stated redemption price at maturity multiplied by the number of complete years to maturity, the market discount is considered to be zero. In addition, you may be required to defer the deduction of all or a portion of any interest paid on any indebtedness that you incurred or continued to purchase or carry the debt securities that were acquired at a market discount. In general, market discount will be treated as accruing ratably over the term of the debt securities, or, at your election, under a constant yield method.

You may elect to include market discount in gross income currently as it accrues (on either a ratable or constant yield basis), in lieu of treating a portion of any gain realized on a sale of the debt securities as ordinary income. If you elect to include market discount on a current basis, the interest deduction deferral rule described above will not apply and you will increase your basis in the debt security by the amount of market discount you include in gross income. If you do make such an election, it will apply to all market discount debt instruments that you acquire on or after the first day of the first taxable year to which the election applies. This election may not be revoked without the consent of the IRS.

*Information Reporting and Backup Withholding*. In general, information reporting requirements will apply to payments of principal, interest, and premium, if any, paid on debt securities and to the proceeds of the sale of debt securities paid to U.S. holders other than certain exempt recipients (such as certain corporations). Information reporting generally will apply to payments of interest on the debt securities to non-U.S. Holders (as defined below) and the amount of tax, if any, withheld with respect to such payments. Copies of the information returns reporting such interest payments and any withholding may also be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which the non-U.S. Holder resides under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty. In addition, for non-U.S. Holders, information reporting will apply to the proceeds of the sale of debt securities within the United States or conducted through United States-related financial intermediaries unless the certification requirements described below have been complied with and the statement described below in Taxation of Non-U.S. Holders has been received (and the payor does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the holder is a United States person) or the holder otherwise establishes an exemption.

We may be required to withhold, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a portion of all payments (including redemption proceeds) payable to holders of debt securities who fail to provide us with their correct taxpayer identification number, who fail to make required certifications or who have been notified by the IRS that they are subject to backup withholding (or if we have been so notified). Certain corporate and other shareholders specified in the Code and the regulations thereunder are exempt from backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld may be credited against the holder s U.S. federal income tax liability provided the appropriate information is furnished to the IRS. If you are a non-U.S. Holder, you may have to comply with certification procedures to establish your non-U.S. status in order to avoid backup withholding tax requirements. The certification procedures required to claim the exemption from withholding tax on interest income described below will satisfy these requirements.

*Taxation of Non-U.S. Holders.* If you are a non-resident alien individual or a foreign corporation (a non-U.S. Holder ), the payment of interest on the debt securities generally will be considered portfolio interest and thus generally will be exempt from U.S. federal withholding tax. This exemption will apply to you provided that (1) interest paid on the debt securities is not effectively connected with your conduct of a trade or business in the United States, (2) you are not a bank whose receipt of interest on the debt securities is described in Section 881(c)(3)(A) of the Code, (3) you do not actually or constructively own 10 percent or more of the combined voting power of all classes of the Fund s stock entitled to vote, (4) you are not a controlled foreign corporation that is related, directly or indirectly, to the Fund through stock ownership, and (5) you satisfy the certification requirements described below.

To satisfy the certification requirements, either (1) the holder of any debt securities must certify, under penalties of perjury, that such holder is a non-U.S. person and must provide such owner s name, address and taxpayer identification number, if any, on IRS Form W-8BEN, or (2) a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds customer securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business and holds the debt securities on behalf of the holder thereof must certify, under penalties of perjury, that it has received a valid and properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN from the beneficial holder and comply with certain other requirements. Special certification rules apply for debt securities held by a foreign partnership and other intermediaries.

Interest on debt securities received by a non-U.S. Holder that is not excluded from U.S. federal withholding tax under the portfolio interest exemption as described above generally will be subject to withholding at a 30% rate, except where (1) the interest is effectively connected with the conduct of a U.S. trade or business, in which case the interest will generally be subject to U.S. income tax on a net basis as applicable to U.S. holders generally or (2) a non-U.S. Holder can claim the benefits of an applicable income tax

treaty to reduce or eliminate such withholding tax. To claim the benefit of an income tax treaty or to claim an exemption from withholding because the interest is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business, a non-U.S. Holder must timely provide the appropriate, properly executed IRS forms. These forms may be required to be periodically updated. Also, a non-U.S. Holder who is claiming the benefits of an income tax treaty may be required to obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number and to provide certain documentary evidence issued by foreign governmental authorities to prove residence in the foreign country.

Any capital gain that a non-U.S. Holder realizes on a sale, exchange or other disposition of debt securities generally will be exempt from United States federal income tax, including withholding tax. This exemption will not apply to you if your gain is effectively connected with your conduct of a trade or business in the U.S. or you are an individual holder and are present in the U.S. for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more in the taxable year of the disposition and either your gain is attributable to an office or other fixed place of business that you maintain in the U.S. or you have a tax home in the United States.

# NET ASSET VALUE

Net asset value per share is determined no less frequently than the close of regular session trading on the New York Stock Exchange (usually 4:00 p.m., Eastern time), on the last business day in each week, or such other time as the Fund may determine. Net asset value is calculated by dividing the value of all of the securities and other assets of the Fund, less its liabilities (including accrued expenses and indebtedness) and the aggregate liquidation value of any outstanding preferred shares, by the total number of common shares outstanding. Currently, the net asset values of shares of publicly traded closed-end investment companies investing in debt securities are published in Barron s, the Monday edition of The Wall Street Journal and the Monday and Saturday editions of The New York Times.

The values of the securities in the Fund are based on market prices from the primary market in which they are traded. As a general rule, equity securities listed on a U.S. securities exchange are valued at the last current reported sale price as of the time of valuation. Securities quoted on the NASDAQ National Market System are valued at the Nasdaq Official Closing Price ( NOCP ), as determined by Nasdaq, or lacking an NOCP, at the last current reported sale price as of the time of valuation. Bonds and other fixed-income securities that are traded over the counter and on an exchange will be valued according to the broadest and most representative market, and it is expected this will ordinarily be the over-the-counter market. The foreign securities held by the Fund are traded on exchanges throughout the world. Trading on these foreign securities exchanges is completed at various times throughout the day and often does not coincide with the close of trading on the NYSE. The value of foreign securities is generally determined at the close of trading of the exchange on which the securities are traded or at the close of trading on the NYSE, whichever is earlier.

If market prices are not readily available or the Fund s valuation methods do not produce a value reflective of the fair value of the security, securities and other assets are priced at a fair value determined in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees, which may include a systematic fair valuation model provided by an independent service provider.

The Fund also may use fair value pricing if the value of a security it holds has been affected by events occurring before the Fund s pricing time, but after the close of the primary markets or exchanges on which the security is traded. When fair value pricing is employed, the prices of portfolio securities used to calculate the Fund s net asset value may differ from market quotations or official closing prices for the same securities. This means that the Fund may value those securities higher or lower than another fund that uses market quotations or official closing prices.

The fair value pricing procedures recognize that volatility in the U.S. markets may cause prices of foreign securities determined at the close of the foreign market or exchange on which the securities are traded to no longer be reliable when the Fund s net asset value is determined. As a result, at least some of

the Fund s foreign securities may be valued at their fair value in accordance with the fair value pricing procedures on any day the Fund calculates its net asset value.

Values of foreign securities are translated from local currencies into U.S. dollars using current exchange rates. Trading in securities in foreign markets takes place on some days (including some weekend days and U.S. holidays) when the NYSE is not open, and does not take place on some days when the NYSE is open. So, the value of the Fund s portfolio may be affected on days when the Fund does not calculate its net asset value.

# DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS ON COMMON SHARES; AUTOMATIC DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

## **Dividends and Distributions on Common Shares**

The Fund has made regular monthly distributions to its common shareholders in amounts ranging from \$0.0750 to \$0.1025 per share since June 2004. Additionally, the Fund made a distribution of \$0.0398 in January 2008.

The Fund currently intends to make monthly distributions to common shareholders at a level rate established by the Board of Trustees. The rate may be modified by the Board of Trustees from time to time. Monthly distributions may include net investment income, net realized short-term capital gain and, if necessary, return of capital. Net realized short-term capital gains distributed to common shareholders will be taxed as ordinary income. In addition, one distribution per calendar year may include net realized long-term capital gains. There is no guarantee that the Fund will realize capital gains in any given year. Pursuant to the requirements of the 1940 Act and other applicable laws, a notice would accompany each monthly distribution with respect to the estimated source of the distribution made. Distributions are subject to re-characterization for federal income tax purposes after the end of the fiscal year. The Fund may at times in its discretion pay out less than the entire amount of net investment income earned in any particular period and may at times pay out such accumulated undistributed income in addition to net investment income earned in other periods in order to permit the Fund to maintain its level distribution policy. As a result, the dividend paid by the Fund to holders of common shares for any particular period may be more or less than the amount of net investment income earned by the Fund during such period. In addition, in order to make such distributions, the Fund might have to sell a portion of its investment portfolio at a time when independent investment judgment might not dictate such action.

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, the Fund is required to distribute substantially all of its net investment income and net realized capital gains each year to both reduce its federal income tax liability and to avoid a potential excise tax. Accordingly, the Fund intends to distribute all or substantially all of its net investment income and all net realized capital gains, if any. Therefore, the Fund s final distribution with respect to each calendar year would include any remaining net investment income and net realized capital gains, if any, undistributed during the year.

If, for any calendar year, the Fund s total distributions exceeded net investment income and net realized capital gains (the Excess), the Excess, distributed from the Fund s assets, would generally be treated as dividend income to the extent of the Fund s current and accumulated earnings and profits. Thereafter, such Excess would be treated as a tax-free return of capital up to the amount of the common shareholder s tax basis in his, her or its common shares, with any amounts exceeding such basis treated as gain from the sale of common shares. See Certain Federal Income Tax Matters.

In the event the Fund distributed the Excess, such distribution would decrease the Fund s total assets and, therefore, have the likely effect of increasing the Fund s expense ratio. There is a risk that the

Fund would not eventually realize capital gains in an amount corresponding to a distribution of the Excess.

In January 2004, Calamos, on behalf of itself and certain funds, filed an exemptive application with the Commission seeking an order under the 1940 Act facilitating the implementation of the Managed Dividend Policy. In March 2007, an amended and restated exemptive application was filed with the Commission. If, and when, Calamos, on behalf of itself and other parties, receives the requested relief, the Fund may, subject to the determination of its Board of Trustees, implement a Managed Dividend Policy.

Under a Managed Dividend Policy, the Fund would seek to distribute a monthly fixed percentage of net asset value to common shareholders. If, for any distribution, net investment income and net realized capital gains were less than the amount of the distribution, the differences would be distributed from the Fund s assets. In addition, in order to make such distributions, the Fund might have to sell a portion of its investment portfolio at a time when independent investment judgment might not dictate such action.

Under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to incur indebtedness unless immediately after such incurrence the Fund has an asset coverage of at least 300% of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of indebtedness. Additionally, under the 1940 Act, the Fund may not declare any dividend or other distribution upon any class of its capital shares, or purchase any such capital shares, unless the aggregate indebtedness of the Fund has, at the time of the declaration of any such dividend or distribution or at the time of any such purchase, an asset coverage of at least 300% after deducting the amount of such dividend, distribution, or purchase price, as the case may be.

While any preferred shares are outstanding, the Fund may not declare any dividend or other distribution on its common shares, unless at the time of such declaration, (1) all accumulated preferred dividends have been paid and (2) the net asset value of the Fund s portfolio (determined after deducting the amount of such dividend or other distribution) is at least 200% of the liquidation value of the outstanding preferred shares (expected to be equal to the original purchase price per share plus any accumulated and unpaid dividends thereon).

In addition to the limitations imposed by the 1940 Act described above, certain lenders may impose additional restrictions on the payment of dividends or distributions on common shares in the event of a default on the Fund s borrowings. If the Fund s ability to make distributions on its common shares is limited, such limitation could, under certain circumstances, impair the ability of the Fund to maintain its qualification for federal income taxation as a regulated investment company, which would have adverse tax consequences for shareholders. See Leverage and Certain Federal Income Tax Matters.

See Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan for information concerning the manner in which dividends and distributions to common shareholders may be automatically reinvested in common shares. Dividends and distributions are taxable to shareholders for federal income tax purposes whether they are reinvested in shares of the Fund or received in cash.

The yield on the Fund s common shares will vary from period to period depending on factors including, but not limited to, market conditions, the timing of the Fund s investment in portfolio securities, the securities comprising the Fund s portfolio, changes in interest rates including changes in the relationship between short-term rates and long-term rates, the amount and timing of the use of borrowings and other leverage by the Fund, the effects of leverage on the common shares discussed above

under Leverage, the timing of the investment of leverage proceeds in portfolio securities, the Fund s net assets and its operating expenses. Consequently, the Fund cannot guarantee any particular yield on its common shares and the yield for any given period is not an indication or representation of future yields on the Fund s common shares.

# Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan

Pursuant to the Plan, unless a shareholder is ineligible or elects otherwise, all dividend and capital gains on common shares distributions are automatically reinvested by The Bank of New York, as agent for shareholders in administering the Plan (Plan Agent), in additional common shares of the Fund. Shareholders who elect not to participate in the Plan will receive all dividends and distributions payable in cash paid by check mailed directly to the shareholder of record (or, if the shares are held in street or other nominee name, then to such nominee) by Plan Agent, as dividend paying agent. Such shareholders may elect not to participate in the Plan and to receive all dividends and distributions in cash by sending written instructions to Plan Agent, as dividend paying agent, at the address set forth below. Participation in the Plan is completely voluntary and may be terminated or resumed at any time without penalty by giving notice in writing to the Plan Agent; such termination will be effective with respect to a particular dividend or distribution if notice is received prior to the record date for the applicable distribution.

Whenever the Fund declares a dividend or distribution payable either in shares or in cash, non-participants in the Plan will receive cash, and participants in the Plan will receive the equivalent in shares of common shares. The shares are acquired by the Plan Agent for the participant s account, depending upon the circumstances described below, either (i) through receipt of additional common shares from the Fund ( newly issued shares ) or (ii) by purchase of outstanding common shares on the open market ( open-market purchases ) on the NYSE or elsewhere. If, on the payment date, the net asset value per share of the common shares is equal to or less than the market price per common share plus estimated brokerage commissions (such condition being referred to herein as market premium ), the Plan Agent will receive newly issued shares from the Fund for each participant s account. The number of newly issued common shares to be credited to the participant s account will be determined by dividing the dollar amount of the dividend or distribution by the greater of (i) the net asset value per common share on the payment date, or (ii) 95% of the market price per common share on the payment date.

If, on the payment date, the net asset value per common share exceeds the market price plus estimated brokerage commissions (such condition being referred to herein as market discount ), the Plan Agent has until the last business day before the next date on which the shares trade on an ex-dividend basis or in no event more than 30 days after the payment date ( last purchase date ) to invest the dividend or distribution amount in shares acquired in open-market purchases. It is contemplated that the Fund will pay monthly income dividends. Therefore, the period during which open-market purchases can be made will exist only from the payment date on the dividend through the date before the next ex-dividend date, which typically will be approximately ten days. The weighted average price (including brokerage commissions) of all common shares purchased by the Plan Agent as Plan Agent will be the price per common share allocable to each participant. If, before the Plan Agent has completed its open-market purchases, the market price of a common share exceeds the net asset value per share, the average per share purchase price paid by the Plan Agent may exceed the net asset value of the Fund s shares, resulting in the acquisition of fewer shares than if the dividend had been paid in newly issued shares on the payment date. Because of the foregoing difficulty with respect to open-market purchases, the Plan Agent is unable to invest the full dividend amount in open-market purchase period or if the market discount shifts to a market premium during the purchase period, the Plan Agent will cease making open-market purchases and will invest the uninvested portion of

the dividend or distribution amount in newly issued shares at the close of business on the last purchase date.

The Plan Agent maintains all shareholders accounts in the Plan and furnishes written confirmation of each acquisition made for the participant s account as soon as practicable, but in no event later than 60 days after the date thereof. Shares in the account of each Plan participant will be held by the Plan Agent in non-certificated form in the Plan Agent s name or that of its nominee, and each shareholder s proxy will include those shares purchased or received pursuant to the Plan. The Plan Agent will forward all proxy solicitation materials to participants and vote proxies for shares held pursuant to the Plan first in accordance with the instructions of the participants then with respect to any proxies not returned by such participant, in the same proportion as the Plan Agent votes the proxies returned by the participants.

There will be no brokerage charges with respect to shares issued directly by the Fund as a result of dividends or distributions payable either in shares or in cash. However, each participant will pay a pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred with respect to the Plan Agent s open-market purchases in connection with the reinvestment of dividends or distributions. If a participant elects to have the Plan Agent sell part or all of his or her common shares and remit the proceeds, such participant will be charged his or her pro rata share of brokerage commissions on the shares sold, plus a \$15 transaction fee.

The automatic reinvestment of dividends and distributions will not relieve participants of any federal, state or local income tax that may be payable (or required to be withheld) on such dividends. See Certain Federal Income Tax Matters.

Shareholders participating in the Plan may receive benefits not available to shareholders not participating in the Plan. If the market price plus commissions of the Fund s shares is higher than the net asset value, participants in the Plan will receive shares of the Fund at less than they could otherwise purchase them and will have shares with a cash value greater than the value of any cash distribution they would have received on their shares. If the market price plus commissions is below the net asset value, participants receive distributions of shares with a net asset value greater than the value of any cash distribution they would have received on their shares. If the market price plus commissions is below the net asset value, participants receive distributions of shares with a net asset value greater than the value of any cash distribution they would have received on their shares. However, there may be insufficient shares available in the market to make distributions in shares at prices below the net asset value. Also, since the Fund does not redeem its shares, the price on resale may be more or less than the net asset value. See Certain Federal Income Tax Matters for a discussion of federal income tax consequences of the Plan.

Experience under the Plan may indicate that changes are desirable. Accordingly, the Fund reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan if in the judgment of the Board of Trustees such a change is warranted. The Plan may be terminated by the Plan Agent or the Fund upon notice in writing mailed to each participant at least 60 days prior to the effective date of the termination. Upon any termination, the Plan Agent will cause a certificate or certificates to be issued for the full shares held by each participant under the Plan and cash adjustment for any fraction of a common share at the then current market value of the common shares to be delivered to him or her. If preferred, a participant may request the sale of all of the common shares held by the Plan Agent in his or her Plan account in order to terminate participation in the Plan. If such participant elects in advance of such termination to have the Plan Agent sell part or all of his shares, the Plan Agent is authorized to deduct from the proceeds a \$15.00 fee plus the brokerage commissions incurred for the transaction. If a participant has terminated his or her participation in the Plan but continues to have common shares registered in his or her name, he or she may re-enroll in the Plan may be amended by the Plan Agent or the Fund at any time but, except when necessary or appropriate to comply with applicable law or the rules or policies of the Commission

or any other regulatory authority, only by mailing to each participant appropriate written notice at least 30 days prior to the effective date thereof. The amendment shall be deemed to be accepted by each participant unless, prior to the effective date thereof, the Plan Agent receives notice of the termination of the participant s account under the Plan. Any such amendment may include an appointment by the Plan Agent of a successor Plan Agent, subject to the prior written approval of the successor Plan Agent by the Fund. There is no direct service charge to participants in the Plan; however, the Fund reserves the right to amend the Plan to include a service charge payable by the participants.

All correspondence concerning the Plan should be directed to the Plan Agent at Dividend Reinvestment Department, P.O. Box 1958, Newark, NJ 07101-9774.

### **DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES**

The Fund is authorized to issue an unlimited number of common shares, without par value. The Fund is also authorized to issue preferred shares. The Board of Trustees is authorized to classify and reclassify any unissued shares into one or more additional classes or series of shares. As of December 31, 2007, the Fund had 154,514,000 common shares outstanding and 43,200 Preferred Shares outstanding. The Board of Trustees may establish such series or class from time to time by setting or changing in any one or more respects the designations, preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications or terms or conditions of redemption of such shares and pursuant to such classification or reclassification to increase or decrease the number of authorized shares of any existing class or series. The Board of Trustees, without shareholder approval, is authorized to amend the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws to reflect the terms of any such class or series. The Fund is also authorized to issue other securities, including debt securities.

#### **Common Shares**

Common shares, when issued and outstanding, will be legally issued, fully paid and non-assessable. Shareholders are entitled to share pro rata in the net assets of the Fund available for distribution to common shareholders upon liquidation of the Fund. Common shareholders are entitled to one vote for each share held.

So long as any shares of the Fund s preferred shares are outstanding, holders of common shares will not be entitled to receive any net income of or other distributions from the Fund unless all accumulated dividends on preferred shares have been paid, and unless asset coverage (as defined in the 1940 Act) with respect to preferred shares would be at least 200% after giving effect to such distributions. See Leverage.

The Fund will send unaudited reports at least semiannually and audited annual financial statements to all of its shareholders.

Other offerings of common shares, if made, will require approval of the Board of Trustees and will be subject to the requirement of the 1940 Act that common shares may not be sold at a price below the then-current net asset value, exclusive of underwriting discounts and commissions, except in limited circumstances including in connection with an offering to existing shareholders.

#### **Preferred Shares**

On May 5, 2004, the Fund issued Preferred Shares, liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share (\$430,000,000 in the aggregate). As a non-fundamental policy, the Fund may not issue preferred shares

or borrow money and issue debt securities with an aggregate liquidation preference and aggregate principal amount exceeding 38% of the Fund s total assets. However, the Board of Trustees reserves the right to issue preferred shares to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act, which currently limits the aggregate liquidation preference of all outstanding preferred shares to 50% of the value of the Fund s total assets less the Fund s liabilities and indebtedness. The preferred shares pay dividends at dividend rates based on auctions normally held every 7 or 28 days. Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may only issue one class of preferred shares. So long as any preferred shares are outstanding, additional issuances of preferred shares may not have preference or priority over the outstanding preferred shares. It is expected that any additional issuance of preferred shares would be additional shares of an existing series of preferred shares or shares of an additional series of preferred shares.

In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Fund, the holders of preferred shares will be entitled to receive a preferential liquidating distribution, which is expected to equal the original purchase price per preferred share plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, whether or not declared, before any distribution of assets is made to holders of common shares. After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distribution to which they are entitled, the holders of preferred shares will not be entitled to any further participation in any distribution of assets by the Fund.

The 1940 Act requires that the holders of any preferred shares, voting separately as a single class, have the right to elect at least two Trustees at all times. The remaining Trustees will be elected by holders of common shares and preferred shares, voting together as a single class. In addition, subject to the prior rights, if any, of the holders of any other class of senior securities outstanding, the holders of any preferred shares have the right to elect a majority of the Trustees at any time two years accumulated dividends on any preferred shares are unpaid. The 1940 Act also requires that, in addition to any approval by shareholders that might otherwise be required, the approval of the holders of a majority of any outstanding preferred shares, voting separately as a class, would be required to (1) adopt any plan of reorganization that would adversely affect the preferred shares, and (2) take any action requiring a vote of security holders under Section 13(a) of the 1940 Act, including, among other things, changes in the Fund s subclassification as a closed-end investment company or changes in its fundamental investment restrictions. See Certain Provisions of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws. As a result of these voting rights, the Fund s ability to take any such actions may be impeded to the extent that there are any preferred shares outstanding. Except as otherwise indicated in this prospectus and except as otherwise required by applicable law, holders of preferred shares have equal voting rights with holders of common shares (one vote per share, unless otherwise required by the 1940 Act) and will vote together with holders of common shares as a single class.

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding preferred shares, voting as a separate class, will be required to amend, alter or repeal any of the preferences, rights or powers of holders of preferred shares so as to affect materially and adversely such preferences, rights or powers, or to increase or decrease the authorized number of preferred shares. The class vote of holders of preferred shares described above will in each case be in addition to any other vote required to authorize the action in question.

The terms of the outstanding preferred shares provide that (i) they are redeemable by the Fund in whole or in part at the original purchase price per share plus accrued dividends per share, (ii) the Fund may tender for or purchase preferred shares and (iii) the Fund may subsequently resell any shares so tendered for or purchased. Any redemption or purchase of preferred shares by the Fund will reduce the leverage applicable to the common shares, while any resale of shares by the Fund will increase that leverage.

# **Debt Securities**

*General.* Under Delaware law and our Agreement and Declaration of Trust, we may borrow money, without prior approval of holders of common and preferred shares. We may issue debt securities, or other evidence of indebtedness (including bank borrowings or commercial paper) and may secure any such notes or borrowings by mortgaging, pledging or otherwise subjecting as security our assets to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act or rating agency guidelines. Any borrowings will rank senior to preferred shares and common shares.

Under the 1940 Act, we may only issue one class of senior securities representing indebtedness, which in the aggregate, may represent no more than 33 1/3% of our total assets. A prospectus supplement and indenture (a summary of the expected terms of which is attached as Appendix A to the statement of additional information) relating to any debt securities will include specific terms relating to the offering. These terms will include the following:

the form and title of the security;

the aggregate principal amount of the securities;

the interest rate of the securities;

the maturity dates on which the principal of the securities will be payable;

the frequency with which auctions will be held;

any changes to or additional events of default or covenants;

any optional or mandatory redemption provisions;

any changes in trustees, auction agents, paying agents or security registrar; and

any other terms of the securities.

*Interest.* Unless otherwise stated in a prospectus supplement, debt securities will bear interest as generally determined by the results of an auction for such securities and/or by the Board of Trustees, as more fully described in the related prospectus supplement. Interest on debt securities shall be payable when due as described in the related prospectus supplement. If we do not pay interest when due, it will trigger an event of default and we will be restricted from declaring dividends and making other distributions with respect to our common shares and preferred shares.

*Limitations*. Under the requirements of the 1940 Act, immediately after issuing any senior securities representing indebtedness, we must have an asset coverage of at least 300%. Asset coverage means the ratio which the value of our total assets, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, bears to the aggregate amount of senior securities representing indebtedness. Other types of borrowings also may result in our being subject to similar covenants in credit agreements.

*Events of Default and Acceleration of Maturity of Debt Securities; Remedies.* Unless stated otherwise in the related prospectus supplement, any one of the following events are expected to constitute an event of default for that series under the indenture:

default in the payment of any interest upon a series of debt securities when it becomes due and payable and the continuance of such default for 30 days;

default in the payment of the principal of, or premium on, a series of debt securities at its stated maturity;

default in the performance, or breach, of any covenant or warranty of ours in the indenture, and continuance of such default or breach for a period of 90 days after written notice has been given to us by the trustee;

certain voluntary or involuntary proceedings involving us and relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or other similar laws;

if, on the last business day of each of twenty-four consecutive calendar months, the debt securities have a 1940 Act asset coverage of less than 100%; or

any other event of default provided with respect to a series, including a default in the payment of any redemption price payable on the redemption date.

Upon the occurrence and continuance of an event of default, the holders of a majority in principal amount of a series of outstanding debt securities or the trustee may declare the principal amount of that series of debt securities immediately due and payable upon written notice to us. A default that relates only to one series of debt securities does not affect any other series and the holders of such other series of debt securities are not entitled to receive notice of such a default under the indenture. Upon an event of default relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or other similar laws, acceleration of maturity occurs automatically with respect to all series. At any time after a declaration of acceleration with respect to a series of debt securities has been made, and before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series, by written notice to us and the trustee, may rescind and annul the declaration of acceleration and its consequences if all events of default with respect to that series of debt securities, other than the non-payment of the principal of that series of debt securities which has become due solely by such declaration of acceleration, have been cured or waived and other conditions have been met.

*Liquidation Rights.* In the event of (a) any insolvency or bankruptcy case or proceeding, or any receivership, liquidation, reorganization or other similar case or proceeding in connection therewith, relative to us or to our creditors, as such, or to our assets, or (b) any liquidation, dissolution or other winding up of the Fund, whether voluntary or involuntary and whether or not involving insolvency or bankruptcy, or (c) any assignment for the benefit of creditors or any other marshalling of assets and liabilities of ours, then (after any payments with respect to any secured creditor of ours outstanding at such time) and in any such event the holders of debt securities shall be entitled to receive payment in full of all amounts due or to become due on or in respect of all debt securities (including any interest accruing thereon after the commencement of any such case or proceeding), or provision shall be made for such payment in cash or cash equivalents or otherwise in a manner satisfactory to the holders of the debt securities, before the holders of any common or preferred stock of the Fund are entitled to receive any payment on account of any redemption proceeds, liquidation preference or dividends from such shares. The holders of debt securities shall be entitled to receive, for application to the payment thereof, any payment or distribution which may be payable or deliverable by reason of the payment of any other indebtedness of ours being subordinated to the payment of the debt securities, which may be payable or

deliverable in respect of the debt securities in any such case, proceeding, dissolution, liquidation or other winding up event.

Unsecured creditors of ours may include, without limitation, service providers including Calamos, custodian, administrator, auction agent, broker-dealers and the trustee, pursuant to the terms of various contracts with us. Secured creditors of ours may include without limitation parties entering into any interest rate swap, floor or cap transactions, or other similar transactions with us that create liens, pledges, charges, security interests, security agreements or other encumbrances on our assets.

A consolidation, reorganization or merger of the Fund with or into any other company, or a sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of our assets in consideration for the issuance of equity securities of another company shall not be deemed to be a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Fund.

*Voting Rights.* Debt securities have no voting rights, except to the extent required by law or as otherwise provided in the Indenture relating to the acceleration of maturity upon the occurrence and continuance of an event of default. In connection with any other borrowings (if any), the 1940 Act does in certain circumstances grant to the lenders certain voting rights in the event of default in the payment of interest on or repayment of principal.

*Market*. Unless otherwise stated in a prospectus supplement, our debt securities may be bought or sold at an auction held periodically by submitting orders through a broker-dealer who has entered into an agreement with us (a

broker-dealer ). Our debt securities are not listed on an exchange or automated quotation system. Debt securities may be transferred outside of an auction through a broker-dealer, but we cannot assure you that any such secondary market will exist or whether it will provide holders of debt securities with liquidity. The details of the auction process are further described in the related prospectus supplement.

*Book-Entry, Delivery and Form.* Unless otherwise stated in the related prospectus supplement, the debt securities will be issued in book-entry form and will be represented by one or more notes in registered global form. The global notes will be deposited with the trustee as custodian for The Depository Trust Company ( DTC ) and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC. DTC will maintain the notes in designated denominations through its book-entry facilities.

Under the expected terms of the indenture, we and the trustee may treat the persons in whose names any notes, including the global notes, are registered as the owners thereof for the purpose of receiving payments and for any and all other purposes whatsoever. Therefore, so long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of the global notes, DTC or such nominee will be considered the sole holder of outstanding notes under the indenture. We or the trustee may give effect to any written certification, proxy or other authorization furnished by DTC or its nominee.

A global note may not be transferred except as a whole by DTC, its successors or their respective nominees. Interests of beneficial owners in the global note may be transferred or exchanged for definitive securities in accordance with the rules and procedures of DTC. In addition, a global note may be exchangeable for notes in definitive form if:

DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as a depository and we do not appoint a successor within 60 days;

we, at our option, notify the trustee in writing that we elect to cause the issuance of notes in definitive form under the indenture; or

an event of default has occurred and is continuing.

In each instance, upon surrender by DTC or its nominee of the global note, notes in definitive form will be issued to each person that DTC or its nominee identifies as being the beneficial owner of the related notes.

Under the expected terms of the indenture, the holder of any global note may grant proxies and otherwise authorize any person, including its participants and persons who may hold interests through DTC participants, to take any action which a holder is entitled to take under the indenture.

# **RATING AGENCY GUIDELINES**

The Rating Agencies, which assign ratings to our senior securities, impose asset coverage requirements, which may limit our ability to engage in certain types of transactions and may limit our ability to take certain actions without confirming that such action will not impair the ratings. The outstanding preferred shares are currently rated AAA and

AAA by Moody s and S&P, respectively. Moody s and S&P, and any other agency that may rate our debt securities or preferred shares in the future, are collectively referred to as the Rating Agencies.

We may, but are not required to, adopt any modification to the guidelines that may hereafter be established by any Rating Agency. Failure to adopt any modifications, however, may result in a change in the ratings described above or a withdrawal of ratings altogether. In addition, any Rating Agency may, at any time, change or withdraw any rating. The Board may, without shareholder approval, modify, alter or repeal certain of the definitions and related provisions which have been adopted pursuant to each Rating Agency s guidelines (Rating Agency Guidelines) only in the event we receive written confirmation from the Rating Agency or Agencies that any amendment, alteration or repeal would not impair the ratings then assigned to the senior securities.

We are required to satisfy two separate asset maintenance requirements with respect to outstanding debt securities and with respect to preferred shares: (1) we must maintain assets in our portfolio that have a value, discounted in accordance with guidelines set forth by each Rating Agency, at least equal to 115% of the aggregate principal amount/liquidation preference of the debt securities/ preferred stock, respectively, plus specified liabilities, payment obligations and other amounts (the Basic Maintenance Amount ); and (2) we must satisfy the 1940 Act asset coverage requirements.

*Basic Maintenance Amounts.* We must maintain, as of each valuation date on which senior securities are outstanding, eligible assets having an aggregate discounted value at least equal to 115% of the applicable basic maintenance amount (Basic Maintenance Amount), which is calculated separately for debt securities and preferred shares for each Rating Agency that is then rating the senior securities and so requires. If we fail to maintain eligible assets having an aggregated discounted value at least equal to 115% of the applicable Basic Maintenance Amount as of any valuation date and such failure is not cured, we will be required in certain circumstances to redeem certain of the senior securities.

The applicable Basic Maintenance Amount is defined in the Rating Agency s Guidelines. Each Rating Agency may amend the definition of the applicable Basic Maintenance Amount from time to time.

The market value of our portfolio securities (used in calculating the discounted value of eligible assets) is calculated using readily available market quotations when appropriate, and in any event, consistent with our valuation procedures. For the purpose of calculating the applicable Basic Maintenance Amount, portfolio securities are valued in the same manner as we calculate our NAV. See Determination of Net Asset Value.

Each Rating Agency s discount factors, the criteria used to determine whether the assets held in our portfolio are eligible assets, and the guidelines for determining the discounted value of our portfolio holdings for purposes of determining compliance with the applicable Basic Maintenance Amount are based on Rating Agency Guidelines established in connection with rating the senior securities. The discount factor relating to any asset, the applicable basic maintenance amount requirement, the assets eligible for inclusion in the calculation of the discounted value of our portfolio and certain definitions and methods of calculation relating thereto may be changed from time to time by the applicable Rating Agency, without our approval, or the approval of our Board of Trustees or shareholders.

A Rating Agency s Guidelines will apply to the senior securities only so long as that Rating Agency is rating such securities. We will pay certain fees to Moody s, S&P and any other Rating Agency that may provide a rating for the senior securities. The ratings assigned to the senior securities are not recommendations to buy, sell or hold the senior securities. Such ratings may be subject to revision or withdrawal by the assigning Rating Agency at any time.

1940 Act Asset Coverage. We are also required to maintain, with respect to senior securities, as of the last business day on any month in which any senior securities are outstanding, asset coverage of at least 300% for debt securities and 200% for preferred stock (or such other percentage as may in the future be specified in or under the 1940 Act as the minimum asset coverage for senior securities representing shares of a closed-end investment company as a condition of declaring dividends on its common stock). If we fail to maintain the applicable 1940 Act asset coverage as of the last business day of any month and such failure is not cured as of the last business day of the following month (the Asset Coverage Cure Date ), we will be required to redeem certain senior securities.

*Notices.* Under the current Rating Agency Guidelines, in certain circumstances, we are required to deliver to any Rating Agency which is then rating the senior securities (1) a certificate with respect to the calculation of the applicable Basic Maintenance Amount; (2) a certificate with respect to the calculation of the applicable 1940 Act asset coverage and the value of our portfolio holdings; and (3) a letter prepared by our independent accountants regarding the accuracy of such calculations.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Rating Agency Guidelines, as they may be amended from time to time by each Rating Agency will be reflected in a written document and may be amended by each Rating Agency without the vote, consent or approval of the Fund, the Board of Trustees or any shareholder of the Fund.

A copy of the current Rating Agency Guidelines will be provided to any holder of senior securities promptly upon request made by such holder to the Fund by writing the Fund at 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563.

# CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT AND DECLARATION OF TRUST AND BYLAWS

The Fund s Agreement and Declaration of Trust includes provisions that could have the effect of limiting the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or to change the composition of its Board of Trustees and could have the effect of depriving shareholders of an opportunity to sell their shares at a premium over prevailing market prices by discouraging a third party from seeking to obtain control of the Fund. These provisions, however, have the advantage of potentially requiring persons seeking control of the Fund to negotiate with its management regarding the price to be paid and facilitating the continuity of the Fund s investment objective and policies. The Board of Trustees of the Fund has considered these provisions and concluded that they are in the best interests of the Fund.

The Board of Trustees is divided into three classes. The terms of the Trustees of the different classes are staggered. A Trustee may be removed from office with or without cause by a vote of at least a majority of the then Trustees if such removal is approved by the holders of at least 75% of the shares entitled to vote with respect to the election of such Trustee and present in person or by proxy at a meeting of shareholders called for such purpose.

In addition, the Agreement and Declaration of Trust requires the affirmative vote of at least 75% of the outstanding shares entitled to vote on the matter for the Trust to merge or consolidate with any other corporation, association, trust or other organization or to sell, lease or exchange all or substantially all of the Fund s assets; unless such action has been approved by the affirmative vote of at least 75% of the Trustees then in office, in which case, the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote on the matter is required.

In addition, conversion of the Fund to an open-end investment company would require an amendment to the Fund s Agreement and Declaration of Trust. Such an amendment would require the favorable vote of a majority of the then Trustees followed by a favorable vote of the holders of at least 75% of the shares entitled to vote on the matter, voting as separate classes or series (or a majority of such shares if the amendment was previously approved by 75% of the Trustees). Such a vote also would satisfy a separate requirement in the 1940 Act that the change be approved by the shareholders.

Under the 1940 Act, shareholders of an open-end investment company may require the company to redeem their shares of common stock at any time (except in certain circumstances as authorized by or under the 1940 Act) at their net asset value, less such redemption charge, if any, as might be in effect at the time of a redemption. If the Fund is converted to an open-end investment company, it could be required to liquidate portfolio securities to meet requests for redemption, and the common shares would no longer be listed on the NYSE. Conversion to an open-end investment company would also require changes in certain of the Fund s investment policies and restrictions. In addition, the Fund would be required to redeem all of its outstanding preferred shares prior to conversion to an open-end investment company.

In addition, the Agreement and Declaration of Trust requires the affirmative vote or consent of a majority of the then Trustees followed by the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least 75% of the shares of each affected class or series of the Fund outstanding, voting separately as a class or series, to approve certain transactions with a Principal Shareholder, unless the transaction has been approved by at least 75% of the Trustees, in which case a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote shall be required. For purposes of these provisions, a Principal Shareholder refers to any person who, whether directly or indirectly and whether alone or together with its affiliates and associates, beneficially owns 5%

or more of the outstanding shares of any class or series of shares of beneficial interest of the Fund. The 5% holder transactions subject to these special approval requirements are:

the merger or consolidation of the Fund or any subsidiary of the Fund with or into any Principal Shareholder;

the issuance of any securities of the Fund to any Principal Shareholder for cash (other than pursuant to any automatic dividend reinvestment plan); or

the sale, lease or exchange to the Fund or any subsidiary of the Fund in exchange for securities of the Fund, of any assets of any Principal Shareholder, except assets having an aggregate fair market value of less than \$1,000,000, aggregating for the purpose of such computation all assets sold, leased or exchanged in any series of similar transactions within a 12-month period.

The Fund may be terminated by the affirmative vote of not less than 75% of the Trustees then in office by written notice to the shareholders.

The Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws provide that the Board of Trustees has the power, to the exclusion of shareholders, to make, alter or repeal any of the Bylaws, except for any Bylaw that requires a vote of the shareholders to be amended, adopted or repealed by the terms of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust, Bylaws or applicable law. Neither this provision of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust, nor any of the foregoing provisions thereof requiring the affirmative vote of 75% of outstanding shares of the Fund, can be amended or repealed except by the vote of such required number of shares.

With respect to proposals by shareholders submitted outside the process of Rule 14a-8 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), the Fund s Bylaws generally require that advance notice be given to the Fund in the event a shareholder desires to nominate a person for election to the Board of Trustees or to transact any other business at an annual meeting of shareholders. With respect to an annual meeting following the first annual meeting of shareholders, notice of any such nomination or business must be delivered to the principal executive offices of the Fund not less than 90 calendar days nor more than 120 calendar days prior to the anniversary date of the mailing of the notice for the prior year s annual meeting (subject to certain exceptions). Any notice by a shareholder must be accompanied by certain information as provided in the Bylaws, including information regarding the shares held by the shareholder and information regarding the candidate's background and qualifications to serve as trustee.

# PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell our common shares, preferred shares and debt securities, and certain of our shareholders may sell our common shares, on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis, in one or more offerings under this prospectus and any related prospectus supplement. The aggregate amount of securities that may be offered by us is limited to \$350 million. We may offer our common shares, preferred shares and debt securities: (1) directly to one or more purchasers; (2) through agents; (3) through underwriters; or (4) through dealers. Each prospectus supplement relating to an offering of securities will state the terms of the offering, including as applicable:

the names of any agents, underwriters or dealers;

any sales loads or other items constituting underwriters compensation;

any discounts, commissions, or fees allowed or paid to dealers or agents;

the public offering or purchase price of the offered securities and the net proceeds we will receive from the sale; provided, however, that we will not receive any of the proceeds from a sale of our common stock by any selling shareholder; and

any securities exchange on which the offered securities may be listed.

# **Direct Sales**

We may sell our common shares, preferred shares and debt securities, or certain of our shareholders may sell our common shares, directly to, and solicit offers from, institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters as defined in the 1933 Act for any resales of the securities. In this case, no underwriters or agents would be involved. We, or any selling shareholder, may use electronic media, including the Internet, to sell offered securities directly. The terms of any of those sales will be described in a prospectus supplement.

# **By Agents**

We may offer our common shares, preferred shares and debt securities through agents that we or they designate. Any agent involved in the offer and sale will be named and any commissions payable by us will be described in the prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement, the agents will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of their appointment.

# **By Underwriters**

We may offer and sell securities from time to time to one or more underwriters who would purchase the securities as principal for resale to the public, either on a firm commitment or best efforts basis. If we sell securities to underwriters, we will execute an underwriting agreement with them at the time of the sale and will name them in the prospectus supplement. In connection with these sales, the underwriters may be deemed to have received compensation from us in the form of underwriting discounts and commissions. The underwriters also may receive commissions from purchasers of securities for whom they may act as agent. Unless otherwise stated in the prospectus supplement, the underwriters will not be obligated to purchase the securities unless the conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement are satisfied, and if the underwriters purchase any of the securities, they will be required to purchase all of the offered securities. The underwriters may sell the offered securities to or through dealers, and those dealers may receive discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters as well as from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent. Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallowed or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

If a prospectus supplement so indicates, we may grant the underwriters an option to purchase additional shares of common stock at the public offering price, less the underwriting discounts and commissions, within 45 days from the date of the prospectus supplement, to cover any overallotments.

# **By Dealers**

We may offer and sell securities from time to time to one or more dealers who would purchase the securities as principal. The dealers then may resell the offered securities to the public at fixed or varying prices to be determined by those dealers at the time of resale. The names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction will be set forth in the prospectus supplement.

# **General Information**

Agents, underwriters, or dealers participating in an offering of securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts and commission received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the offered securities for whom they act as agent may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the 1933 Act.

We may offer to sell securities either at a fixed price or at prices that may vary, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices, or at negotiated prices.

Ordinarily, each series of offered securities will be a new issue of securities and will have no established trading market.

To facilitate an offering of common stock in an underwritten transaction and in accordance with industry practice, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain, or otherwise affect the market price of the common stock or any other security. Those transactions may include overallotment, entering stabilizing bids, effecting syndicate covering transactions, and reclaiming selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or a dealer.

An overallotment in connection with an offering creates a short position in the common stock for the underwriter s own account.

An underwriter may place a stabilizing bid to purchase the common stock for the purpose of pegging, fixing, or maintaining the price of the common stock.

Underwriters may engage in syndicate covering transactions to cover overallotments or to stabilize the price of the common stock by bidding for, and purchasing, the common stock or any other securities in the open market in order to reduce a short position created in connection with the offering.

The managing underwriter may impose a penalty bid on a syndicate member to reclaim a selling concession in connection with an offering when the common stock originally sold by the syndicate member is purchased in syndicate covering transactions or otherwise.

Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities above independent market levels. The underwriters are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time.

Any underwriters to whom the offered securities are sold for offering and sale may make a market in the offered securities, but the underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market-making at any time without notice. The offered securities may or may not be listed on a securities exchange. We cannot assure you that there will be a liquid trading market for the offered securities.

Under agreements entered into with us, underwriters and agents may be entitled to indemnification by us against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the 1933 Act, or to contribution for payments the underwriters or agents may be required to make.

The underwriters, agents, and their affiliates may engage in financial or other business transactions with us and our subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business.

<sup>63</sup> 

The maximum commission or discount to be received by any member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. or independent broker-dealer will not be greater than eight percent of the initial gross proceeds from the sale of any security being sold.

The aggregate offering price specified on the cover of this prospectus relates to the offering of the securities not yet issued as of the date of this prospectus.

To the extent permitted under the 1940 Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, the underwriters may from time to time act as a broker or dealer and receive fees in connection with the execution of our portfolio transactions after the underwriters have ceased to be underwriters and, subject to certain restrictions, each may act as a broker while it is an underwriter.

A prospectus and accompanying prospectus supplement in electronic form may be made available on the websites maintained by underwriters. The underwriters may agree to allocate a number of securities for sale to their online brokerage account holders. Such allocations of securities for internet distributions will be made on the same basis as other allocations. In addition, securities may be sold by the underwriters to securities dealers who resell securities to online brokerage account holders.

# CUSTODIAN, TRANSFER AGENT, DIVIDEND DISBURSING AGENT AND REGISTRAR

The Fund s securities and cash are held under a custodian agreement with The Bank of New York, One Wall Street, New York, New York 10286. The transfer agent, dividend disbursing agent and registrar for the Fund s shares is also The Bank of New York.

### LEGAL MATTERS

Vedder Price P.C. (Vedder Price), Chicago, Illinois, is serving as our special counsel in connection with the offerings under this prospectus and related prospectus supplements. Vedder Price is also counsel to Calamos. Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell, Wilmington, Delaware (Morris Nichols)) will pass on the legality of the securities to be offered hereby. If certain legal matters in connection with an offering of securities are passed upon by counsel for the underwriters of such offering, such matters will be passed upon by counsel to be identified in a prospectus supplement. Vedder Price and counsel to the underwriters may rely on the opinion of Morris Nichols for certain matters of Delaware law.

# **AVAILABLE INFORMATION**

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Exchange Act and the 1940 Act and are required to file reports, including annual and semi-annual reports, proxy statements and other information with the Commission. Our most recent shareholder report filed with the Commission is for the period ended October 31, 2007. These documents are available on the Commission s EDGAR system and can be inspected and copied for a fee at the Commission s public reference room, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102. Additional information about the operation of the public reference room facilities may be obtained by calling the Commission at (202) 551-8090.

This prospectus does not contain all of the information in our registration statement, including amendments, exhibits, and schedules. Statements in this prospectus about the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete and in each instance reference is made to the copy of the contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, each such statement being qualified in all respects by this reference.

Additional information about us can be found in our registration statement (including amendments, exhibits, and schedules) on Form N-2 filed with the Commission. The Commission maintains a web site (http://www.sec.gov) that contains our registration statement, other documents incorporated by reference, and other information we have filed electronically with the Commission, including proxy statements and reports filed under the Exchange Act.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-2
Investment Objective and Policies	S-2
Investment Restrictions	S-22
Management of the Fund	S-24
Portfolio Transactions	S-36
Net Asset Value	S-37
Repurchase of Common Shares	S-37
Federal Income Tax Matters	S-39
Custodian, Transfer Agent, Dividend Disbursing Agent and Registrar	S-49
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	S-49
Additional Information	S-49
Additional Information Concerning the Agreement and Declaration of Trust	S-50
Financial Statements and Report of Independent Auditors/Accountants	
Appendix A Form of Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund Statement of Preferences of Auction Rate	
Cumulative Preferred Shares	A-1
Appendix B Summary of Certain Provisions of the Indenture and Form of Supplemental Indenture	B-1
Appendix B-I Auction Procedures	B-I-1
Appendix C Description of Ratings	C-1

# \$350,000,000 Common Shares Preferred Shares Debt Securities Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

# PROSPECTUS

March \_\_\_\_, 2008

# Edgar Filing: CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND - Form N-2/A

### **Table of Contents**

The information in this prospectus supplement, which relates to an effective Registration Statement under the Securities Act of 1933, is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until we deliver a final prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement and the attached prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell these securities or a solicitation of an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

# SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED \_\_\_\_\_, 2007

[LOGO]

FORM OF PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT (To prospectus dated \_\_\_\_, 2007)

# \$\_\_\_\_\_CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND Preferred Shares \_\_\_\_Shares, Series \_\_\_\_ Liquidation Preference \$25,000 per share

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund (the Fund, we, us or our) is a diversified, closed-end management investment company. Our investment objective is to provide total return through a combination of capital appreciation and current income.

We are offering an additional series (Series \_\_\_\_\_) of our auction rate preferred shares (referred to as Preferred Shares or Series \_\_\_\_Preferred Shares) in this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement is not complete and should be read in conjunction with our prospectus dated \_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_(the prospectus), which accompanies this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement does not include all information that you should consider before purchasing any Preferred Shares. You should read this prospectus supplement and our prospectus prior to purchasing any Preferred Shares.

The Series \_\_\_\_Preferred Shares offered in this prospectus supplement, together with the previously issued and currently outstanding Preferred Shares, are collectively referred to as Preferred Shares. Individual series of Preferred Shares are referred to as a series. Except as otherwise described in this prospectus supplement, the terms of this series and all other series are the same. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this prospectus supplement shall have the meanings given to such terms in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_to the Statement of Additional Information, which is available from us upon request.

The Preferred Shares have a liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share, plus any accumulated, unpaid dividends. The Preferred Shares also have priority over the Fund s common shares as to distribution of assets as described in this prospectus supplement.

The dividend rate for the initial dividend period will be \_\_\_\_% per annum for Series \_\_\_\_ Preferred Shares. The initial dividend period is from the date of issuance through \_\_\_\_, 2007, an initial dividend period of \_\_\_days. For subsequent dividend periods, Preferred Shares pay dividends based on a rate set at auction, usually held weekly. Dividends on the Preferred Shares will be cumulative. Prospective purchasers should carefully review the auction procedures described in this prospectus supplement and should note: (1) a buy order (called a bid order ) or sell order is a commitment to buy or sell Preferred Shares based on the results of an auction; (2) auctions will be conducted by telephone; and (3) purchases and sales will be settled on the next business day after the auction.

The Preferred Shares are redeemable, in whole or in part, at the option of the Fund on the second business day prior to any date dividends are paid on the Preferred Shares, and will be subject to mandatory redemption in certain circumstances at a redemption price of \$25,000 per share, plus accumulated, unpaid dividends to the date of redemption, plus a premium in certain circumstances.

(continued on next page)

Investing in Preferred Shares involves certain risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page \_\_\_\_\_ of the prospectus and The Auction-General beginning on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Sales load	\$	\$
Proceeds to us (before expenses) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	\$

(1) Does not

include offering expenses payable by us estimated to be \$ .

The underwriters expect to deliver the Series \_\_\_\_Preferred Shares in book-entry form, through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company, to broker-dealers on or about \_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_.

# [UNDERWRITER(S)]

\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

# Edgar Filing: CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND - Form N-2/A

### **Table of Contents**

The Preferred Shares will not be listed on an exchange. You may only buy or sell Preferred Shares through an order placed at an auction with or through a broker-dealer that has entered into an agreement with the auction agent and the Fund or in a secondary market maintained by certain broker-dealers. These broker-dealers are not required to maintain this market, and it may not provide you with liquidity. See The Auction Secondary Market Trading and Transfer of Preferred Shares.

This offering is conditioned upon the Series \_\_\_\_Preferred Shares receiving a rating of AAA from Fitch Ratings and AAA from Standard & Poor s Corporation.

The prospectus supplement has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). Additional copies of this prospectus supplement, the prospectus, the Statement of Additional Information dated \_\_\_\_\_, as supplemented from time to time, or the Fund s annual or semi-annual reports are available by calling (800) 582-6959 or by writing to the Fund, or you may obtain copies (and other information regarding us) from the SEC s web site (http://www.sec.gov). The Fund s annual and semi-annual reports are also available on the Fund s website at www.calamos.com, which provides a link to the SEC s website where the Fund s Statement of Additional Information may be obtained. You also may e-mail requests for these documents to the SEC at publicinfo@sec.gov or make a request in writing to the SEC s Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102.

This prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering, also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in the prospectus. The prospectus gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering.

If the description of this offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information contained in this prospectus supplement; provided that if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date, the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement.

The Preferred Shares do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	Page	
Prospectus Supplement Summary	S	
Use of Proceeds	S	
Capitalization	S	
Asset Coverage Requirements	S	
Description of Preferred Shares	S	
The Auction	S	
Underwriting	S	
Where You Can Find More Information	S	
Legal Matters	S	
[Unaudited] Financial Statements as of , 200	F	
Prospectus		

**Prospectus Summary** Summary of Fund Expenses **Financial Highlights** Market and Net Asset Value Information Use of Proceeds The Fund Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Leverage Interest Rate Transactions **Risk Factors** Management of the Fund **Closed-End Fund Structure** Certain Federal Income Tax Matters Net Asset Value Dividends and Distributions; Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan **Description of Securities Rating Agency Guidelines** Certain Provisions of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws Plan of Distribution Custodian, Transfer Agent, Dividend Disbursing Agent and Registrar Legal Matters Available Information Table of Contents of the Statement of Additional Information

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with different or inconsistent information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these Series \_\_\_\_Preferred Shares in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information in this prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus supplement, and that our business, financial condition and prospects may have changed since this date. We will amend or supplement this prospectus supplement to reflect material changes to the information contained in this prospectus supplement to the extent required by applicable law.

# CAUTIONARY NOTICE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the statement of additional information contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the words may, will, intend, expect estimate, continue, plan, anticipate, and similar terms and the negative of such terms. Such forward-looking statements may be contained in this prospectus supplement, as well as in the accompanying prospectus. By their nature, all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Several factors that could materially affect our actual results are the performance of the portfolio of securities we hold, the conditions in the U.S. and international financial, petroleum and other markets, the price at which our shares will trade in the public markets and other factors discussed in our periodic filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the expectations expressed in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results could differ materially from those projected or assumed in our forward-looking statements. Our future financial condition and results of operations, as well as any forward-looking statements, are subject to change and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties, such as those disclosed in the Risk Factors section of the prospectus accompanying this prospectus supplement. All forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus are made as of the date of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying be. Except for our ongoing obligations under the federal securities laws, we do not intend, and we undertake no obligation, to update any forward-looking statement. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Currently known risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations include, but are not limited to, the factors described in the Risk Factors section of the prospectus accompanying this prospectus supplement as well as in Auction Risk and Existing Holder's Ability to Resell Auction Rate Securities May Be Limited in The Auction section of this prospectus supplement. We urge you to review carefully those sections for a more detailed discussion of the risks of an investment in the Preferred Shares.

ii

# PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary contains basic information about us but does not contain all of the information that is important to your investment decision. You should read this summary together with the more detailed information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus and in the statement of additional information, especially the information set forth under the heading Risk Factors beginning on page \_\_\_\_\_of the accompanying prospectus.

# The Fund

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund is a diversified, closed-end management investment company. Throughout the prospectus, we refer to Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund as the Fund or as we, us, or our. The Fund s common shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CSQ. As of \_\_\_\_, 2007, the Fund had \_\_\_\_\_\_ common shares outstanding and net assets of \$\_\_\_\_\_. The Fund s principal offices are located at 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563. We have a fiscal year ending October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Our investment objective is to provide total return through a combination of capital appreciation and current income. There can be no assurance that we will achieve our investment objective. See The Fund in the accompanying prospectus.

We commenced operations in March 2004 following our initial public offering. As of the date of this prospectus supplement, we have \$1.08 billion of Auction Rate Cumulative Preferred Shares ( Preferred Shares ) outstanding. **Investment Adviser** 

Calamos Advisors LLC ( Calamos ) is the Fund s investment adviser. Calamos is responsible on a day-to-day basis for investment of the Fund s portfolio in accordance with its investment objective and policies. Calamos makes all investment decisions for the Fund and places purchase and sale orders for the Fund s portfolio securities. As of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007, Calamos managed approximately \$ billion in assets of individuals and institutions. Calamos is a wholly owned subsidiary of Calamos Holdings LLC ( Holdings ) and an indirect subsidiary of Calamos Asset Management, Inc., a publicly traded holding company.

The Fund pays Calamos an annual fee, payable monthly, for its investment management services equal to \_\_\_\_% of the Fund s average weekly managed assets. See Management of the Fund in the accompanying prospectus.

The principal business address of the Adviser is 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois, 60563.

# The Offering

Preferred Shares offered by the Fund	We are offeringSeries Preferred Shares, each at a purchase price of \$25,000 per share. The SeriesPreferred Shares are offered through
Use of Proceeds	The Fund estimates the net proceeds of the offering of Preferred Shares, after payment of sales load and offering expenses, will be approximately \$

	The Fund will invest the net proceeds of the offering in accordance with the Fund s investment objective and policies as stated below. It is presently anticipated that the Fund will invest substantially all of the net proceeds in securities that meet its investment objective and policies within three months after completion of this offering. Pending such investment, the Fund anticipates that all or a portion of the proceeds will be invested in U.S. government securities or high-grade, short-term money market instruments. If necessary, the Fund may also purchase, as temporary investments, securities of other open- or closed-end investment companies that invest primarily in the types of securities in which the Fund may invest directly. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies in the accompanying prospectus.
Auction Agent	[Auction Agent]
Broker Dealer(s)	[Broker-Dealer(s)]
Risk Factors	See Risks Factors and other information included in the accompanying prospectus, as well as Risks-Auction Risk , Risks-Secondary Market Trading and Transfer of Preferred Shares and Risks-Ratings and Asset Coverage Risk under The Auction in this prospectus supplement, for a discussion of the factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in the Preferred Shares.

# **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The Fund estimates the net proceeds of the offering of Preferred Shares, after payment of sales load and offering expenses, will be approximately \$\_\_\_\_\_. The Fund will invest the net proceeds of the offering in accordance with the Fund s investment objective and policies. It is presently anticipated that the Fund will invest substantially all of the net proceeds in securities that meet its investment objective and policies within three months after completion of this offering. Pending such investment, the Fund anticipates that all or a portion of the proceeds will be invested in U.S. government securities or high-grade, short-term money market instruments. If necessary, the Fund may also purchase, as temporary investments, securities of other open- or closed-end investment companies that invest primarily in the types of securities in which the Fund may invest directly. See Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies in the accompanying prospectus.

### CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth the capitalization of the Fund as of \_\_\_\_, 2007, and as adjusted, to give effect to the issuance of all the Preferred Shares offered hereby (including estimated offering expenses and sales load of \$\_\_\_). The sales load and offering expenses of the Preferred Shares will be effectively borne by common shareholders.

		As Adjusted Preferred
	Actual	Shares
Long-Term Debt:		
Calamos Notes, denominations of \$25,000 or any multiple thereof		
Preferred Shares:		
Preferred Shares, no par value per share, \$25,000 stated value per share, at		
liquidation value; unlimited shares authorized (no shares issued; no shares issued;		
and shares issued, respectively)		
Common Shareholders Equity:		
Common shares, no par value per share, unlimited shares authorized,		
shares outstanding*		
Undistributed net investment income		
Accumulated net realized gain (loss) on investments		
Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments		
Net Assets applicable to common shareholders		

 None of these outstanding shares are held by or for the account of the Fund.

#### ASSET COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

The Fund may be subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by guidelines of one or more rating agencies that may issue ratings for the preferred shares or debt instruments issued by the Fund. These guidelines may impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act. See The Auction Rating and Asset Coverage Risk below. Certain types of borrowings may result in the Fund being subject to covenants in credit agreements, including those relating to asset coverage, borrowing base and portfolio composition requirements. The Fund may also be required to pledge its assets to the lenders in connection with certain types of borrowing. Calamos does not anticipate that these covenants or restrictions will adversely affect its ability to manage the Fund s portfolio in accordance with the Fund s investment objective and policies. Due to these covenants or restrictions, the Fund may be forced to liquidate investments at times and at prices that are not favorable to the Fund, or the Fund may be forced to forgo investments that Calamos

otherwise views as favorable.

### **DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED SHARES**

The following is a brief description of the terms of the Preferred Shares. For the complete terms of the Preferred Shares, please refer to the detailed description of the Preferred Shares in the Statement of Preferences of Auction Rate Cumulative Preferred Shares (the Statement) attached as Appendix \_\_\_\_\_to the Statement of Additional Information. Where appropriate, terms used in Description of Preferred Shares and in The Auction below will have the same meanings as those terms in the Statement.

# General

The Fund s Agreement and Declaration of Trust authorizes the issuance of preferred shares, no par value per share, in one or more classes or series with rights as determined by the Board of Trustees without the approval of common shareholders. The Statement currently authorizes the issuance of \_\_\_\_Preferred Shares, Series \_\_\_\_. All Preferred Shares will have a liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share, plus an amount equal to accumulated but unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared).

The Preferred Shares of each series will rank on parity with any other series of Preferred Shares and any other series of preferred shares of the Fund as to the payment of dividends and the distribution of assets upon liquidation. Each Preferred Share carries one vote on matters on which Preferred Shares can be voted. The Preferred Shares, when issued by the Fund and paid for pursuant to the terms of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, will be fully paid and non-assessable and will have no preemptive, exchange or conversion rights. Any Preferred Shares repurchased or redeemed by the Fund will be classified as authorized and unissued Preferred Shares. The Board of Trustees may by resolution classify or reclassify any authorized and unissued Preferred Shares from time to time by setting or changing the preferences, rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications or terms or conditions of redemption of such shares. The Preferred Shares will not be subject to any sinking fund, but will be subject to mandatory redemption under certain circumstances described below. **Dividends and Dividend Periods** 

The following is a general description of dividends and dividend periods for the Preferred Shares.

*Dividend Periods*. The initial dividend period for the Preferred Shares is \_\_\_\_\_days and the initial dividend rate is \_\_\_\_% per annum.

Any subsequent dividend periods of Series \_\_\_\_Preferred Shares will generally be [seven] days. The Fund, subject to certain conditions, may change the length of subsequent dividend periods by designating them as special dividend periods. See \_\_\_\_\_Designation of Special Dividend Periods below.

*Dividend Payment Dates.* Dividends on the Preferred Shares will be payable, when, as and if declared by the Board of Trustees, out of legally available funds in accordance with the Agreement and Declaration of Trust, the Statement and applicable law. The initial dividend payment date and the day of the week upon which subsequent dividends, if any, will be paid for the Preferred Shares is \_\_\_\_\_, 2007 and [day of the week], respectively.

Dividend periods generally will begin on the first business day after an auction. If dividends are payable on a day that is not a business day, then dividends will generally be payable on the next day if such day is a business day, or as otherwise specified in the Statement. In addition, the Fund may specify different dividend payment dates for any special dividend period of more than seven days, provided that

such dates shall be set forth in the notice of special dividend period relating to such special dividend period.

[Dividends will be paid through the Depository Trust Company ( DTC ) on each dividend payment date. The dividend payment date will normally be (A) the first business day after the dividend period ends with respect to a dividend period of one year or less; provided, however, if the dividend period is more than 91 days then on the 91st, 181st and 271st days within such period, if applicable, and on the business day following the last day of such dividend period; and (B) with respect to any dividend period of more than one year, on a quarterly basis on each January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 within such dividend period and on the business day following the last day of such dividend period.] DTC, in accordance with its current procedures, is expected to distribute dividends received from the auction agent in same-day funds on each dividend payment date to agent members (members of DTC that will act on behalf of existing or potential holders of Preferred Shares). These agent members are in turn expected to distribute such dividend payments will be available in same-day funds on each dividend payments will be available in same-day funds on each dividend payment date to customers that use a Broker-Dealer or a Broker-Dealer s designee as agent member.

*Calculation of Dividend Payment.* The Fund computes the dividends per share payable on each series of Preferred Shares by multiplying the applicable rate in effect by a fraction. For each dividend period of less than one (1) year, the numerator of this fraction will normally be the number of days in the dividend period and the denominator will normally be 360. This rate is then multiplied by \$25,000 to arrive at the dividends per share. For each dividend period of one (1) year or more, the dividends per share payable is computed as described above, except that it will be determined on the basis of a year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

Dividends on Preferred Shares will accumulate from the date of their original issue, which is \_\_\_\_\_, 2007. For each dividend payment period after the initial dividend period, the dividend will be the dividend rate determined at auction. The dividend rate that results from an auction will not be greater than the maximum rate described below. Prior to each auction, Broker-Dealers will notify holders of the term of the next succeeding dividend period as soon as practicable after the Broker-Dealers have been so advised by the Fund. After each auction, on the auction date, Broker-Dealers will notify holders of the applicable rate for the next succeeding dividend period and as of the auction date of the next succeeding auction.

Except during a Default Period as described below, the applicable rate resulting from an auction will not be greater than the maximum rate. The maximum rate will be the applicable percentage of the reference rate. The Reference Rate will be the applicable LIBOR Rate (as defined below) (for a dividend period of fewer than 365 days) or the applicable Treasury Index Rate (as defined below) (for a dividend period of 365 days or more). The applicable percentage for any standard dividend period will generally be determined based on the credit ratings assigned to the Preferred Shares by Fitch and S&P on the auction date for such period (as set forth in the table below). If Fitch and/or S&P shall not make such rating available, the rate shall be determined by reference to equivalent ratings issued by any other rating agency.

	Applicable
Fitch and/or S&P Credit Rating	Percentage
AA or higher	150%
A to A+	200%
BBB to BBB+	250%
Below BBB	275%
S-5	

The LIBOR Rate is the applicable London Inter-Bank Offered Rate for deposits in U.S. dollars for the period most closely approximating the applicable dividend period for a series of Preferred Shares.

The Treasury Index Rate is the average yield to maturity for certain U.S. Treasury securities having substantially the same length to maturity as the applicable dividend period for a series of Preferred Shares.

The Board of Trustees may amend the maximum rate to increase the percentage amount by which the reference rate described above is multiplied to determine the maximum rate shown without the vote or consent of the holders of Preferred Shares, or any shareholder of the Fund, but only with confirmation from each rating agency then rating the Preferred Shares that such action will not impair such agency s then-current rating of the Preferred Shares, and after consultation with the Broker-Dealers, provided that immediately following any such increase the Fund could meet the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount test discussed below under Rating Agency Guidelines.

The maximum rate for the Preferred Shares will apply automatically following an auction for such Preferred Shares in which sufficient clearing bids have not been made (other than because all Preferred Shares were subject to submitted hold orders) or following the failure to hold an auction for any reason on the auction date scheduled to occur (except for circumstances in which the dividend rate is the Default Rate, as described below).

Prior to each auction, Broker-Dealers will notify holders of the term of the next succeeding dividend period as soon as practicable after the Broker-Dealers have been so advised by the Fund. After each auction, on the auction date, Broker-Dealers will notify holders of the applicable rate for the next succeeding dividend period and of the auction date of the next succeeding auction.

On each dividend payment date, the Fund is required to deposit with the paying agent sufficient funds for the payment of declared dividends. The failure to make such deposit will not result in the cancellation of any auction. The Fund does not intend to establish any reserves for the payment of dividends.

*Default Period.* Subject to the applicable cure provisions, a Default Period with respect to a particular series will commence on any date the Fund fails to deposit irrevocably in trust in same-day funds, with the paying agent by 12:00 noon, New York City time, (A) the full amount of any declared dividend on that series payable on the dividend payment date (a Dividend Default ) or (B) the full amount of any redemption price (the Redemption Price ) payable on the date fixed for redemption (the Redemption Date ) (a Redemption Default and together with a Dividend Default, hereinafter referred to as Default ).

Subject to the applicable cure provisions, a Default Period with respect to a Dividend Default or a Redemption Default shall end on the business day on which, by 12:00 noon, New York City time, all unpaid dividends and any unpaid Redemption Price shall have been deposited irrevocably in trust in same-day funds with the paying agent. In the case of a Dividend Default, the applicable rate for each dividend period commencing during a Default Period will be equal to the default rate described below, and each subsequent dividend period commencing after the beginning of a Default Period shall be a standard dividend period; provided, however, that the commencement of a Default Period will not by itself cause the commencement of a new dividend period. No Auction shall be held during a Default Period applicable to that series.

No Default Period with respect to a Dividend Default or Redemption Default shall be deemed to commence if the amount of any dividend or any Redemption Price due (if such default is not solely due to the willful failure of the Fund) is deposited irrevocably in trust, in same-day funds with the paying agent

by 12:00 noon, New York City time within three business days after the applicable dividend payment date or Redemption Date, together with an amount equal to the default rate applied to the amount of such non-payment based on the actual number of days comprising such period divided by 360 for each series. The default rate shall be equal to the Reference Rate multiplied by three (3).

Restrictions on Dividend, Redemption and Other Payments. Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may not (i) declare any dividend with respect to the Preferred Shares if, at the time of such declaration (and after giving effect thereto), asset coverage with respect to the Fund s senior securities representing indebtedness (as defined in the 1940 Act) would be less than 200% (or such other percentage as may in the future be specified in or under the 1940 Act as the minimum asset coverage for senior securities representing indebtedness of a closed-end investment company as a condition of declaring dividends on its preferred shares) or (ii) declare any other distribution on the Preferred Shares or purchase or redeem Preferred Shares if at the time of the declaration (and after giving effect thereto), asset coverage with respect to the Fund s senior securities representing indebtedness would be less than 300% (or such other percentage as may in the future be specified in or under the 1940 Act as the minimum asset coverage for senior securities representing indebtedness of a closed-end investment company as a condition of declaring distributions, purchases or redemptions of its shares of beneficial interest). Senior securities representing indebtedness generally means any bond, debenture, note or similar obligation or instrument constituting a security (other than shares of beneficial interest) and evidencing indebtedness and could include the Fund s obligations under any Borrowings. The term senior security also does not include any promissory note or other evidence of indebtedness in any case where such a loan is for temporary purposes only and in an amount not exceeding 5% of the value of the total assets of the Fund at the time when the loan is made. A loan is presumed under the 1940 Act to be for temporary purposes if it is repaid within 60 days and is not extended or renewed; otherwise it is presumed not to be for temporary purposes. For purposes of determining whether the 200% and 300% asset coverage requirements described above apply in connection with dividends or distributions on or purchases or redemptions of Preferred Shares, such asset coverages may be calculated on the basis of values calculated as of a time within 48 hours (not including Sundays or holidays) next preceding the time of the applicable determination.

In addition, a declaration of a dividend or other distribution on, or purchase or redemption of, Preferred Shares may be prohibited (i) at any time when an event of default under any Borrowings has occurred and is continuing; or (ii) if, after giving effect to such declaration, the Fund would not have eligible portfolio holdings with an aggregated discounted value at least equal to any asset coverage requirements associated with such Borrowings; or (iii) the Fund has not redeemed the full amount of Borrowings, if any, required to be redeemed by any provision for mandatory redemption.

While any of the Preferred Shares are outstanding, the Fund generally may not declare, pay or set apart for payment, any dividend or other distribution in respect of its common shares (other than in additional common shares or rights to purchase common shares) or repurchase any of its common shares (except by conversion into or exchange for shares of the Fund ranking junior to the Preferred Shares as to the payment of dividends and the distribution of assets upon liquidation) unless each of the following conditions has been satisfied:

In the case of Fitch s coverage requirements, immediately after such transaction, the aggregate discounted value (i.e., the aggregate value of the Fund s portfolio discounted according to Fitch criteria) would be equal to or greater than the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount (as defined in the Prospectus under Rating Agency Guidelines below);

In the case of S&P s coverage requirements, immediately after such transaction, the aggregate discounted value (i.e., the aggregate value of the Fund s portfolio discounted

according to S&P criteria) would be equal to or greater than the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount;

Immediately after such transaction, the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage (as defined in this Prospectus under Rating Agency Guidelines below) is met;

Full cumulative dividends on the Preferred Shares due on or prior to the date of the transaction have been declared and paid in full or have been declared and sufficient funds for the payment thereof deposited with the auction agent; and

The Fund has redeemed the full number of Preferred Shares required to be redeemed by any provision for mandatory redemption contained in the Statement.

The Fund generally will not declare, pay or set apart for payment any dividend on any shares of the Fund ranking, as to the payment of dividends, on a parity with Preferred Shares unless the Fund has declared and paid or contemporaneously declares and pays full cumulative dividends on the Preferred Shares through its most recent dividend payment date. However, if the Fund has not paid dividends in full on the Preferred Shares through the most recent dividend payment date or upon any shares of the Fund ranking, as to the payment of dividends, on a parity with Preferred Shares through their most recent respective dividend payment dates, the amount of dividends shall be declared pro rata so that the amount of dividends declared per share on Preferred Shares and such other class or series of shares will in all cases bear to each other the same ratio that accumulated dividends per share on the Preferred Shares or series of shares and such other class or series of shares to each other.

*Designation of Special Dividend Periods.* The Fund may, in certain situations, declare a special dividend period. Prior to declaring a special dividend period, the Fund will give notice (a notice of special dividend period) to the auction agent and to each Broker-Dealer. The notice of special dividend period will state that the next succeeding dividend period. The Preferred Shares will be a number of days as specified in such notice of special dividend period. The Fund may not designate a special dividend period unless sufficient clearing bids were made in the most recent auction. In addition, full cumulative dividends, any amounts due with respect to mandatory redemptions and any additional dividends payable prior to such date must be paid in full or deposited with the auction agent. In addition, the Fund does not intend to designate a special dividend period if such designation would adversely affect Fitch s or S&P s or any substitute rating agency s then-current rating on the Preferred Shares. The Fund also must have portfolio securities with a discounted value at least equal to the Preferred Share Maintenance Amount. A notice of special dividend period also will specify whether the Preferred Shares will be subject to optional redemption during such special dividend period and, if so, the redemption premium, if any, required to be paid by the Fund in connection with such optional redemption.

If the Fund proposes to designate any special dividend period, not fewer than seven business days (or two business days in the event the duration of the dividend period prior to such special dividend period is fewer than eight days) nor more than 30 business days prior to the first day of such special dividend period, notice of special dividend period shall be (i) made by press release and (ii) communicated by the Fund by telephonic or other means to the auction agent and each Broker-Dealer and the rating agency and confirmed in writing promptly thereafter. Each such notice of special dividend period, specifying the first and last days thereof and the maximum rate for such special dividend period and (B) that the Fund will by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the second business day next preceding the first day of such special dividend period, notify the auction agent, who will promptly notify the Broker-Dealers, of either (x) its determination, subject to certain conditions, to proceed with such special dividend period, subject to the terms of any specific redemption provisions, or (y) its

determination not to proceed with such special dividend period, in which latter event the succeeding dividend period shall be a standard dividend period. No later than 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the second business day next preceding the first day of any proposed special dividend period, the Fund shall deliver to the auction agent, who will promptly deliver to the Broker-Dealers and existing holders, either:

- (i) a notice of special dividend period stating (A) that the Fund has determined to designate the next succeeding dividend period as a special dividend period, specifying the first and last days thereof and (B) the terms of any specific redemption provisions; or
- (ii) a notice of special dividend period stating that the Fund has determined not to exercise its option to designate a special dividend period.

If the Fund fails to deliver either such notice of special dividend period to the auction agent by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the second business day next preceding the first day of such proposed special dividend period, the Fund shall be deemed to have delivered a notice to the auction agent with respect to such dividend period to the effect set forth in clause (ii) above, thereby resulting in a standard dividend period.

In addition, the Board of Trustees may amend the standard dividend periods of one or more series of Preferred Shares on a permanent basis.

### **Voting Rights**

Except as noted below, the Fund s common shares and Preferred Shares have equal voting rights of one vote per share and vote together as a single class. In elections of trustees, the holders of Preferred Shares, as a separate class, vote to elect two trustees. The Board of Trustees will determine to which class or classes the trustees elected by the holders of Preferred Shares will be assigned. The holders of the Preferred Shares shall only be entitled to elect the trustees so designated when their term shall have expired. Such trustees appointed by the holders of Preferred Shares will be allocated as evenly as possible among the classes of trustees. The holders of the common shares and holders of Preferred Shares vote together as a single class to elect the remaining trustees. In addition, during any period in which the Fund has not paid dividends on the Preferred Shares in an amount equal to two full years dividends (Voting Period), the holders of Preferred Shares, voting as a single class, are entitled to elect (in addition to the two trustees set forth above) the smallest number of additional trustees as is necessary to ensure that a majority of the trustees has been elected by the holders of Preferred Shares. The holders of Preferred Shares will continue to have these rights until all dividends in arrears have been paid or otherwise provided for.

In an instance when the Fund has not paid dividends as set forth in the immediately preceding paragraph, the terms of office of all persons who are trustees of the Fund at the time of the commencement of a Voting Period will continue, notwithstanding the election by the holders of the Preferred Shares of the number of trustees that such holders are entitled to elect. The persons elected by the holders of the Preferred Shares, together with the incumbent trustees, will constitute the duly elected trustees of the Fund. When all dividends in arrears on the Preferred Shares have been paid or provided for, the terms of office of the additional trustees elected by the holders of the Preferred Shares will terminate.

So long as any of the Preferred Shares are outstanding, the Fund will not, without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding Preferred Shares, (i) institute any proceedings to be adjudicated bankrupt or insolvent, or consent to the institution of bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings against it, or file a petition seeking or consenting to reorganization or relief under any applicable federal or state law relating to bankruptcy or insolvency, or consent to the appointment of a receiver, liquidator,

assignee, trustee, sequestrator (or other similar official) of the Fund or a substantial part of its property, or make any assignment for the benefit of creditors, or, except as may be required by applicable law, admit in writing its inability to pay its debts generally as they become due or take any corporate action in furtherance of any such action; (ii) create, incur or suffer to exist, or agree to create, incur or suffer to exist, or consent to cause or permit in the future (upon the happening of a contingency or otherwise) the creation, incurrence or existence of any material lien, mortgage, pledge, charge, security interest, security agreement, conditional sale or trust receipt or other material encumbrance of any kind upon any of the Fund s assets as a whole, except (A) liens the validity of which are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings, (B) liens for taxes that are not then due and payable or that can be paid thereafter without penalty, (C) liens, pledges, charges, security interests, security agreements or other encumbrances arising in connection with any indebtedness senior to the Preferred Shares, or arising in connection with any futures contracts or options thereon, interest rate swap or cap transactions, forward rate transactions, put or call options or other similar transactions, (D) liens, pledges, charges, security interests, security agreements or other encumbrances arising in connection with any indebtedness permitted under clause (iii) below and (E) liens to secure payment for services rendered including, without limitation, services rendered by the Fund s paying agent and the auction agent; or (iii) create, authorize, issue, incur or suffer to exist any indebtedness for borrowed money or any direct or indirect guarantee of such indebtedness for borrowed money, except the Fund may borrow as may be permitted by the Fund s investment restrictions; provided, however, that transfers of assets by the Fund subject to an obligation to repurchase will not be deemed to be indebtedness for purposes of this provision to the extent that after any such transaction the Fund has eligible assets with an aggregate discounted value at least equal to the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount as of the immediately preceding valuation date.

In addition, the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority, as defined in the 1940 Act, of the outstanding Preferred Shares is required to approve any plan of reorganization (as such term is used in the 1940 Act) adversely affecting such shares or any action requiring a vote of security holders of the Fund under Section 13(a) of the 1940 Act, including, among other things, changes in the Fund s fundamental investment restrictions described under

Investment Restrictions in the Statement of Additional Information and changes in the Fund s subclassification as a closed-end investment company. The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority, as defined in the 1940 Act, of the outstanding Preferred Shares of any series, voting separately from any other series, shall be required with respect to any matter that materially and adversely affects the rights, preferences, or powers of that series in a manner different from that of other series or classes of the Fund s shares of beneficial interest. For purposes of the foregoing, no matter will be deemed to adversely affect any rights, preference or power unless such matter (i) alters or abolishes any preferential right of such series; (ii) creates, alters or abolishes any right in respect of redemption of such series; or (iii) creates or alters (other than to abolish) any restriction on transfer applicable to such series. The vote of holders of any series described in this paragraph will in each case be in addition to a separate vote of the requisite percentage of common shares and/or preferred shares necessary to authorize the action in question.

The common shares and the Preferred Shares also will vote separately to the extent otherwise required under Delaware law or the 1940 Act as in effect from time to time. The class votes of holders of Preferred Shares described above will in each case be in addition to any separate vote of the requisite percentage of common shares and Preferred Shares, voting together as a single class, necessary to authorize the action in question.

For the purpose of any right of the holders of Preferred Shares to vote on any matter, whether the right is created by the Agreement and Declaration of Trust, by statute or otherwise, a holder of a Preferred Share is not entitled to vote and the Preferred Shares will not be deemed to be outstanding for the purpose of voting or determining the number of Preferred Shares required to constitute a quorum, if prior to or concurrently with a determination of the Preferred Shares entitled to vote or of Preferred Shares deemed

outstanding for quorum purposes, as the case may be, a notice of redemption was given in respect of those Preferred Shares and sufficient deposit securities for the redemption of those Preferred Shares were deposited.

# **Rating Agency Guidelines**

The Fund is required under Fitch and S&P guidelines to maintain assets having in the aggregate a discounted value at least equal to the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount (as defined below). Fitch and S&P have each established separate guidelines for determining discounted value. To the extent any particular portfolio holding does not satisfy the applicable rating agency s guidelines, all or a portion of such holding s value will not be included in the calculation of discounted value (as defined by the rating agency). The Fitch and S&P guidelines also impose certain diversification requirements on the Fund s overall portfolio. The Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount means as of any valuation date the dollar amount equal to:

(i) the sum of (A) the product of the number of Preferred Shares outstanding on such date multiplied by \$25,000 (plus the product of the number of shares of any other series of preferred shares outstanding on such date multiplied by the liquidation preference of such shares), plus any redemption premium applicable to the Preferred Shares (or other preferred shares) then subject to redemption; (B) the aggregate amount of dividends that will have accumulated at the respective applicable rates (whether or not earned or declared) to (but not including) the first respective dividend payment dates for Preferred Shares outstanding that follow such valuation date (plus the aggregate amount of dividends, whether or not earned or declared, that will have accumulated in respect of other outstanding preferred shares to, but not including, the first respective dividend payment dates for such other shares that follow such valuation date); (C) the aggregate amount of dividends that would accumulate on shares of each series of Preferred Shares outstanding from such first respective dividend payment date therefore through the 42nd day after such valuation date, at the maximum rate (calculated as if such valuation date were the auction date for the dividend period commencing on such dividend payment date) for a standard dividend period of shares of such series to commence on such dividend payment date, assuming, solely for purposes of the foregoing, that if on such valuation date the Fund shall have delivered a notice of special dividend period to the auction agent pursuant to Section 4(b) of Part I of the Statement with respect to shares of such series, such maximum rate shall be the maximum rate for the special dividend period of shares of such series to commence on such dividend payment date (except that (1) if such valuation date occurs at a time when a failure to deposit (or, in the case of preferred shares other than Preferred Shares, a failure similar to a failure to deposit) has occurred that has not been cured, the dividend for purposes of calculation would accumulate at the current dividend rate then applicable to the shares in respect of which such failure has occurred and (2) for those days during the period described in this subparagraph (C) in respect of which the applicable rate in effect immediately prior to such dividend payment date will remain in effect (or, in the case of preferred shares other than Preferred Shares, in respect of which the dividend rate or rates in effect immediately prior to such respective dividend payment dates will remain in effect), the dividend for purposes of calculation would accumulate at such applicable rate (or other rate or rates, as the case may be in respect of those days); (D) the amount of anticipated expenses of the Fund for the 90 days subsequent to such valuation date; (E) the amount of any indebtedness or obligations of the Fund senior in right of payments to the Preferred Shares; and (F) any current liabilities as of such valuation date to the extent not reflected in any of (i) (A) through (i) (E) (including, without limitation, any payables for portfolio

securities purchased as of such valuation date and any liabilities incurred for the purpose of clearing securities transactions) less (ii) the value (i.e., the face value of cash, short-term municipal obligations and short-term securities that are the direct obligation of the U.S. government, provided in each case that such securities mature on or prior to the date upon which any of (i) (A) though (i) (F) became payable, otherwise the S&P discounted value) of any of the Fund s assets irrevocably deposited by the Fund for the payment of any of (i) (A) through (i) (F).

The Fund also is required under rating agency guidelines to maintain, with respect to the Preferred Shares, as of the last business day of each month in which Preferred Shares are outstanding, asset coverage of at least 200% with respect to senior securities that are shares of the Fund, including the Preferred Shares (or such other asset coverage as may in the future be specified in or under the 1940 Act as the minimum asset coverage for senior securities that are shares of a closed-end investment company as a condition of declaring dividends on its common shares) (1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage). Fitch and S&P have agreed that the auditors must certify annually the asset coverage test on a date randomly selected by the auditors. Based on the Fund s assets and liabilities as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007, and assuming the issuance of all Preferred Shares offered hereby and the use of the proceeds as intended, the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage with respect to Preferred Shares would be computed as follows:

Value of Fund assets less liabilities not constituting senior securities = \$ = %

Senior securities representing indebtedness plus liquidation value of the Preferred Shares \$

If the Fund does not timely cure a failure to maintain (1) a discounted value of its portfolio equal to the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount or (2) the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage, in each case in accordance with the requirements of the rating agency or agencies then rating the Preferred Shares, the Fund will be required to redeem Preferred Shares as described below under Redemption.

The Fund may, but is not required to, adopt any modifications to the guidelines that may hereafter be established by Fitch and S&P. Failure to adopt any such modifications, however, may result in a change or a withdrawal of the ratings altogether. In addition, any rating agency providing a rating for the Preferred Shares may, at any time, change or withdraw any such rating. The Board of Trustees may, without shareholder approval, amend, alter, add to or repeal any or all of the definitions and related provisions that have been adopted by the Fund pursuant to the rating agency guidelines in the event the Fund receives written confirmation from Fitch or S&P, or both, as appropriate, that any such change would not impair the ratings then assigned by Fitch and S&P to the Preferred Shares.

The Board of Trustees may amend the definition of standard dividend period to change the dividend period with respect to one or more series without the vote or consent of the holders of the Preferred Shares.

As described by Fitch and S&P, the Preferred Shares rating is an assessment of the capacity and willingness of the Fund to pay Preferred Shares obligations. The ratings on the Preferred Shares are not recommendations to purchase, hold or sell the Preferred Shares, inasmuch as the ratings do not comment as to market price or suitability for a particular investor. The rating agency guidelines also do not address the likelihood that an owner of the Preferred Shares will be able to sell such shares in an auction or otherwise. The ratings are based on current information furnished to Fitch and S&P by the Fund and Calamos and information obtained from other sources. The ratings may be changed, suspended or withdrawn as a result of changes in, or the unavailability of, such information.

The rating agency guidelines will apply to the Preferred Shares only so long as such rating agency is rating these shares. The Fund will pay fees to Fitch and S&P for rating the Preferred Shares.

The Fund shall deliver to the auction agent and each rating agency a certificate which sets forth a determination regarding the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount (a Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Certificate ) as of (A) within seven business days after the Date of Original Issue, (B) the last valuation date of each month, (C) any date requested by any rating agency, (D) a business day on or before any asset coverage cure date relating to the Fund s cure of a failure to meet the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount test, (E) any day that common shares or Preferred Shares are redeemed, and (F) any day the Fitch eligible assets have an aggregate discounted value less than or equal to 110% of the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount. Such Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Certificate shall be delivered in the case of (A) above on or before the seventh business day after the date of original issue and in the case of (B) (F) above on or before the seventh business day after the relevant valuation date or asset coverage cure date.

The Fund shall deliver to the auction agent and each rating agency a certificate which sets forth a determination regarding the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage (a 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage Certificate ) (i) as of the date of original issue, and (ii) as of (A) the last valuation date of each quarter thereafter, and (B) as of a business day on or before any asset coverage cure date relating to the failure to meet the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage. Such 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage Certificate shall be delivered in the case of clause (i) on or before the seventh business day after the date of original issue and in the case of clause (ii) on or before the seventh business day after the relevant valuation date or the asset coverage cure date. The certificates required by the Statement may be combined into a single certificate.

Within ten business days of the date of original issue, the Fund shall deliver to the Auction Agent and each Rating Agency a letter prepared by the Fund s independent auditors (an Auditor s Certificate ) regarding the accuracy of the calculations made by the Fund in the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Certificate and the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage Certificate required to be delivered by the Fund on or before the seventh business day after the date of original issue. Within ten business days after delivery of the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Certificate and the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage Certificate relating to the last valuation date of each fiscal year of the Fund, the Fund will deliver to the auction agent and each rating agency an Auditor s Certificate regarding the accuracy of the calculations made by the Fund in such certificate regarding the accuracy of the calculations made by the Fund in such certificate and 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage Certificate and 1940 Act Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Certificate regarding the accuracy of the calculations made by the Fund in such certificate and 1940 Act Preferred Shares Coverage Certificate regarding the accuracy of the calculations made by the Fund on each Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Certificate and 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage Certificate shows that an error was made in any such report, the calculation or determination made by the Fund s independent auditors will be conclusive and binding on the Fund.

# Redemption

*Mandatory Redemption*. If the Fund does not timely cure a failure to (1) maintain a discounted value of its portfolio equal to the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount, (2) maintain the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage, or (3) file a required certificate related to asset coverage on time, the Preferred Shares will be subject to mandatory redemption out of funds legally available therefor in accordance with the Statement and applicable law, at the redemption price of \$25,000 per share plus an amount equal to accumulated but unpaid dividends thereon (whether or not earned or declared) to (but not including) the date fixed for redemption and in certain cases a redemption premium. Any such

redemption will be limited to the number of Preferred Shares necessary to restore the required discounted value or the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage, as the case may be.

In determining the number of Preferred Shares required to be redeemed in accordance with the foregoing, the Fund will allocate the number of shares required to be redeemed to satisfy the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount or the 1940 Act Preferred Shares Asset Coverage, as the case may be, pro rata among the Preferred Shares of the Fund and any other preferred shares of the Fund, subject to redemption or retirement. If fewer than all outstanding shares of any series are, as a result, to be redeemed, the Fund may redeem such shares pro rata, by lot or other method that it deems fair and equitable.

Optional Redemption. After the initial dividend period, to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act and Delaware law, the Fund may, at its option, redeem, in whole or in part, Preferred Shares having a dividend period of one year or less on the business day after the last day of such dividend period upon not less than 15 calendar days and not more than 40 calendar days prior notice. The redemption price per share will be \$25,000 per share, plus an amount equal to accumulated but unpaid dividends thereon (whether or not earned or declared) to the date fixed for redemption. Preferred Shares having a dividend period of more than one year are redeemable at the option of the Fund, in whole or in part, on any business day prior to the end of the relevant dividend period upon not less than 15 calendar days and not more than 40 calendar days prior notice, subject to any specific redemption provisions, which may include the payment of redemption premiums to the extent required under any applicable specific redemption provisions. The Fund will not make any optional redemption unless (i) the Fund has available certain deposit securities with maturities or tender dates not later than the day preceding the applicable redemption date and having a value not less than the amount (including any applicable premium) due to holders of the Preferred Shares by reason of the redemption of the Preferred Shares on such date fixed for the redemption and (ii) the Fund has eligible assets with an aggregate discounted value at least equal to the Preferred Shares Basic Maintenance Amount immediately subsequent to such redemption.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Preferred Shares may not be redeemed at the option of the Fund unless all dividends in arrears on the outstanding Preferred Shares, and any other outstanding preferred shares, have been or are being contemporaneously paid or set aside for payment. This would not prevent the lawful purchase or exchange offer for Preferred Shares made on the same terms to holders of all outstanding preferred shares.

# Liquidation

Subject to the rights of holders of any series or class or classes of shares ranking on a parity with Preferred Shares with respect to the distribution of assets upon liquidation of the Fund, upon a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Fund, whether voluntary or involuntary, the holders of Preferred Shares then outstanding will be entitled to receive and to be paid out of the assets of the Fund available for distribution to its shareholders, after claims of creditors but before any payment or distribution is made on the common shares or any other shares of beneficial interest of the Fund ranking junior to the Preferred Shares, an amount equal to the liquidation preference with respect to such shares (\$25,000 per share), plus an amount equal to all unpaid dividends thereon (whether or not declared by the Fund, but excluding the interest thereon) accrued to and including the date fixed for such distribution in connection with the liquidation of the Fund. After the payment to the holders of Preferred Shares of the full preferential amounts provided for as described herein, the holders of Preferred Shares as such will have no right or claim to any of the remaining assets of the Fund.

If, upon any such liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Fund, whether voluntary or involuntary, the assets of the Fund available for distribution among the holders of all outstanding Preferred Shares, including each series, shall be insufficient to permit the payment in full to

such holders of the amounts to which they are entitled, then such available assets shall be distributed among the holders of all outstanding Preferred Shares, including each series, ratably in any such distribution of assets according to the respective amounts which would be payable on all such shares if all amounts thereon were paid in full. Unless and until payment in full has been made to the holders of all outstanding Preferred Shares, including each series, of the liquidation distributions to which they are entitled, no dividends or distributions will be made to holders of common shares or any shares of beneficial interest of the Fund ranking junior to the Preferred Shares as to liquidation.

Neither the consolidation nor merger of the Fund with or into any other business entity, nor the sale, lease, exchange or transfer by the Fund of all or substantially all of its property and assets, shall be deemed to be a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Fund for purposes of the foregoing paragraph.

#### THE AUCTION

#### General

The Statement provides that, except as otherwise described in this prospectus supplement or in the accompanying prospectus, the applicable rate for the Preferred Shares for each dividend period after the initial dividend period will be the rate that results from an auction conducted as set forth in the Statement and summarized below. In such an auction, persons determine to hold or offer to sell or, based on dividend rates bid by them, offer to purchase or sell Preferred Shares. See the Statement included in the Statement of Additional Information for a more complete description of the auction process.

*Auction Agency Agreement*. The Fund will enter into an auction agency agreement with the auction agent (currently, The Bank of New York) which provides, among other things, that the auction agent will follow the auction procedures to determine the applicable rate for Preferred Shares, so long as the applicable rate for Preferred Shares is to be based on the results of an auction.

The auction agent may terminate the auction agency agreement upon notice to the Fund no earlier than 45 days after the delivery of such notice. If the auction agent should resign, the Fund will use its best efforts to enter into an agreement with a successor auction agent containing substantially the same terms and conditions as the auction agency agreement. The Fund may remove the auction agent provided that, prior to such removal, the Fund has entered into such an agreement with a successor auction agent.

*Broker-Dealer Agreements*. Each auction requires the participation of one or more Broker-Dealers. The auction agent will enter into agreements with several Broker-Dealers selected by the Fund, which provide for the participation of those Broker-Dealers in auctions for Preferred Shares.

The auction agent will pay to each Broker-Dealer after each auction from funds provided by the Fund, a service charge at the annual rate of 1/4 of 1% of the liquidation preference (\$25,000 per share) of the Preferred Shares held by that Broker-Dealer s customer upon settlement in an auction. The Fund may request that the auction agent terminate one or more Broker-Dealer agreements at any time upon five days notice, provided that at least one Broker-Dealer agreement is in effect after termination of the agreement.

#### **Auction Procedures**

Prior to the submission deadline on each auction date for the Preferred Shares, each customer of a Broker-Dealer who is listed on the records of that Broker-Dealer (or, if applicable, the auction agent) as a

beneficial owner of Preferred Shares may submit the following types of orders with respect to shares of such series of Preferred Shares to that Broker-Dealer:

- 1. Hold Order indicating its desire to hold Preferred Shares without regard to the applicable rate for the next dividend period.
- 2. Bid indicating its desire to sell shares of such series at \$25,000 per share if the applicable rate for shares of such series for the next dividend period is less than the rate or spread specified in the bid.
- 3. Sell Order indicating its desire to sell shares of such series at \$25,000 per share without regard to the applicable rate for shares of such series for the next dividend period.

A beneficial owner of Preferred Shares may submit different types of orders to its Broker-Dealer with respect to Preferred Shares then held by the beneficial owner. A beneficial owner that submits a bid to its Broker-Dealer having a rate higher than the maximum rate on the auction date will be treated as having submitted a sell order to its Broker-Dealer. A beneficial owner that fails to submit an order to its BrokerDealer will ordinarily be deemed to have submitted a hold order to its Broker-Dealer. However, if a beneficial owner fails to submit an order for some or all of its shares to its Broker-Dealer for an auction relating to a dividend period of more than 91 days, such beneficial owner will be deemed to have submitted a sell order for such shares to its Broker-Dealer. A sell order constitutes an irrevocable offer to sell the Preferred Shares subject to the sell order. A beneficial owner that offers to become the beneficial owner of additional Preferred Shares is, for the purposes of such offer, a potential holder as discussed below.

A potential holder is either a customer of a Broker-Dealer that is not a beneficial owner of Preferred Shares but that wishes to purchase shares of such series or that is a beneficial owner of shares of such series that wishes to purchase additional shares of such series. A potential holder may submit bids to its Broker-Dealer in which it offers to purchase shares of such series at \$25,000 per share if the applicable rate for the next dividend period is not less than the specified rate in such bid. A bid placed by a potential holder specifying a rate higher than the maximum rate for shares of such series on the auction date will not be accepted.

The Broker-Dealers in turn will submit the orders of their respective customers who are beneficial owners and potential holders to the auction agent. They will designate themselves (unless otherwise permitted by the Fund) as existing holders of shares subject to orders submitted or deemed submitted to them by beneficial owners. They will designate themselves as potential holders of shares subject to orders submitted to orders submitted to them by potential beneficial owners. However, neither the Fund nor the auction agent will be responsible for a Broker-Dealer s failure to comply with these procedures. Any order placed with the auction agent by a Broker-Dealer as or on behalf of an existing holder or a potential holder. Similarly, any failure by a Broker-Dealer to submit to the auction agent an order for any Preferred Shares held by it or customers who are beneficial owners will be treated as a beneficial owner s failure to submit to its Broker-Dealer an order in respect of Preferred Shares held by it. A Broker-Dealer may also submit orders to the auction agent for its own account as an existing holder or potential holder, provided it is not an affiliate of the Fund.

There are sufficient clearing bids in an auction if the number of shares subject to bids submitted or deemed submitted to the auction agent by Broker-Dealers for potential holders with rates or spreads equal to or lower than the maximum rate is at least equal to the number of shares of such series subject to sell orders and the number of shares of such series subject to bids specifying rates or spreads higher than the maximum rate for such series submitted or deemed submitted to the auction agent by Broker-Dealers

for existing holders of such series. If there are sufficient clearing bids, the applicable rate for shares of such series for the next succeeding dividend period thereof will be the lowest rate specified in the submitted bids which, taking into account such rate and all lower rates bid by Broker-Dealers as or on behalf of existing holders and potential holders, would result in existing holders and potential holders owning the shares of such series available for purchase in the auction.

If there are not sufficient clearing bids for such series, the applicable rate for the next dividend period will be the maximum rate on the auction date. However, if the Fund has declared a special dividend period and there are not sufficient clearing bids, the election of a special dividend period will not be effective and the applicable rate for the next dividend period will be the same as during the current dividend period. If there are not sufficient clearing bids, beneficial owners of Preferred Shares that have submitted or are deemed to have submitted sell orders may not be able to sell in the auction all shares subject to such sell orders. If all of the outstanding Preferred Shares are the subject of submitted hold orders, then the dividend period following the auction will automatically be the same length as the preceding dividend period and the applicable rate for the next dividend period will be the all hold rate. The all hold rate is 80% of the applicable Reference Rate.

The auction procedures include a pro rata allocation of shares for purchase and sale which may result in an existing holder continuing to hold or selling, or a potential holder purchasing, a number of Preferred Shares that is different than the number of shares specified in its order. To the extent the allocation procedures have that result, Broker-Dealers that have designated themselves as existing holders or potential holders in respect of customer orders will be required to make appropriate pro rata allocations among their respective customers.

Settlement of purchases and sales will be made on the next business day (which is also a dividend payment date) after the auction date through DTC. Purchasers will make payment through their agent members in same-day funds to DTC against delivery to their respective agent members. DTC will make payment to the sellers agent members in accordance with DTC s normal procedures, which now provide for payment against delivery by their agent members in same-day funds.

The auctions for Series \_\_\_\_Preferred Shares will normally be held every [seven] days. Each subsequent dividend period will normally begin on the following business day.

If an auction date is not a business day because the New York Stock Exchange is closed for business for more than three consecutive business days due to an act of God, natural disaster, act of war, civil or military disturbance, act of terrorism, sabotage, riots or a loss or malfunction of utilities or communications services, or the auction agent is not able to conduct an auction in accordance with the auction procedures for any reason, then the applicable rate for the next dividend period will be the applicable rate determined on the previous auction date.

If a dividend payment date is not a business day because the New York Stock Exchange is closed for business for more than three consecutive business days due to an act of God, natural disaster, act of war, civil or military disturbance, act of terrorism, sabotage, riots or a loss or malfunction of utilities or communications services, or the dividend payable on such date cannot be paid for any such reason, then:

the dividend payment date for the affected dividend period will be the next business day on which the Fund and its paying agent, if any, can pay the dividend;

the affected dividend period will end on the day it otherwise would have ended; and

the next dividend period will begin and end on the dates on which it otherwise would have begun and ended.

The following is a simplified example of how a typical auction works. Assume that the Fund has 1,000 outstanding Preferred Shares and three existing holders. The three existing holders and three potential holders submit orders through Broker-Dealers at the auction:

Existing Holder A	Owns 500 shares, wants to sell all 500 shares if auction rate is less than 4.1%	Bid order of 4.1% rate for 500 shares
Existing Holder B	Owns 300 shares, wants to hold	Hold order will take the auction rate
Existing Holder C	Owns 200 shares, wants to sell all 200 shares if auction rate is less than 3.9%	Bid order of 3.9% rate for 200 shares
Potential Holder D	Wants to buy 200 shares	Places order to buy at or above $4.0\%$
Potential Holder E	Wants to buy 300 shares	Places order to buy at or above 3.9%
	W 1 200 1	

Potential Holder FWants to buy 200 sharesPlaces order to buy at or above 4.1%

The lowest dividend rate that will result in all 1,000 Preferred Shares continuing to be held is 4.0% (the offer by D). Therefore, the dividend rate will be 4.0%. Existing holders B and C will continue to own their shares. Existing holder A will sell its shares because A s dividend rate bid was higher than the dividend rate. Potential holder D will buy 200 shares and potential holder E will buy 300 shares because their bid rates were at or below the dividend rate. Potential holder F will not buy any shares because its bid rate was above the dividend rate.

#### Secondary Market Trading and Transfer of Preferred Shares.

The underwriters are not required to make a market in the Preferred Shares. The Broker-Dealers (including the underwriters) may maintain a secondary trading market for outside of auctions, but they are not required to do so. There can be no assurance that a secondary trading market for Preferred Shares will develop or, if it does develop, that it will provide owners with liquidity of investment. Preferred Shares will not be registered on any stock exchange or on the Nasdaq market.

Investors who purchase Preferred Shares in an auction for a special dividend period should note that because the dividend rate on such shares will be fixed for the length of that dividend period, the value of such shares may fluctuate in response to the changes in interest rates, and may be more or less than their original cost if sold on the open market in advance of the next auction thereof, depending on market conditions.

A beneficial owner or an existing holder may sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of Preferred Shares only in whole shares and only:

pursuant to a bid or sell order placed with the auction agent in accordance with the auction procedures;

#### to a Broker-Dealer; or

to such other persons as may be permitted by the Fund; provided, however, that (x) if you hold your Preferred Shares in the name of a Broker-Dealer, a sale or transfer of your Preferred Shares to that Broker-Dealer, or to another customer of that Broker-Dealer, will not be considered a sale or transfer for purposes of the foregoing if that Broker-Dealer remains the existing holder of the Preferred Shares immediately after the transaction and (y) in the case of all transfers, other than through an auction, the Broker-Dealer (or other person, if the Fund permits) receiving the transfer will advise the auction agent of the transfer.

Further description of the auction procedures can be found in the Statement.

#### Risks

*Auction Risk.* You may not be able to sell your Preferred Shares at an auction if the auction fails; that is, if there are more Preferred Shares offered for sale than there are buyers for those shares. Also, if you place a bid order to retain Preferred Shares at an auction only at a specified rate, and that specific rate exceeds the rate set at the auction, you will not retain your Preferred Shares. If you submit a hold order for Preferred Shares (orders to retain Preferred Shares without specifying a minimum rate) and the auction sets a below-market rate, you may receive a below-market rate of return on your Preferred Shares.

If there are more Preferred Shares offered for sale than there are buyers for those Preferred Shares in any auction, the auction will fail and you may not be able to sell some or all of your Preferred Shares at that time. The relative buying and selling interest of market participants in your Preferred Shares and in the auction rate securities market as a whole will vary over time, and such variations may be affected by, among other things, news relating to the Fund, the attractiveness of alternative investments, the perceived risk of owning the security (whether related to credit, liquidity or any other risk), the tax treatment accorded the instruments, the accounting treatment accorded Preferred Shares, including recent clarifications of U.S. generally accepted accounting principles relating to the treatment of auction rate securities, reactions to regulatory actions or press reports, financial reporting cycles and market sentiment generally. Shifts of demand in response to any one or simultaneous particular events cannot be predicted and may be short-lived or exist for longer periods.

A Broker-Dealer may submit orders in auctions for its own account. Any Broker-Dealer submitting an order for its own account in any auction will have an advantage over other bidders in that it would have knowledge of other orders placed through it in that auction (but it would not have knowledge of orders submitted by other Broker-Dealers, if any). As a result of the Broker-Dealer bidding, the auction clearing rate may be higher or lower than the rate that would have prevailed if the Broker-Dealer had not bid. A Broker-Dealer may also bid in order to prevent what would otherwise be a failed auction, or an auction clearing at a rate that the Broker-Dealer believes does not reflect the market for such securities at the time of the auction. Broker-Dealers may, but are not obligated to, advise holders of the Preferred Shares that the rate that will apply in an all hold auction is often a lower rate than would avoid the occurrence of an all hold auction. A Broker-Dealer may, but is not obligated to, encourage additional or revised investor bidding in order to prevent an all hold auction.

Finally, the dividend periods for the Preferred Shares may be changed by the Fund, subject to certain conditions with notice to the holders of Preferred Shares, which could also affect the liquidity of your investment. See Description of Preferred Shares and The Auction Auction Procedures.

[The underwriter has advised the Fund that the underwriter and various other Broker-Dealers and other firms that participate in the auction rate securities market received letters from the staff of the Commission in the spring of 2004. The letters requested that each of these firms voluntarily conduct an investigation regarding its respective practices and procedures in that market. Pursuant to these requests, the underwriter conducted its own voluntary review and reported its findings to the Commission staff. At the Commission staff s request, the underwriter is engaging in discussions with the Commission staff concerning its inquiry. Neither the underwriter nor the Fund can predict the ultimate outcome of the inquiry or how that outcome will affect the market for auction rate securities or the auctions.]

*Secondary Market Risk.* If you try to sell your Preferred Shares between auctions, you may not be able to sell any or all of your shares, or you may not be able to sell them for \$25,000 per share or \$25,000 per share plus accumulated dividends. If the Fund has designated a special dividend period (a

dividend period other than [7] days), changes in interest rates could affect the price you would receive if you sold your shares in the secondary market. Broker-Dealers that maintain a secondary trading market for Preferred Shares are not required to maintain that market, and the Fund is not required to redeem shares either if an auction or an attempted secondary market sale fails because of a lack of buyers. Preferred Shares are not listed on a stock exchange or quoted on the Nasdaq stock market. You may transfer shares outside of auctions only to or through a Broker-Dealer that has entered into an agreement with the Fund s auction agent, The Bank of New York, and the Fund or such other persons as the Fund permits. If you sell your Preferred Shares to a broker-dealer between auctions, you may receive less than the price you paid for them, especially if market interest rates have risen since the last auction. Accumulated Preferred Shares dividends, however, should at least partially compensate for the increased market interest rates.

*Ratings and Asset Coverage Risk.* Although it is expected that Fitch will assign a rating of AAA to the Preferred Shares and S&P will assign a rating of AAA to the Preferred Shares, such ratings do not eliminate or necessarily mitigate the risks of investing in Preferred Shares. Fitch or S&P could downgrade its rating of the Preferred Shares or withdraw its rating of the Preferred Shares at any time, which may make your shares less liquid at an auction or in the secondary market. If Fitch or S&P downgrades the Preferred Shares, the Fund may alter its portfolio or redeem Preferred Shares in an effort to improve the rating, although there is no assurance that it will be able to do so to the extent necessary to restore the prior rating. If the Fund fails to satisfy the asset coverage ratios discussed under

Description of Preferred Shares Rating Agency Guidelines, the Fund will be required to redeem a sufficient number of Preferred Shares in order to return to compliance with the asset coverage ratios. The Fund may be required to redeem Preferred Shares at a time when it is not advantageous for the Fund to make such redemption or to liquidate portfolio securities in order to have available cash for such redemption. The Fund may voluntarily redeem Preferred Shares under certain circumstances in order to meet asset maintenance tests. Although a sale of substantially all the assets of the Fund or the merger of the Fund into another entity would require the approval of the holders of the Preferred Shares voting as a separate class as discussed under Description of the Preferred Shares Voting Rights, a sale of substantially all of the assets of the Fund or the merger of the Fund or the merger of the Fund redeem the Preferred Shares, in whole or in part, provided that the Fund continued to comply with the asset coverage ratios discussed under Description of Preferred Shares Rating Agency Guidelines. See Description of Preferred Shares Rating Agency Guidelines for a description of the asset maintenance tests the Fund must meet.

#### UNDERWRITING [TO BE ADDED BY UNDERWRITERS AT TIME OF OFFERING] WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

The Fund is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the 1940 Act and is required to file reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These documents can be inspected and copied for a fee at the SEC s public reference room, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102, and at the SEC s Chicago Regional Office, Suite 1400, Northwestern Atrium Center, 500 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511. Reports, proxy statements, and other information about the Fund can be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not contain all of the information in the Fund s registration statement, including amendments, exhibits, and schedules. Statements in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus about the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete and in each instance reference is made to the copy of the contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, each such statement being qualified in all respects by this reference.

Additional information about the Fund and Preferred Shares can be found in the Fund s registration statement (including amendments, exhibits, and schedules) on Form N-2 filed with the SEC. The SEC maintains a web site (http://www.sec.gov) that contains the Fund s registration statement, other documents incorporated by reference, and other information the Fund has filed electronically with the Commission, including proxy statements and reports filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

#### LEGAL MATTERS

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, serves as counsel to the Fund and to the non-interested Trustees. Vedder Price P.C. (Vedder Price), Chicago, Illinois, which is serving as special counsel to the Fund in connection with the offering, will pass on the legality of the shares offered hereby. Vedder Price is also counsel to Calamos. Certain matters will be passed upon for the underwriter by \_\_\_\_\_, [city], [state]. Vedder Price and \_\_\_\_may rely on the opinion of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, Delaware for certain matters of Delaware law.

[UNAUDITED] FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_\_\_\_ F-1

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund Preferred Shares \_\_\_\_Shares, Series \_\_\_\_

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT \_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

[Underwriters]

The information in this prospectus supplement, which relates to an effective Registration Statement under the Securities Act of 1933, is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until we deliver a final prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement and the attached prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell these securities or a solicitation of an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED \_\_\_\_\_, 2007 FORM OF PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT (To prospectus dated \_\_\_, 2007) \$\_\_\_\_\_

## Series \_\_\_\_, Due \_\_\_, 20\_\_\_ Senior mate senior material seni

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund (the Fund, we, us or our ) is a diversified, closed-end management investme company. Our investment objective is to provide total return through a combination of capital appreciation and current income.

We are offering an aggregate principal amount of <u>Series</u> Calamos Notes in this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement is not complete and should be read in conjunction with our prospectus dated <u>,</u> 20\_\_\_(the prospectus), which accompanies this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement does not include all information that you should consider before purchasing any Calamos Notes. You should read this prospectus supplement and our prospectus prior to purchasing any Calamos Notes.

The notes offered in this prospectus supplement are referred to as Calamos Notes. Individual series of Calamos Notes are referred to as a series. Except as otherwise described in this prospectus supplement, the terms of this series and all other series are the same. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this prospectus supplement shall have the meanings given to such terms in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_\_to the Statement of Additional Information, which is available from us upon request.

The Calamos Notes will be issued without coupons in denominations of \$\_\_\_\_\_and any integral multiple thereof. The principal amount of the Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes will be due and payable on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_(the Stated Maturity ). There is no sinking fund with respect to the Calamos Notes. The Calamos Notes will be our unsecured obligations and, upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, will rank: (1) senior to all of our outstanding common stock and any outstanding preferred stock; (2) on a parity with any of our unsecured creditors and any unsecured senior securities representing our indebtedness, including other series of Calamos Notes; and (3) junior to any of our secured creditors. We may redeem the Calamos Notes prior to their Stated Maturity in certain circumstances described in this prospectus supplement.

Holders of the Calamos Notes will be entitled to receive cash interest payments at an annual rate that may vary for each rate period. The initial rate period for the Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes is from the issue date through \_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_. The interest rate for the initial rate period from and including the issue date through \_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. Will be \_\_\_\_% per year for the Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes. For each subsequent rate period, the interest rate will be determined by an auction conducted in accordance with the procedures described in this prospectus supplement. Generally, following the initial rate period, each rate period will be \_\_\_(\_\_) days for the Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes.

The Calamos Notes will not be listed on any exchange or automated quotation system. Generally, you may only buy and sell Calamos Notes through an order placed at an auction with or through a broker-dealer that has entered into an agreement with the auction agent or in a secondary market that those broker-dealers may maintain. These broker-dealers are not required to maintain a market in the Calamos Notes, and a secondary market, if one develops, may not provide you with liquidity. See The Auction Certain Considerations Affecting Auction Rate Securities Existing Holder s Ability to Resell Auction Rate Securities May Be Limited.

#### Edgar Filing: CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND - Form N-2/A

Investing in Calamos Notes involves certain risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page \_\_\_\_\_of the accompanying prospectus and The Auction Auction Risk beginning on page \_\_\_\_\_of this prospectus supplement. Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement or accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Amount of	
	Notes	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Sales load	\$	\$
Proceeds to us (before expenses) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	\$

(1) Does not include offering expenses

payable by us, estimated to be \$ .

The underwriters expect to deliver the Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes in book-entry form, through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company, to broker-dealers on or about \_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_.

[Underwriter(s)] \_\_\_\_, 200\_\_\_\_

Table of Contents

The offering is conditioned upon the Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes receiving a rating of \_\_\_\_\_ from Fitch Ratings and \_\_\_\_\_ from S&P.

This prospectus supplement has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC). Additional copies of this prospectus supplement, the prospectus, the Statement of Additional Information dated \_\_\_\_\_, as supplemented from time to time, or the Fund s annual or semi-annual reports are available by calling (800) 582-6959 or by writing to the Fund, or you may obtain copies (and other information regarding us) from the SEC s web site (http://www.sec.gov). The Fund s annual and semi-annual reports are also available on the Fund s website at www.calamos.com, which provides a link to the SEC s website where the Fund s Statement of Additional Information may be obtained. You also may e-mail requests for these documents to the SEC at publicinfo@sec.gov or make a request in writing to the SEC s Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102.

This prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering, also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in the prospectus. The prospectus gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering.

If the description of this offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information contained in this prospectus supplement; provided that if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date, the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement.

The Calamos Notes do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

### TABLE OF CONTENTSProspectus Supplement

	Page		
PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY	S-		
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-		
CAPITALIZATION	S-		
ASSET COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS	S-		
DESCRIPTION OF CALAMOS NOTES	S-		
THE AUCTION	S-		
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	S-		
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	S-		
LEGAL MATTERS	S-		
[UNAUDITED] FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF , 200	F-		
Prosnectus			

Prospectus

**Prospectus Summary** Summary of Fund Expenses **Financial Highlights** Market and Net Asset Value Information Use of Proceeds The Fund Investment Objective and Principal Investment Strategies Leverage Interest Rate Transactions **Risk Factors** Management of the Fund **Closed-End Fund Structure** Certain Federal Income Tax Matters Net Asset Value Dividends and Distributions: Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan **Description of Securities Rating Agency Guidelines** Certain Provisions of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust and Bylaws Plan of Distribution Custodian, Transfer Agent, Dividend Disbursing Agent and Registrar Legal Matters Available Information Table of Contents of the Statement of Additional Information

You should rely on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement in making an investment decision. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with different or inconsistent information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these notes in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information in this prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus supplement, and that our business, financial condition and prospects may have changed since this date. We will amend or supplement this prospectus supplement to reflect material changes to the information contained in this prospectus supplement to the extent required by applicable law.

i

#### CAUTIONARY NOTICE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the statement of additional information contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the words may, will, intend, expect, estimate, continue, plan, anticipate, and similar terms and the negative of such terms. Such forward-looking statements may be contained in this prospectus supplement, as well as in the accompanying prospectus. By their nature, all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Several factors that could materially affect our actual results are the performance of the portfolio of securities we hold, the conditions in the U.S. and international financial, petroleum and other markets, the price at which our shares will trade in the public markets and other factors discussed in our periodic filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the expectations expressed in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results could differ materially from those projected or assumed in our forward-looking statements. Our future financial condition and results of operations, as well as any forward-looking statements, are subject to change and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties, such as those disclosed in the Risk Factors section of the prospectus accompanying this prospectus supplement. All forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus are made as of the date of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying be. Except for our ongoing obligations under the federal securities laws, we do not intend, and we undertake no obligation, to update any forward-looking statement. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus supplement are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Currently known risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations include, but are not limited to, the factors described in the Risk Factors section of the prospectus accompanying this prospectus supplement as well as in Auction Risk and Existing Holder's Ability to Resell Auction Rate Securities May Be Limited in The Auction section of this prospectus supplement. We urge you to review carefully those sections for a more detailed discussion of the risks of an investment in the Calamos Notes.

ii

#### PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary contains basic information about us but does not contain all of the information that is important to your investment decision. You should read this summary together with the more detailed information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus and in the statement of additional information, especially the information set forth under the heading Risk Factors beginning on page \_\_\_\_\_\_of the accompanying prospectus.

#### The Fund

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund is a diversified, closed-end management investment company. Throughout the prospectus, we refer to Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund as the Fund or as we, us, or our. See The Fund. Fund s common shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CSQ. As of \_\_\_\_, 2007, the Fund had \_\_\_\_\_common shares outstanding and net assets of \$\_\_\_\_. The Fund s principal offices are located at 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563. We have a fiscal year ending October 31st.

Our investment objective is to provide total return through a combination of capital appreciation and current income. There can be no assurance that we will achieve our investment objective. See The Fund in the accompanying prospectus.

We commenced operations in March 2004 following our initial public offering. As of the date of this prospectus, we have \$1.08 billion of Auction Rate Cumulative Preferred Shares ( Preferred Shares ) outstanding. **Investment Adviser** 

Calamos Advisors LLC ( Calamos ) is the Fund s investment adviser. Calamos is responsible on a day-to-day basis for investment of the Fund s portfolio in accordance with its investment objective and policies. Calamos makes all investment decisions for the Fund and places purchase and sale orders for the Fund s portfolio securities. As of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007, Calamos managed approximately \$ billion in assets of individuals and institutions. Calamos is a wholly owned subsidiary of Calamos Holdings LLC ( Holdings ) and an indirect subsidiary of Calamos Asset Management, Inc., a publicly traded holding company.

The Fund pays Calamos an annual fee, payable monthly, for its investment management services equal to \_\_\_\_% of the Fund s average weekly managed assets. See Management of the Fund in the accompanying prospectus.

The principal business address of the Adviser is 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563. **The Offering** 

Calamos Notes offered by the Fund

\$\_\_\_\_\_aggregate principal amount of Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes. Series \_\_\_\_\_Calamos Notes will be sold in denominations of \$\_\_\_\_and any integral multiple thereof. The Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes are being offered by \_\_\_\_and \_\_\_\_, as underwriters. See Underwriting.

Use of proceeds	The Fund estimates the net proceeds of the offering of Series Calamos Notes, after payment of sales load and offering expenses, will be approximately \$ The Fund will invest the net proceeds of the offering in accordance with the Fund s investment objective and policies as stated below. It is presently anticipated that the Fund will invest substantially all of the net proceeds in securities that meet its investment objective and policies within three months after completion of this offering. Pending such investment, the Fund anticipates that all or a portion of the proceeds will be invested in U.S. government securities or high-grade, short-term money market instruments. If necessary, the Fund may also purchase, as temporary investments, securities of other open- or closed-end investment companies that invest primarily in the types of securities in which the Fund may invest directly. See Investment Objectives and Principal Investment
	Strategies in the accompanying prospectus.
Auction Agent	[Auction Agent]
Broker Dealer(s)	[Broker-Dealer(s)]
Risk factors	See Risk Factors and other information included in the accompanying prospectus, as well as Risk-Auction Risk , Risks-Secondary Market Trading and Transfer of Calamos Notes and Risks-Ratings and Asset Coverage Risk under The Auction in this prospectus supplement, for a discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in the Calamos Notes.
	S-2

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The Fund estimates the net proceeds of the offering of Calamos Notes, after payment of sales load and offering expenses, will be approximately \$\_\_\_\_\_. The Fund will invest the net proceeds of the offering in accordance with the Fund s investment objective and policies. It is presently anticipated that the Fund will invest substantially all of the net proceeds in securities that meet its investment objective and policies within three months after completion of this offering. Pending such investment, the Fund anticipates that all or a portion of the proceeds will be invested in U.S. government securities or high-grade, short-term money market instruments. If necessary, the Fund may also purchase, as temporary investments, securities of other open- or closed-end investment companies that invest primarily in the types of securities in which the Fund may invest directly. See Investment Objectives and Principal Investment Strategies in the accompanying prospectus.

#### CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth the capitalization of the Fund as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007, and as adjusted, to give effect to the issuance of all the Calamos Notes offered hereby (including estimated offering expenses and sales load of \$\_\_\_\_). The sales load and offering expenses of the Calamos Notes will be effectively borne by common shareholders.

		As Adjusted Calamos
	Actual	Notes
Long-Term Debt:		
Calamos Notes, denominations of \$25,000 or any multiple thereof		
Preferred Shares:		
Preferred Shares, no par value per share, \$25,000 stated value per share, at		
liquidation value; unlimited shares authorized (no shares issued; no shares issued;		
and shares issued, respectively)		
Common Shareholder s Equity:		
Common shares, no par value per share, unlimited shares authorized, shares		
outstanding*		
Undistributed net investment income		
Accumulated net realized gain (loss) on investments		
Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments		
Net Assets applicable to common shareholders		

 None of these outstanding shares are held by or for the account of the Fund.

#### ASSET COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

The Fund may be subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by guidelines of one or more rating agencies that may issue ratings for the preferred shares or debt instruments issued by the Fund. These guidelines may impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act. See The Auction Rating and Asset Coverage Risk below. Certain types of borrowings may result in the Fund being subject to covenants in credit agreements, including those relating to asset coverage, borrowing base and portfolio composition requirements. The Fund may also be required to pledge its assets to the lenders in connection with certain types of borrowing. Calamos does not anticipate that these covenants or restrictions will adversely affect its ability to manage the Fund s portfolio in accordance with the Fund s investment objective and policies. Due to these covenants or restrictions, the Fund may be forced to liquidate investments at times and at prices that are not favorable to the Fund, or the Fund may be forced to forgo investments that Calamos

otherwise views as favorable.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF CALAMOS NOTES**

Calamos Notes of each series will rank on a parity with any other series of Calamos Notes as to the payment of interest and distribution of assets upon liquidation. All Calamos Notes rank senior to our common and preferred shares as to the payment of interest and distribution of assets upon liquidation. Under the 1940 Act, we may only issue one class of senior securities representing indebtedness.

The Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes will be issued pursuant to the Original Indenture and a Supplemental Indenture dated as of \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_(referred to herein collectively with the Original Indenture as the Indenture ). The following summaries of certain significant provisions of the Indenture are not complete and are qualified in their entirety by the provisions of the Indenture, a more detailed summary of which is contained in Appendix \_\_\_\_\_to the statement of additional information, which is on file with the SEC. Whenever defined terms are used, but not defined in this prospectus supplement, the terms have the meaning given to them in Appendix \_\_\_\_to the statement of additional information.

#### General

The Board of Directors has authorized us to issue the Series \_\_\_Calamos Notes representing indebtedness pursuant to the terms of the Indenture. Currently, the Indenture provides for the issuance of up to \$\_\_\_aggregate principal amount of Series \_\_\_Calamos Notes. The principal amount of the Series \_\_\_Calamos Notes is due and payable on \_\_\_, 20\_\_\_. The Series \_\_\_Calamos Notes, when issued and sold pursuant to the terms of the Indenture, will be issued in fully registered form without coupons and in denominations of \$\_\_\_and any integral multiple thereof, unless otherwise provided in the Indenture. The Series \_\_\_Calamos Notes will be unsecured obligations of ours and, upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, will rank: (1) senior to our outstanding common stock and any outstanding preferred stock, including the Preferred Shares; (2) on a parity with any of our unsecured creditors, including any other series of Calamos Notes; and (3) junior to any of our secured creditors. The Calamos Notes are subject to optional and mandatory redemption as described below under Redemption, and acceleration of maturity, as described in the accompanying prospectus under Description of Securities Debt Securities Events of Default and Acceleration of Maturity of Debt Securities; Remedies.

While serving as the Auction Agent in connection with the Auction Procedures described below, the Auction Agent generally will serve merely as our agent, acting in accordance with our instructions.

We have the right (to the extent permitted by applicable law) to purchase or otherwise acquire any Calamos Notes outside of an auction, so long as: (1) we are current in the payment of interest on such Calamos Notes and on any other series of Calamos Notes, (2) there is no arrearage in the mandatory or optional redemption price respecting any Calamos Notes for which a Notice of Redemption has been given, and (3) we are in compliance with the 1940 Act Calamos Notes Asset Coverage requirements and other applicable asset requirements. See Redemption below.

The Calamos Notes have no voting rights, except to the extent required by law or as otherwise provided in the Indenture relating to the acceleration of maturity upon the occurrence and continuance of an event of default. **Unsecured Investment** 

The Calamos Notes represent an unsecured obligation of ours to pay interest and principal, when due. We cannot assure you that we will have sufficient funds or that we will be able to arrange for additional financing to pay interest on the Calamos Notes when due or to repay the Calamos Notes at the

Stated Maturity. Our failure to pay interest on the Calamos Notes when due or to repay the Calamos Notes upon the Stated Maturity would, subject to the cure provisions under the Indenture, constitute an event of default under the Indenture and could cause a default under other agreements that we may enter into from time to time. There is no sinking fund with respect to the Calamos Notes, and at the Stated Maturity, the entire outstanding principal amount of the Calamos Notes will become due and payable.

#### **Securities Depository**

The nominee of the Securities Depository is expected to be the sole record Holder of the Calamos Notes. Accordingly, each purchaser of Calamos Notes must rely on (1) the procedures of the Securities Depository and, if such purchaser is not a member of the Securities Depository, such purchaser s Agent Member, to receive interest payments and notices and (2) the records of the Securities Depository and, if such purchaser is not a member of the Securities Depository, such purchaser s Agent Member, to evidence its ownership of the Calamos Notes.

Purchasers of Calamos Notes will not receive certificates representing their ownership interest in such securities. DTC initially will act as Securities Depository for the Agent Members with respect to the Calamos Notes.

#### **Interest and Rate Periods**

General. Calamos Notes will bear interest at the Applicable Rate determined as set forth below under

Determination of Interest Rate. Interest on the Calamos Notes shall be payable when due as described below. If we do not pay interest when due, it will trigger an event of default under the Indenture (subject to the cure provisions), and we will be restricted from declaring dividends and making other distributions with respect to our common stock and preferred stock.

On the Business Day next preceding each Interest Payment Date, we are required to deposit with the Paying Agent sufficient funds for the payment of interest. We do not intend to establish any reserves for the payment of interest.

All moneys paid to the Paying Agent for the payment of interest shall be held in trust for the payment of such interest to the Holder. Interest will be paid by the Paying Agent to the Holder as its name appears on our securities ledger or securities records, which Holder is expected to be the nominee of the Securities Depository. The Securities Depository will credit the accounts of the Agent Members of the Beneficial Owners in accordance with the Securities Depository s normal procedures. The Securities Depository s current procedures provide for it to distribute interest in same-day funds to Agent Members who are, in turn, expected to distribute such interest to the persons for whom they are acting as agents. The Agent Member of a Beneficial Owner will be responsible for holding or disbursing such payments on the applicable Interest Payment Date to such Beneficial Owner in accordance with the instructions of such Beneficial Owner.

Interest in arrears for any past Rate Period may be subject to a Default Rate of interest (described below) and may be paid at any time, without reference to any regular Interest Payment Date, to the Holder as its name appears on our securities ledger or securities records on such date, not exceeding fifteen (15) days preceding the payment date thereof, as may be fixed by the Board of Directors. Any interest payment shall first be credited against the earliest accrued but unpaid interest. No interest will be payable in respect of any payment or payments which may be in arrears. See Default Period below.

The amount of interest payable on each Interest Payment Date (or in respect of interest on another date in connection with a redemption during such Rate Period) shall be computed by multiplying the

Applicable Rate (or the Default Rate) for such Rate Period (or a portion thereof) by a fraction, the numerator of which will be the number of days in such Rate Period (or portion thereof) that such Calamos Notes were outstanding and for which the Applicable Rate or the Default Rate was applicable and the denominator of which will be 360, multiplying the amount so obtained by the applicable principal amount, and rounding the amount so obtained to the nearest cent.

*Determination of Interest Rate.* The interest rate for the initial Rate Period for Series \_\_\_\_ Calamos Notes (i.e., the period from and including the Original Issue Date to and including the initial Auction Date) and the initial Auction Date are set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. After the initial Rate Period, subject to certain exceptions, the Series \_\_\_\_ Calamos Notes will bear interest at the Applicable Rate that the Auction Agent advises us has resulted from an Auction.

The initial Rate Period for the Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes will be \_\_\_\_(\_\_\_) days. Rate Periods after the initial Rate Period shall either be Standard Rate Periods or, subject to certain conditions and with notice to the Holder, Special Rate Periods.

A Special Rate Period will not be effective unless, among other things, Sufficient Clearing Bids exist at the Auction in respect of such Special Rate Period (that is, in general, the aggregate amount of a series of Calamos Notes subject to Buy Orders by Potential Holders is at least equal to the aggregate amount of that series of Calamos Notes subject to Sell Orders by Existing Holders).

Interest will accrue at the Applicable Rate from the Original Issue Date and shall be payable on each Interest Payment Date thereafter. For Rate Periods of less than 30 days, Interest Payment Dates shall occur on the first Business Day following such Rate Period and, if greater than 30 days, then on a monthly basis on the first Business Day of each month within such Rate Period, not including the initial Rate Period, and on the Business Day following the last day of such Rate Period. Interest will be paid through the Securities Depository on each Interest Payment Date.

Except during a Default Period as described below, the Applicable Rate resulting from an Auction will not be greater than the Maximum Rate, which is equal to the Applicable Percentage of the Reference Rate, subject to upward but not downward adjustment in the discretion of the Board of Directors after consultation with the Broker-Dealers. The Applicable Percentage will be determined based on the lower of the credit ratings assigned on that date to a series of Calamos Notes by Moody s and Fitch, as follows:

Moody s Credit	Fitch Credit	Applicable
Rating	Rating	Percentage

The Reference Rate is the greater of (1) the applicable AA Composite Commercial Paper Rate (for a Rate Period of fewer than 184 days) or the applicable Treasury Index Rate (for a Rate Period of 184 days or more), or (2) the applicable LIBOR. For Standard Rate Periods or less only, the Applicable Rate resulting from an Auction will not be less than the Minimum Rate, which is 70% of the applicable AA Composite Commercial Paper Rate. No Minimum Rate is specified for Auctions in respect to Rate Periods of more than the Standard Rate Period.

The Maximum Rate for a series of Calamos Notes will apply automatically following an Auction for the Calamos Notes in which Sufficient Clearing Bids have not been made (other than because all Calamos Notes were subject to Submitted Hold Orders). If an Auction for any subsequent Rate Period is

not held for any reason, including because there is no Auction Agent or Broker-Dealer, then the Interest Rate on a series of Calamos Notes for any such Rate Period shall be the Maximum Rate (except for circumstances in which the Interest Rate is the Default Rate, as described below).

The All Hold Rate will apply automatically following an Auction in which all of the outstanding Calamos Notes of a series are subject to (or are deemed to be subject to) Submitted Hold Orders. The All Hold Rate is 80% of the applicable AA Composite Commercial Paper Rate.

Prior to each Auction, Broker-Dealers will notify Holders and the Trustee of the term of the next succeeding Rate Period as soon as practicable after the Broker-Dealers have been so advised by us. After each Auction, on the Auction Date, Broker-Dealers will notify Holders of the Applicable Rate for the next succeeding Rate Period and of the Auction Date of the next succeeding Auction.

*Notification of Rate Period.* We will designate the duration of subsequent Rate Periods for each series of the Calamos Notes; provided, however, that no such designation is necessary for a Standard Rate Period and, provided further, that any designation of a Special Rate Period shall be effective only if (1) notice thereof shall have been given as provided herein, (2) any failure to pay in a timely manner to the Trustee the full amount of any interest on, or the redemption price of, a series of Calamos Notes shall have been cured as provided above, (3) Sufficient Clearing Bids shall have existed in an Auction held on the Auction Date immediately preceding the first day of such proposed Special Rate Period, (4) if we shall have mailed a Notice of Redemption with respect to any Calamos Notes, the redemption price with respect to such Calamos Notes shall have been deposited with the Paying Agent, and (5) we have confirmed that as of the Auction Date next preceding the first day of such Special Rate Period, we have Eligible Assets with an aggregate Discounted Value at least equal to the Calamos Notes Basic Maintenance Amount, and we have consulted with the Broker-Dealers and have provided notice of such designation and otherwise complied with the Rating Agency Guidelines.

*Designation of a Special Rate Period.* If we propose to designate any Special Rate Period, not fewer than seven (7) (or two (2) Business Days in the event the duration of the Rate Period prior to such Special Rate Period is fewer than eight (8) days) nor more than thirty (30) Business Days prior to the first day of such Special Rate Period, notice shall be (1) made by press release and (2) communicated by us by telephonic or other means to the Trustee and confirmed in writing promptly thereafter. Each such notice shall state (A) that we propose to exercise our option to designate a succeeding Special Rate Period, specifying the first and last days thereof and (B) that we will by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the second Business Day next preceding the first day of such Special Rate Period, notify the Auction Agent and the Trustee, who will promptly notify the Broker-Dealers, of either (x) our determination, subject to certain conditions, to proceed with such Special Rate Period, subject to the terms of any Specific Redemption Provisions, or (y) our determination not to proceed with such Special Rate Period, in which latter event the succeeding Rate Period shall be a Standard Rate Period.

No later than 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the second Business Day next preceding the first day of any proposed Special Rate Period, we will deliver to the Trustee and the Auction Agent, who will promptly deliver to the Broker-Dealers and Existing Holders, either:

(1) a notice stating (A) that we have determined to designate the next succeeding Rate Period as a Special Rate Period, specifying the first and last days thereof and (B) the terms of any Specific Redemption Provisions; or

(2) a notice stating that we have determined not to exercise our option to designate a Special Rate Period.

#### Edgar Filing: CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND - Form N-2/A

#### **Table of Contents**

If we fail to deliver either such notice with respect to any designation of any proposed Special Rate Period to the Auction Agent and the Auction Agent is unable to make the confirmation described above by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the second Business Day next preceding the first day of such proposed Special Rate Period, we shall be deemed to have delivered a notice to the Auction Agent with respect to such Rate Period to the effect set forth in clause (2) above, thereby resulting in a Standard Rate Period.

*Default Period.* Subject to cure provisions, a Default Period with respect to a particular series of Calamos Notes will commence on any date on which, when required to do so, we fail to deposit irrevocably in trust in same-day funds, with the Paying Agent by 12:00 noon, New York City time,

(A) the full amount of any accrued interest on that series payable on the Interest Payment Date (an Interest Default ), or

(B) the full amount of any redemption price (the Redemption Price ) payable on the date fixed for redemption (the Redemption Date ) (a Redemption Default and together with an Interest Default, hereinafter referred to as Default ).

Subject to cure provisions, a Default Period with respect to an Interest Default or a Redemption Default shall end on the Business Day on which, by 12:00 noon, New York City time, all unpaid interest and any unpaid Redemption Price, respectively, shall have been deposited irrevocably in trust in same-day funds with the Paying Agent. In the case of an Interest Default, the Applicable Rate for each Rate Period commencing during a Default Period will be equal to the Default Rate, and each subsequent Rate Period commencing after the beginning of a Default Period shall be a Standard Rate Period; provided, however, that the commencement of a Default Period will not by itself cause the commencement of a new Rate Period.

No Auction shall be held during a Default Period with respect to an Interest Default applicable to that series of Calamos Notes. No Default Period with respect to an Interest Default or Redemption Default shall be deemed to commence if the amount of any interest or any Redemption Price due (if such default is not solely due to our willful failure) is deposited irrevocably in trust, in same-day funds with the Paying Agent by 12:00 noon, New York City time within three Business Days after the applicable Interest Payment Date or Redemption Date, together with an amount equal to the Default Rate applied to the amount of such non-payment based on the actual number of days comprising such period divided by 360 for each series. The Default Rate shall be equal to the Reference Rate multiplied by three.

#### Redemption

*Optional Redemption.* To the extent permitted under the 1940 Act and Delaware law, we may, at our option, redeem Calamos Notes having a Rate Period of one year or less, in whole or in part, out of funds legally available therefor, on any Interest Payment Date, upon not less than 15 days and not more than 40 days prior notice. This optional redemption is not available during the initial Rate Period or during other limited circumstances. The optional redemption price shall be equal to the aggregate principal amount of the Calamos Notes to be redeemed, plus an amount equal to accrued but unpaid interest to the date fixed for redemption. Calamos Notes having a Rate Period of more than one year are redeemable at our option, in whole or in part, out of funds legally available therefor, prior to the end of the relevant Rate Period, upon not less than 15 days , and not more than 40 days , prior notice, subject to any Specific Redemption Provisions, which may include the payment of redemption premiums in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. We shall not effect any optional redemption unless after giving effect thereto (1) we have available on such date fixed for the redemption certain Deposit Securities with maturity or tender dates not later than the day preceding the applicable redemption date and having a

value not less than the amount (including any applicable premium) due to Holders of a series of Calamos Notes by reason of the redemption of a series of Calamos Notes and (2) we would have Eligible Assets with an aggregate Discounted Value at least equal to the Calamos Notes Basic Maintenance Amount immediately subsequent to such redemption. Although we ordinarily will not redeem the Calamos Notes prior to their Stated Maturity, we may voluntarily redeem Calamos Notes if, for example, the Board of Directors determines that we could obtain more favorable interest rates from an alternative source of financing.

*Mandatory Redemption*. If we fail to maintain Eligible Assets with an aggregate Discounted Value at least equal to the Calamos Notes Basic Maintenance Amount as of any Valuation Date or, fail to satisfy the 1940 Act Calamos Notes Asset Coverage as of the last Business Day of any month, and such failure is not cured within ten Business Days following such Valuation Date, in the case of a failure to maintain the Calamos Notes Basic Maintenance Amount, or on the last Business Day of the following month, in the case of a failure to maintain the 1940 Act Calamos Notes Asset Coverage as of such last Business Day (each an Asset Coverage Cure Date ), the Calamos Notes will be subject to mandatory redemption out of funds legally available therefor. See Rating Agency Guidelines in the accompanying prospectus.

The principal amount of Calamos Notes to be redeemed under these circumstances will be equal to the lesser of (1) the minimum principal amount of Calamos Notes the redemption of which, if deemed to have occurred immediately prior to the opening of business on the relevant Asset Coverage Cure Date, would result in our having Eligible Assets with an aggregated Discounted Value at least equal to the Calamos Notes Basic Maintenance Amount or sufficient to satisfy the 1940 Act Calamos Notes Asset Coverage, as the case may be, in either case as of the relevant Asset Coverage Cure Date (provided that, if there is no such minimum principal amount of Calamos Notes the redemption of which would have such result, all Calamos Notes then outstanding will be redeemed), and (2) the maximum principal amount of Calamos Notes that can be redeemed out of funds expected to be available therefor on the Mandatory Redemption Date (as defined below) at the Mandatory Redemption Price (as defined below).

Any redemption of less than all of the outstanding Calamos Notes of a series will be made from Calamos Notes designated by us. We shall designate Calamos Notes to be redeemed on a pro rata basis among the Holders in proportion to the principal amount of Calamos Notes they hold, by lot or such other method as we shall deem equitable. No optional or mandatory redemption of less than all outstanding Calamos Notes of a series will be made unless the aggregate principal amount of Calamos Notes to be redeemed is equal to \$\_\_\_\_\_or integral multiples thereof. Any redemption of less than all Calamos Notes outstanding will be made in such a manner that all Calamos Notes outstanding after such redemption are in authorized denominations.

We are required to effect such a mandatory redemption not later than 40 days after the Asset Coverage Cure Date, as the case may be (the Mandatory Redemption Date ), except that if we do not have funds legally available for the redemption of, or are not otherwise legally permitted to redeem, all of the outstanding Calamos Notes of a series that are subject to mandatory redemption, or we otherwise are unable to effect such redemption on or prior to such Mandatory Redemption Date, we will redeem those Calamos Notes on the earliest practicable date on which we will have such funds available, upon notice to record owners of Calamos Notes and the Paying Agent. Our ability to make a mandatory redemption may be limited by the provisions of the 1940 Act or \_\_\_law. The redemption price per Calamos Note in the event of any mandatory redemption will be the principal amount, plus an amount equal to accrued but unpaid interest to the date fixed for redemption, plus (in the case of a Rate Period of more than one year) a redemption premium, if any, determined by the Board of Directors in its sole discretion after consultation with the Broker-Dealers and set forth in any applicable Specific Redemption Provisions (the Mandatory Redemption Price ).

Redemption Procedure. Pursuant to Rule 23c-2 under the 1940 Act, we will file a notice of our intention to redeem with the SEC so as to provide at least the minimum notice required by such Rule or any successor provision (notice currently must be filed with the SEC generally at least 30 days prior to the redemption date). We shall deliver a notice of redemption to the Auction Agent and the Trustee containing the information described below one Business Day prior to the giving of notice to Holders in the case of an optional redemption and on or prior to the 30th day preceding the Mandatory Redemption Date in the case of a mandatory redemption. The Trustee will use its reasonable efforts to provide notice to each Holder of Calamos Notes called for redemption by electronic means not later than the close of business on the Business Day immediately following the Business Day on which the Trustee determines the principal amount of Calamos Notes to be redeemed (or, during a Default Period with respect to such Calamos Notes, not later than the close of business on the Business Day immediately following the day on which the Trustee receives notice of redemption from us). Such notice will be confirmed promptly by the Trustee in writing not later than the close of business on the third Business Day preceding the redemption date by providing the notice to each Holder of record of Calamos Notes called for redemption, the Paying Agent (if different from the Trustee) and the Securities Depository (Notice of Redemption). The Notice of Redemption will be addressed to the registered owners of the Calamos Notes at their addresses appearing on our books or share records. Such notice will set forth (1) the redemption date, (2) the principal amount and identity of Calamos Notes to be redeemed, (3) the redemption price (specifying the amount of accrued interest to be included therein and the amount of the redemption premium, if any), (4) that interest on the Calamos Notes to be redeemed will cease to accrue on such redemption date, and (5) the 1940 Act provision under which redemption shall be made. No defect in the Notice of Redemption or in the transmittal or mailing thereof will affect the validity of the redemption proceedings, except as required by applicable law.

If less than all of the outstanding Calamos Notes of a series are redeemed on any date, the amount per Holder to be redeemed on such date will be selected by us on a pro rata basis in proportion to the principal amount of Calamos Notes held by such Holder, by lot or by such other method as is determined by us to be fair and equitable, subject to the terms of any Specific Redemption Provisions and subject to maintaining authorized denominations as described above. Calamos Notes may be subject to mandatory redemption as described herein notwithstanding the terms of any Specific Redemption Provisions. The Auction Agent will give notice to the Securities Depository, whose nominee will be the record Holder of all of the Calamos Notes, and the Securities Depository will determine the Calamos Notes to be redeemed from the account of the Agent Member of each Beneficial Owner. Each Agent Member will determine the principal amount of Calamos Notes to be redeemed from the accounts of some Beneficial Owners without selecting for redemption any Calamos Notes from the accounts of other Beneficial Owners. In this case, in selecting the Calamos Notes to be redeemed, the Agent Member will select by lot or by other fair and equitable method. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if neither the Securities Depository nor its nominee is the record Holder of all of the Calamos Notes we shall deem fair and equitable, as contemplated above.

If Notice of Redemption has been given, then upon the deposit of funds with the Paying Agent sufficient to effect such redemption, interest on such Calamos Notes will cease to accrue and such Calamos Notes will no longer be deemed to be outstanding for any purpose and all rights of the holders of the Calamos Notes so called for redemption will cease and terminate, except the right of the holders of such Calamos Notes to receive the redemption price, but without any interest or additional amount. We shall be entitled to receive from the Paying Agent, promptly after the date fixed for redemption, any cash deposited with the Paying Agent in excess of (1) the aggregate redemption price of the Calamos Notes called for redemption on such date and (2) such other amounts, if any, to which owners of Calamos Notes called for redemption may be entitled. We will be entitled to receive, from time to time after the date

fixed for redemption, from the Paying Agent the interest, if any, earned on such funds deposited with the Paying Agent and the owners of Calamos Notes so redeemed will have no claim to any such interest. Any funds so deposited which are unclaimed two years after such redemption date will be paid, to the extent permitted by law, by the Paying Agent to us upon our request. After such payment, Holders of Calamos Notes called for redemption may look only to us for payment.

So long as any Calamos Notes are held of record by the nominee of the Securities Depository, the redemption price for such Calamos Notes will be paid on the redemption date to the nominee of the Securities Depository. The Securities Depository s normal procedures provide for it to distribute the amount of the redemption price to Agent Members who, in turn, are expected to distribute such funds to the persons for whom they are acting as agent.

Notwithstanding the provisions for redemption described above, no Calamos Notes may be redeemed unless all interest in arrears on the Outstanding Calamos Notes, and any of our indebtedness ranking on a parity with the Calamos Notes, have been or are being contemporaneously paid or set aside for payment, except in connection with our liquidation, in which case all Calamos Notes and all indebtedness ranking on a parity with the Calamos Notes must receive proportionate amounts. At any time we may purchase or acquire all the Outstanding Calamos Notes pursuant to the successful completion of an otherwise lawful purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to, and accepted by, Holders of all Outstanding Calamos Notes.

Except for the provisions described above, nothing contained in the Indenture limits any legal right of ours to purchase or otherwise acquire Calamos Notes outside of an Auction at any price, whether higher or lower than the price that would be paid in connection with an optional or mandatory redemption, so long as, at the time of any such purchase, there is no arrearage in the payment of interest on or the mandatory or optional redemption price with respect to, any Calamos Notes for which Notice of Redemption has been given, and we are in compliance with the 1940 Act Calamos Notes Asset Coverage and have Eligible Assets with an aggregate Discounted Value at least equal to the Calamos Notes Basic Maintenance Amount after giving effect to such purchase or acquisition on the date thereof. If less than all outstanding Calamos Notes are redeemed or otherwise acquired by us, we shall give notice of such transaction to the Auction Agent, in accordance with the procedures agreed upon by the Board of Directors. **Payment of Proceeds Upon Dissolution, Etc.** 

In the event of (a) any insolvency or bankruptcy case or proceeding, or any receivership, liquidation, reorganization or other similar case or proceeding in connection therewith, relative to us or to our creditors, as such, or to our assets, or (b) our liquidation, dissolution or other winding up, whether voluntary or involuntary and whether or not involving insolvency or bankruptcy, or (c) our assignment for the benefit of creditors or any other marshalling of assets and liabilities, then (after any payments with respect to our secured creditor outstanding at such time) and in any such event the holders of Calamos Notes shall be entitled to receive payment in full of all amounts due or to become due on or in respect of all Calamos Notes (including any interest accruing thereon after the commencement of any such case or proceeding), or provision shall be made for such payment in cash or cash equivalents or otherwise in a manner satisfactory to the holders of the Calamos Notes, before the holders of any of our common or preferred stock are entitled to receive any payment on account of any redemption proceeds, liquidation preference or dividends from such shares, and to that end the holders of Calamos Notes shall be entitled to receive, for application to the payment thereof, any payment or distribution of any kind or character, whether in cash, property or securities, including any such payment or distribution which may be payable or deliverable by reason of the payment of any of our other indebtedness being subordinated to the

payment of the Calamos Notes, which may be payable or deliverable in respect of the Calamos Notes in any such case, proceeding, dissolution, liquidation or other winding up event.

Unsecured creditors of ours may include, without limitation, service providers including the Adviser, Custodian, Auction Agent, Broker-Dealers and Trustee, pursuant to the terms of various contracts with us. Secured creditors of ours may include without limitation parties entering into any interest rate swap, floor or cap transactions, or other similar transactions with us that create liens, pledges, charges, security interests, security agreements or other encumbrances on our assets.

Our consolidation, reorganization or merger with or into any other company, or a sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of our assets of in consideration for the issuance of equity securities of another company shall not be deemed to be a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Fund.

#### THE AUCTION

#### **Role of Auction Agent**

Auction Agency Agreement. The Auction Agency Agreement between us and the Auction Agent (currently, The Bank of New York) (the Auction Agency Agreement ) provides, among other things, that the Auction Agent will follow the Auction Procedures for purposes of determining the Applicable Rate for the Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes so long as the Applicable Rate for the Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes is to be based on the results of an Auction. The Auction Agent acts as a non-fiduciary agent for us in connection with Auctions. In the absence of bad faith or gross negligence on its part, the Auction Agent will not be liable for any action taken, suffered, or omitted or for any error of judgment made by it in the performance of its duties under the Auction Agency Agreement and will not be liable for any error of judgment made in good faith unless the Auction Agent will have been grossly negligent in ascertaining the pertinent facts.

The Auction Agent may terminate the Auction Agency Agreement upon notice to us on a date no earlier than 60 days after the notice. If the Auction Agent should resign, we will use our best efforts to enter into an agreement with a successor Auction Agent containing substantially the same terms and conditions as the Auction Agency Agreement. We may remove the Auction Agent provided that prior to such removal we shall have entered into such an agreement with a successor Auction Agent.

#### **Auction Procedures**

*Beneficial Owners*. Prior to the Submission Deadline on each Auction Date for a series of Calamos Notes, each customer of a Broker-Dealer who is listed on the records of that Broker-Dealer (or, if applicable, the Auction Agent) as a holder of Calamos Notes of such series (a Beneficial Owner ) may submit orders (Orders ) with respect to Calamos Notes of such series to that Broker-Dealer as follows:

Hold Order indicating its desire to hold Calamos Notes of such series without regard to the Applicable Rate for Calamos Notes of such series for the next Rate Period thereof.

Bid indicating its desire to sell the principal amount of Outstanding Calamos Notes, if any, of such series held by such Beneficial Owner which such Beneficial Owner offers to sell if the Applicable Rate for Calamos Notes of such series for the next succeeding Rate Period of Calamos Notes of such series shall be less than the rate per annum specified by such Beneficial Owner (also known as a hold at rate order).

Sell Order indicating its desire to sell the principal amount of Outstanding Calamos Notes, if any, of such series held by such Beneficial Owner which such Beneficial Owner offers to sell without regard to the Applicable Rate for Calamos Notes of such series for the next succeeding Rate Period of Calamos Notes of such series.

Orders submitted (or the failure to do so) by Beneficial Owners under certain circumstances will have the effects described below. A Beneficial Owner of Calamos Notes of such series that submits a Bid with respect to Calamos Notes of such series to its Broker-Dealer having a rate higher than the Maximum Rate for Calamos Notes of such series on the Auction Date therefore will be treated as having submitted a Sell Order with respect to such Calamos Notes. A Beneficial Owner of Calamos Notes of such series that fails to submit an Order with respect to such Calamos Notes to its Broker-Dealer will be deemed to have submitted a Hold Order with respect to such Calamos Notes of such series; provided, however, that if a Beneficial Owner of Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes fails to submit an Order with respect to such Calamos Notes to Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes to its Broker-Dealer will be deemed to have submitted a Sell Order with respect to such Calamos Notes of such series; provided, however, that if a Beneficial Owner of Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes fails to submit an Order with respect to Series \_\_\_\_Calamos Notes to its Broker-Dealer for an Auction relating to a Special Rate Period of more than \_\_\_\_(\_\_\_) days, such Beneficial Owner will be deemed to have submitted a Sell Order with respect to such Calamos Notes. A Sell Order shall constitute an irrevocable offer to sell the Calamos Notes subject thereto. A Beneficial Owner that offers to become the Beneficial Owner of additional Calamos Notes is, for purposes of such offer, a Potential Beneficial Owner as discussed below.

*Potential Beneficial Owners*. A customer of a Broker-Dealer that is not a Beneficial Owner of a series of Calamos Notes but that wishes to purchase Calamos Notes of such series, or that is a Beneficial Owner of Calamos Notes of such series that wishes to purchase additional Calamos Notes of such series (in each case, a Potential Beneficial Owner ), may submit Bids to its Broker-Dealer in which it offers to purchase such principal amount of Outstanding Calamos Notes of such series specified in such Bid if the Applicable Rate for Calamos Notes of such series determined on such Auction Date shall be higher than the rate specified in such Bid. A Bid placed by a Potential Beneficial Owner of Calamos Notes of such series specifying a rate higher than the Maximum Rate for Calamos Notes of such series on the Auction Date therefor will not be accepted.

*The Auction Process.* Each Broker-Dealer shall submit in writing, which shall include a writing delivered via e mail or other electronic means, to the Auction Agent, prior to the Submission Deadline on each Auction Date, all Orders for Calamos Notes of a series subject to an Auction on such Auction Date obtained by such Broker-Dealer, designating itself (unless otherwise permitted by us) as an Existing Holder in respect of Calamos Notes subject to Orders submitted to it by Beneficial Owners and as a Potential Holder in respect of Calamos Notes subject to Orders submitted to it by Potential Beneficial Owners. However, neither we nor the Auction Agent will be responsible for a Broker-Dealer s failure to comply with the foregoing. Any Order placed with the Auction Agent by a Broker-Dealer as or on behalf of an Existing Holder or a Potential Beneficial Owner. Similarly, any failure by a Broker-Dealer to submit to the Auction Agent an Order in respect of Calamos Notes held by it or customers who are Beneficial Owners will be treated in the same manner as a Beneficial Owner s failure to submit to its Broker-Dealer an Order in respect of Calamos Notes held by it. A Broker-Dealer may also submit Orders to the Auction Agent for its own account as an Existing Holder or Potential Holder, provided it is not an affiliate of ours.

If Sufficient Clearing Bids for a series of Calamos Notes exist (that is, the aggregate principal amount of Outstanding Calamos Notes of such series subject to Submitted Bids of Potential Holders specifying one or more rates between the Minimum Rate (for Standard Rate Periods or less, only) and the Maximum Rate (for all Rate Periods) for Calamos Notes of such series exceeds or is equal to the sum of the aggregate principal amount of Outstanding Calamos Notes of such series subject to Submitted Sell Orders), the Applicable Rate for Calamos Notes of such series for the next succeeding Rate Period thereof

will be the lowest rate specified in the Submitted Bids which, taking into account such rate and all lower rates bid by Broker-Dealers as or on behalf of Existing Holders and Potential Holders, would result in Existing Holders and Potential Holders owning the aggregate principal amount of Calamos Notes of such series available for purchase in the Auction (such rate, the Winning Bid Rate ). If Sufficient Clearing Bids for a series of Calamos Notes do not exist (other than because all of the Outstanding Calamos Notes of such series are subject to Submitted Hold Orders), then the Applicable Rate for all Calamos Notes of such series for the next succeeding Rate Period thereof will be equal to the Maximum Rate for Calamos Notes of such series. In such event, Holders of Calamos Notes of such series that have submitted or are deemed to have submitted Sell Orders may not be able to sell in such Auction all aggregate principal amount of Calamos Notes of such series subject to Submitted Hold Orders, if all outstanding Calamos Notes of a series are the subject of Submitted Hold Orders, the Applicable Rate for such series of Calamos Notes for the next succeeding Auction Period will be the All Hold Rate (such a situation is called an All Hold Auction ).

The Auction Procedures include a pro rata allocation of Calamos Notes for purchase and sale, which may result in an Existing Holder continuing to hold or selling, or a Potential Holder purchasing, a number of Calamos Notes that is less than the number of Calamos Notes specified in its Order. To the extent the allocation procedures have that result, Broker-Dealers that have designated themselves as Existing Holders or Potential Holders in respect of customer Orders will be required to make appropriate pro rata allocations among their respective customers.

Settlement of purchases and sales will be made on the next Business Day (also an Interest Payment Date) after the Auction Date through the Securities Depository. Purchasers will make payment through their Agent Members in same-day funds to the Securities Depository against delivery to their respective Agent Members. The Securities Depository will make payment to the sellers Agent Members in accordance with the Securities Depository s normal procedures, which now provide for payment against delivery by their Agent Members in same-day funds. **Certain Considerations Affecting Auction Rate Securities** 

*Role of Broker-Dealer*. [Broker-Dealer] (the Broker-Dealer) has been appointed by the issuers or obligors of various auction rate securities to serve as a dealer in the auctions for those securities and is paid by the issuers or obligors for its services. [Broker-Dealer] receives broker-dealer fees from such issuers or obligors at an agreed upon annual rate that is applied to the principal amount of securities sold or successfully placed through them in such auctions.

A Broker-Dealer is designated in the Broker-Dealer Agreement as the Broker-Dealer to contact Existing Holders and Potential Holders and solicit Bids for the Calamos Notes. The Broker-Dealer will receive Broker-Dealer Fees from us with respect to the Calamos Notes sold or successfully placed through it in Auctions. The Broker-Dealer may share a portion of such fees with other dealers that submit Orders through it that are filled in the Auction.

*Bidding by Broker-Dealer*. The Broker-Dealer is permitted, but not obligated, to submit Orders in Auctions for its own account either as a buyer or seller and routinely does so in the auction rate securities market in its sole discretion. If the Broker-Dealer submits an Order for its own account, it would have an advantage over other Potential Beneficial Owners because the Broker-Dealer would have knowledge of the other Orders placed through it in that Auction and thus, could determine the rate and size of its Order so as to increase the likelihood that (i) its Order will be accepted in the Auction and (ii) the Auction will clear at a particular rate. For this reason, and because the Broker Dealer is appointed and paid by us to serve as a Broker-Dealer in the Auction, the Broker-Dealer s interests in serving as Broker-Dealer in an Auction may differ from those of Existing Holders and Potential Holders who

participate in Auctions. See Role of Broker-Dealer. The Broker Dealer would not have knowledge of Orders submitted to the Auction Agent by any other firm that is, or may in the future be, appointed to accept Orders pursuant to a Broker Dealer Agreement.

Where the Broker-Dealer is the only Broker-Dealer appointed by us to serve as Broker-Dealer in the Auction, and as long as that remains the case, it will be the only Broker-Dealer that submits Orders to the Auction Agent in that Auction. As a result, in such circumstances, the Broker-Dealer may discern the clearing rate before the Orders are submitted to the Auction Agent and set the clearing rate with its Order.

The Broker-Dealer may place one or more Bids in an Auction for its own account to acquire securities for its inventory, to prevent an Auction Failure or to prevent Auctions from clearing at a rate that the Broker-Dealer believes does not reflect the market for the Calamos Notes. The Broker-Dealer may place such Bids even after obtaining knowledge of some or all of the other Orders submitted through it. When bidding in an Auction for its own account, the Broker-Dealer also may Bid inside or outside the range of rates that it posts in its Price Talk (as defined herein). See Price Talk.

The Broker-Dealer also may encourage bidding by others in Auctions, including to prevent an Auction Failure or to prevent an Auction from clearing at a rate that the Broker-Dealer believes does not reflect the market for the Calamos Notes. The Broker-Dealer may encourage such Bids even after obtaining knowledge of some or all of the other Orders submitted through it.

Bids by the Broker-Dealer or by those it may encourage to place Bids are likely to affect (i) the Applicable Rate including preventing the Applicable Rate from being set at the Maximum Rate or otherwise causing Potential Beneficial Owners to receive a lower rate than they might have received had the Broker-Dealer not Bid (or not encouraged others to Bid) and (ii) the allocation of the Calamos Notes being auctioned, including displacing some Potential Beneficial Owners who may have their Bids rejected or receive fewer Calamos Notes than they would have received if the Broker-Dealer had not Bid (or encouraged others to Bid). Because of these practices, the fact that an Auction clears successfully does not mean that an investment in the Calamos Notes involves no significant liquidity or credit risk. The Broker-Dealer is not obligated to continue to place such Bids (or to continue to encourage other Bidders to do so) in any particular Auction to prevent an Auction Failure or an Auction from clearing at a rate the Broker-Dealer will place Bids or encourage others to do so or that Auction Failures will not occur. Investors should also be aware that Bids by the Broker-Dealer (or by those it may encourage to place Bids) may cause lower Applicable Rates to occur.

The statements herein regarding Bidding by a Broker-Dealer apply only to a Broker-Dealer s auction desk and any other business units of the Broker-Dealer that are not separated from the auction desk by an information barrier designed to limit inappropriate dissemination of bidding information.

In any particular Auction, if all outstanding Calamos Notes of a series are the subject of Submitted Hold Orders, the Applicable Rate for the next succeeding Auction Period will be the All Hold Rate (such a situation is called an All Hold Auction ). If the Broker-Dealer holds any Calamos Notes of a series for its own account on an Auction Date, it is the Broker-Dealer s practice to submit a Sell Order into the Auction with respect to such Calamos Notes, which would prevent that Auction from being an All Hold Auction. The Broker-Dealer may, but is not obligated to, submit Bids for its own account in that same Auction, as set forth above.

*Price Talk.* Before the start of an Auction, the Broker-Dealer, in its discretion, may make available to its customers who are Existing Holders and Potential Holders the Broker-Dealer s good faith judgment of the range of likely clearing rates for the Auction based on market and other information.

This is known as Price Talk. Price Talk is not a guaranty that the Applicable Rate established through the Auction will be within the Price Talk, and Existing Holders and Potential Holders are free to use it or ignore it. The Broker-Dealer occasionally may update and change the Price Talk based on changes in our credit quality or macroeconomic factors that are likely to result in a change in interest rate levels, such as an announcement by the Federal Reserve Board of a change in the Federal Funds rate or an announcement by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of unemployment numbers. Potential Holders should confirm with the Broker-Dealer the manner by which the Broker-Dealer will communicate Price Talk and any changes to Price Talk.

*All-or-Nothing Bids.* The Broker-Dealer will not accept all-or-nothing Bids (*i.e.*, Bids whereby the bidder proposes to reject an allocation smaller than the entire quantity Bid) or any other type of Bid that allows the bidder to avoid Auction Procedures that require the pro rata allocation of Calamos Notes of a series where there are not sufficient Sell Orders to fill all Bids at the Winning Bid Rate.

*No Assurances Regarding Auction Outcomes.* The Broker-Dealer provides no assurance as to the outcome of any Auction. The Broker-Dealer also does not provide any assurance that any Bid will be successful, in whole or in part, or that the Auction will clear at a rate that a bidder considers acceptable. Bids may be only partially filled, or not filled at all, and the Applicable Rate on any Calamos Notes purchased or retained in the Auction may be lower than the market rate for similar investments.

The Broker-Dealer will not agree before an Auction to buy Calamos Notes of any series from, or sell Calamos Notes of any series to, a customer after the Auction.

Deadlines. Each particular Auction has a formal deadline by which all Bids must be submitted by the Broker-Dealer to the Auction Agent. This deadline is called the Submission Deadline. To provide sufficient time to process and submit customer Bids to the Auction Agent before the Submission Deadline, the Broker-Dealer imposes an earlier deadline, called the Internal Submission Deadline, by which bidders must submit Bids to the Broker-Dealer. The Internal Submission Deadline is subject to change by the Broker-Dealer. Potential Owners should consult with the Broker-Dealer as to its Internal Submission Deadline. The Broker-Dealer may allow for correction of clerical errors after the Internal Submission Deadline and prior to the Submission Deadline. The Broker-Dealer may submit Bids for its own account at any time until the Submission Deadline. The Auction Procedures provide that for a period of up to one hour after the Auction Agent completes the dissemination of the results of an Auction, new Orders can be submitted to the Auction Agent if such Orders were received by the Broker-Dealer or generated by the Broker-Dealer for its own account prior to the Submission Deadline and the failure to submit such Orders prior to the Submission Deadline was the result of force majeure, a technological failure or a clerical error. In addition a Broker-Dealer may modify or withdraw an Order submitted to the Auction Agent prior the Submission Deadline if the Broker-Dealer determines that such Order contained a clerical error. In the event of such a submission, modification or withdrawal the Auction Agent will rerun the Auction, if necessary, taking into account such submission, modification or withdrawal.

*Existing Holder s Ability to Resell Auction Rate Securities May Be Limited.* An Existing Holder may sell, transfer or dispose of a Calamos Note of a series (i) in an Auction, only pursuant to a Bid or Sell Order in accordance with the Auction Procedures, or (ii) outside an Auction, only to or through a Broker-Dealer.

Existing Holders will be able to sell all of the Calamos Notes of a series that are the subject of their Submitted Sell Orders only if there are bidders willing to purchase all those Calamos Notes in the Auction. If Sufficient Clearing Bids have not been made, Existing Holders that have submitted Sell Orders will not be able to sell in the Auction all, and may not be able to sell any, of the Calamos Notes of such series subject to such Submitted Sell Orders. As discussed above (see Bidding by Broker-Dealer ),

the Broker-Dealer may submit a Bid in an Auction to avoid an Auction Failure, but it is not obligated to do so. There may not always be enough bidders to prevent an Auction Failure in the absence of bidding by Broker-Dealer in the Auction for its own account or encouraging others to Bid. Therefore, Auction Failures are possible, especially if our credit were to deteriorate, if a market disruption were to occur or if, for any reason, the Broker-Dealer were unable or unwilling to Bid.

Between Auctions, there can be no assurance that a secondary market for the Calamos Notes of any series will develop or, if it does develop, that it will provide Existing Holders the ability to resell the Calamos Notes of such series on the terms or at the times desired by an Existing Holder. The Broker-Dealer, in its own discretion, may decide to buy or sell the Calamos Notes of a series in the secondary market for its own account from or to investors at any time and at any price, including at prices equivalent to, below, or above par for the Calamos Notes of such series. However, the Broker-Dealer is not obligated to make a market in the Calamos Notes of a series and may discontinue trading in the Calamos Notes of such series without notice for any reason at any time. Existing Holders who resell between Auctions may receive an amount less than par, depending on market conditions.

If an Existing Holder purchased a Calamos Note through a dealer which is not the Broker-Dealer for the securities, such Existing Holder s ability to sell its security may be affected by the continued ability of its dealer to transact trades for the Calamos Notes through the Broker-Dealer.

The ability to resell the Calamos Notes of any series will depend on various factors affecting the market for the Calamos Notes, including news relating to us, the attractiveness of alternative investments, investor demand for short term securities, the perceived risk of owning the Calamos Notes (whether related to credit, liquidity or any other risk), the tax or accounting treatment accorded the Calamos Notes (including U.S. generally accepted accounting principles as they apply to the accounting treatment of auction rate securities), reactions of market participants to regulatory actions (such as those described in Securities and Exchange Commission Settlements below) or press reports, financial reporting cycles and market conditions generally. Demand for the Calamos Notes may change without warning, and declines in demand may be short-lived or continue for longer periods.

*Resignation of the Broker-Dealer Could Impact the Ability to Hold Auctions.* The Broker-Dealer Agreement provides that the Broker-Dealer thereunder may resign upon five days notice and does not require, as a condition to the effectiveness of such resignation, that a replacement Broker-Dealer be in place. For any Auction Period during which there is no duly appointed Broker-Dealer, it will not be possible to hold Auctions for the Calamos Notes, with the result that the dividend rate on the Calamos Notes will be determined as described in the supplemental indenture.

Securities and Exchange Commission Settlements. On May 31, 2006, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) announced that it had settled its investigation of fifteen firms, including [Broker-Dealer], that participate in the auction rate securities market regarding their respective practices and procedures in this market. The SEC alleged in the settlement that the firms had managed auctions for auction rate securities in which they participated in ways that were not adequately disclosed or that did not conform to disclosed auction procedures. As part of the settlement, [Broker-Dealer] agreed to pay a civil penalty. In addition, [Broker-Dealer], without admitting or denying the SEC s allegations, agreed to provide to customers written descriptions of its material auction practices and procedures, and to implement procedures reasonably designed to detect and prevent any failures by [Broker-Dealer] to conduct the auction process in accordance with disclosed procedures. No assurance can be provided as to how the settlement may affect the market for auction rate securities or the Calamos Notes.

In addition on January 9, 2007, the SEC announced that it had settled its investigation of three banks, including [Auction Agent] (the Settling Auction Agents ), that participate as auction agents in the

auction rate securities market, regarding their respective practices and procedures in this market. The SEC alleged in the settlement that the Settling Auction Agents allowed broker-dealers in auctions to submit bids or revise bids after the submission deadlines and allowed broker-dealers to intervene in auctions in ways that affected the rates paid on the auction rate securities. As part of the settlement, the Settling Auction Agents agreed to pay civil penalties. In addition, each Settling Auction Agent, without admitting or denying the SEC s allegations, agreed to provide to broker-dealers and issuers written descriptions of its material auction practices and procedures and to implement procedures reasonably designed to detect and prevent any failures by that Settling Auction Agent to conduct the auction process in accordance with disclosed procedures. No assurance can be offered as to how the settlement may affect the market for auction rate securities or the Calamos Notes.

# *Auction Risk.* You may not be able to sell your Calamos Notes at an Auction if the Auction fails; that is, if there are more Calamos Notes offered for sale than there are buyers for those Calamos Notes. Also, if you place hold orders (orders to retain Calamos Notes) at an Auction only at a specified rate, and that bid rate exceeds the rate set at the Auction, you will not retain your Calamos Notes. Finally, if you buy Calamos Notes or elect to retain Calamos Notes without specifying a rate below which you would not wish to buy or continue to hold those Calamos Notes, and the Auction sets a below-market rate, you may receive a lower rate of return on your Calamos Notes than the market rate.

Secondary Market Risk. If you try to sell your Calamos Notes between auctions, you may not be able to sell any or all of your shares, or you may not be able to sell them for \$25,000 per share. Broker-Dealers that maintain a secondary trading market for Calamos Notes are not required to maintain that market, and the Fund is not required to redeem shares either if an auction or an attempted secondary market sale fails because of a lack of buyers. Calamos Notes are not listed on a stock exchange or quoted on the Nasdaq stock market. You may transfer shares outside of auctions only to or through a Broker-Dealer that has entered into an agreement with the Fund s auction agent, The Bank of New York, and the Fund or such other persons as the Fund permits. If you sell your Calamos Notes to a broker-dealer between auctions, you may receive less than the price you paid for them, especially if market interest rates have risen since the last auction.

Ratings and Asset Coverage Risk. Although it is expected that Fitch will assign a rating of \_\_\_\_\_ to the Calamos Notes and S&P will assign a rating of \_\_\_\_\_ to the Calamos Notes, such ratings do not eliminate or necessarily mitigate the risks of investing in Calamos Notes. Fitch or S&P could downgrade its rating of the Calamos Notes or withdraw its rating of the Calamos Notes at any time, which may make your shares less liquid at an auction or in the secondary market. If Fitch or S&P downgrades the Calamos Notes, the Fund may alter its portfolio or redeem Calamos Notes in an effort to improve the rating, although there is no assurance that it will be able to do so to the extent necessary to restore the prior rating. If the Fund fails to satisfy the asset coverage ratios discussed under Description of Calamos Notes Rating Agency Guidelines, the Fund will be required to redeem a sufficient number of Calamos Notes in order to return to compliance with the asset coverage ratios. The Fund may be required to redeem Calamos Notes at a time when it is not advantageous for the Fund to make such redemption or to liquidate portfolio securities in order to have available cash for such redemption. The Fund may voluntarily redeem Calamos Notes under certain circumstances in order to meet asset maintenance tests. Although a sale of substantially all the assets of the Fund or the merger of the Fund into another entity would require the approval of the holders of the Calamos Notes voting as a separate class as discussed under Description of the Calamos Notes Voting Rights, a sale of substantially all of the assets of the Fund or the merger of the Fund with or into another entity would not be treated as a liquidation of the Fund nor require that the Fund redeem the Calamos Notes, in whole or in part, provided that the Fund continued to comply with the asset coverage ratios discussed under Description of Calamos Notes

Rating Agency Guidelines. See Description of Calamos Notes Rating Agency Guidelines for a description of the asset maintenance tests the Fund must meet.

#### UNDERWRITING [TO BE ADDED BY UNDERWRITERS AT TIME OF OFFERING] WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the 1934 Act ) and the 1940 Act and are required to file reports, including annual and semi-annual reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. We voluntarily file quarterly shareholder reports. Our most recent shareholder report filed with the SEC is for the period ended \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_\_\_. These documents are available on the SEC s EDGAR system and can be inspected and copied for a fee at the SEC s public reference room, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102. Additional information about the operation of the public reference room facilities may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not contain all of the information in our registration statement, including amendments, exhibits, and schedules. Statements in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus about the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete and in each instance reference is made to the copy of the contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, each such statement being qualified in all respects by this reference.

Additional information about us can be found in our Registration Statement (including amendments, exhibits, and schedules) on Form N-2 filed with the SEC. The SEC maintains a web site (http://www.sec.gov) that contains our Registration Statement, other documents incorporated by reference, and other information we have filed electronically with the SEC, including proxy statements and reports filed under the Exchange Act.

#### LEGAL MATTERS

\_\_\_\_( \_\_\_\_), \_\_\_\_, serves as counsel to the Fund and to the non-interested Trustees. Vedder Price P.C. (Vedder Price ), Chicago, Illinois, which is serving as our special counsel in connection with the offering under this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus. Certain legal matters in connection with the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by \_\_\_\_\_. Vedder Price is also counsel to Calamos. Vedder Price may rely on the opinion of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, on certain matters of Delaware law. \_\_\_\_\_, mathematical serving as counsel to the underwriters.

\$\_\_\_\_\_Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund Auction Rate Senior Notes ( Calamos Notes ) \$\_\_\_Series \_\_\_Due \_\_\_, 20\_\_\_

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT \_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

[Underwriter]

# SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED MARCH 7, 2008 THE INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS NOT COMPLETE AND MAY BE CHANGED. WE MAY NOT SELL THESE SECURITIES UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC) IS EFFECTIVE. THIS STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES AND IT IS NOT SOLICITING AN OFFER TO BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED. CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund (the Fund ) is a diversified, closed-end management investment company. This Statement of Additional Information relates to the offering, on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis, of up to \$350,000,000 aggregate initial offering price of common shares, preferred shares and debt securities in one or more offerings. This Statement of Additional Information does not constitute a prospectus, but should be read in conjunction with the prospectus relating thereto dated March \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2008 and any related prospectus supplement. This Statement of Additional Information does not include all information that a prospective investor should consider before purchasing any of the Fund s securities, and investors should obtain and read the prospectus and any related prospectus supplement prior to purchasing such securities. A copy of the prospectus and any related prospectus supplement may be obtained without charge by calling 1-800-582-6959. You may also obtain a copy of the prospectus and any related prospectus supplement on the Securities and Exchange Commission s web site (http://www.sec.gov). Capitalized terms used but not defined in this Statement of Additional Information have the same meanings ascribed to them in the prospectus and any related prospectus supplement.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Use of Proceeds	S-2
Investment Objective and Policies	S-2
Investment Restrictions	S-22
Management of the Fund	S-24
Portfolio Transactions	S-36
Net Asset Value	S-37
Repurchase of Common Shares	S-37
Federal Income Tax Matters	S-39
Custodian, Transfer Agent, Dividend Disbursing Agent and Registrar	S-49
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	S-49
Additional Information	S-49
Additional Information Concerning the Agreement and Declaration of Trust	S-50
Financial Statements and Report of Independent Auditors/Accountants	F-1
Appendix A Form of Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund Statement of Preferences of Auction Rate	
Cumulative Preferred Shares	A-1
Appendix B Summary of Certain Provisions of the Indenture and Form of Supplemental Indenture	B-1
Appendix B-I Auction Procedures	B-I-1
Appendix C Description of Ratings	C-1
This Statement of Additional Information is dated March, 2008.	

# **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The Fund will invest the net proceeds of the offering in accordance with the Fund s investment objective and policies as stated below and in the prospectus. It is presently anticipated that the Fund will invest substantially all of the net proceeds in securities that meet the investment objective and policies within three months after completion of the offering. Pending such investment, we anticipate that we will invest the proceeds in securities issued by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalitics or in high quality, short-term or long-term debt obligations. If necessary, the Fund may also purchase, as temporary investments, securities of other open- or closed-end investment companies that invest primarily in the types of securities in which the Fund may invest directly.

# INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND POLICIES

The prospectus presents the investment objective and the principal investment strategies and risks of the Fund. This section supplements the disclosure in the Fund s prospectus and provides additional information on the Fund s investment policies or restrictions. Restrictions or policies stated as a maximum percentage of the Fund s assets are only applied immediately after a portfolio investment to which the policy or restriction is applicable (other than the limitations on borrowing). Accordingly, any later increase or decrease resulting from a change in values, managed assets or other circumstances will not be considered in determining whether the investment complies with the Fund s restrictions and policies.

# **Primary Investments**

Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest primarily in common and preferred stock, convertible securities and income producing securities such as investment grade and below investment grade debt securities. The Fund, under normal circumstances, will invest at least 50% of its managed assets in equity securities (including securities that are convertible into equity securities). The Fund may invest up to 35% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers, including debt and equity securities of corporate issuers and debt securities of government issuers in developed and emerging markets. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers in emerging markets. Managed assets means the total assets of the Fund (including any assets attributable to any leverage that may be outstanding) minus the sum of accrued liabilities (other than debt representing financial leverage). For this purpose, the liquidation preference on the preferred shares will not constitute a liability.

Calamos will dynamically allocate the Fund s investments among multiple asset classes, seeking to obtain an appropriate balance of risk and reward through all market cycles using multiple strategies and combining them to seek to achieve favorable risk adjusted returns.

Calamos analyzes securities for the Fund s portfolio using an approach that focuses on assessing a total enterprise value before assessing the value of the securities issued by a company. Calamos seeks to assess the value of an issuer s total enterprise by studying its financial statements, including its balance sheet. Once enterprise value is determined, Calamos seeks to assess the value of the issuer s different types of securities, taking into account the business risk of the issuer, its competitive position and the seniority of each type of security relative to the rest of the issuer s capital structure. This approach serves as the basis for the Calamos research team s design and use of proprietary models which, along with risk management and portfolio construction techniques, assist in determining whether a given security presents an investment opportunity for the Fund.



# **Equity Securities**

Equity securities include common and preferred stocks, warrants, rights, and depository receipts. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 50% of its managed assets in equity securities (including securities that are convertible into equity securities). An investment in the equity securities of a company represents a proportionate ownership interest in that company. Therefore, the Fund participates in the financial success or failure of any company in which it has a equity interest. Equity investments are subject to greater fluctuations in market value than other asset classes as a result of such factors as a company s business performance, investor perceptions, stock market trends and general economic conditions. Equity securities are subordinated to bonds and other debt instruments in a company s capital structure in terms of priority to corporate income and liquidation payments.

Preferred stocks involve credit risk, which is the risk that a preferred stock in the Fund s portfolio will decline in price or fail to make dividend payments when due because the issuer of the security experiences a decline in its financial status. In addition to credit risk, investments in preferred stocks involve certain other risks. Certain preferred stocks contain provisions that allow an issuer under certain circumstances to skip distributions (in the case of

non-cumulative preferred stocks) or defer distributions (in the case of cumulative preferred stocks). If the Fund owns a preferred stock that is deferring its distributions, the Fund may be required to report income for tax purposes while it is not receiving income from that stock. In certain varying circumstances, an issuer may redeem its preferred stock prior to a specified date in the event of certain tax or legal changes or at the issuer s call. In the event of a redemption, the Fund may not be able to reinvest the proceeds at comparable rates of return. Preferred stocks typically do not provide any voting rights, except incases when dividends are in arrears for a specified number of periods.

Equity securities of small company and mid cap companies historically have been subject to greater investment risk than those of large companies. The risks generally associated with small and medium-sized companies include more limited product lines, markets and financial resources, lack of management depth or experience, dependency on key personnel and vulnerability to adverse market and economic developments. Accordingly, the prices of small and medium-sized company equity securities tend to be more volatile than prices of large company stocks. Further, the prices of small and medium-sized company equity securities are often adversely affected by limited trading volumes and the lack of publicly available information.

# **High Yield Securities**

The high yield securities in which the Fund invests are rated Ba or lower by Moody s or BB or lower by Standard & Poor s or are unrated but determined by Calamos to be of comparable quality. Non-convertible debt securities rated below investment grade are commonly referred to as junk bonds and are considered speculative with respect to the issuer s capacity to pay interest and repay principal.

Below investment grade non-convertible debt securities or comparable unrated securities are commonly referred to as junk bonds and are considered predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer s ability to pay interest and principal and susceptible to default or decline in market value due to adverse economic and business developments. The market values for high yield securities tend to be very volatile, and these securities are less liquid than investment grade debt securities. For these reasons, your investment in the Fund is subject to the following specific risks:

increased price sensitivity to changing interest rates and to a deteriorating economic environment;

greater risk of loss due to default or declining credit quality;

adverse company specific events are more likely to render the issuer unable to make interest and/or principal payments; and

if a negative perception of the high yield market develops, the price and liquidity of high yield securities may be depressed. This negative perception could last for a significant period of time.

Securities rated below investment grade are speculative with respect to the capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of such securities. A rating of C from Moody s means that the issue so rated can be regarded as having extremely poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing. Standard & Poor s assigns a rating of C to issues that are currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the C rating may be used to cover a situation where a bankruptcy petition has been filed or similar action taken, but payments on the obligation are being continued (a C rating is also assigned to a preferred stock issue in arrears on dividends or sinking fund payments, but that is currently paying). See Appendix C to this Statement of Additional Information for a description of Moody s and Standard & Poor s ratings.

Adverse changes in economic conditions are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of a high yield issuer to make principal payments and interest payments than an investment grade issuer. The principal amount of high yield securities outstanding has proliferated in the past decade as an increasing number of issuers have used high yield securities for corporate financing. An economic downturn could severely affect the ability of highly leveraged issuers to service their debt obligations or to repay their obligations upon maturity. Similarly, down-turns in profitability in specific industries could adversely affect the ability of high yield issuers in that industry to meet their obligations. The market values of lower quality debt securities tend to reflect individual developments of the issuer to a greater extent than do higher quality securities, which react primarily to fluctuations in the general level of interest rates. Factors having an adverse impact on the market value of lower quality securities may have an adverse effect on the Fund s net asset value and the market value of its common shares. In addition, the Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek recovery upon a default in payment of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. In certain circumstances, the Fund may be required to foreclose on an issuer s assets and take possession of its property or operations. In such circumstances, the Fund would incur additional costs in disposing of such assets and potential liabilities from operating any business acquired.

The secondary market for high yield securities may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities, a factor which may have an adverse effect on the Fund s ability to dispose of a particular security when necessary to meet its liquidity needs. There are fewer dealers in the market for high yield securities than investment grade obligations. The prices quoted by different dealers may vary significantly and the spread between the bid and asked price is generally much larger than higher quality instruments. Under adverse market or economic conditions, the secondary market for high yield securities could contract further, independent of any specific adverse changes in the condition of a particular issuer, and these instruments may become illiquid. As a result, the Fund could find it more difficult to sell these securities or may be able to sell the securities only at prices lower than if such securities were widely traded. Prices realized upon the sale of such lower rated or unrated securities, under these circumstances, may be less than the prices used in calculating the Fund s net asset value.

Because investors generally perceive that there are greater risks associated with lower quality debt securities of the type in which the Fund may invest a portion of its assets, the yields and prices of

such securities may tend to fluctuate more than those for higher rated securities. In the lower quality segments of the debt securities market, changes in perceptions of issuers creditworthiness tend to occur more frequently and in a more pronounced manner than do changes in higher quality segments of the debt securities market, resulting in greater yield and price volatility.

If the Fund invests in high yield securities that are rated C or below, the Fund will incur significant risk in addition to the risks associated with investments in high yield securities and corporate loans. Distressed securities frequently do not produce income while they are outstanding. The Fund may purchase distressed securities that are in default or the issuers of which are in bankruptcy. The Fund may be required to bear certain extraordinary expenses in order to protect and recover its investment.

### **Distressed Securities**

The Fund may, but currently does not intend to, invest up to 5% of its total assets in distressed securities, including corporate loans, which are the subject of bankruptcy proceedings or otherwise in default as to the repayment of principal and/or payment of interest at the time of acquisition by the Fund or are rated in the lower rating categories (Ca or lower by Moody s or CC or lower by Standard & Poor s) or which are unrated investments considered by Calamos to be of comparable quality. Investment in distressed securities is speculative and involves significant risk. Distressed securities frequently do not produce income while they are outstanding and may require the Fund to bear certain extraordinary expenses in order to protect and recover its investment. Therefore, to the extent the Fund seeks capital appreciation through investment in distressed securities, the Fund s ability to achieve current income for its shareholders may be diminished. The Fund also will be subject to significant uncertainty as to when and in what manner and for what value the obligations evidenced by the distressed securities will eventually be satisfied (e.g., through a liquidation of the obligor s assets, an exchange offer or plan of reorganization involving the distressed securities or a payment of some amount in satisfaction of the obligation). In addition, even if an exchange offer is made or a plan of reorganization is adopted with respect to distressed securities held by the Fund, there can be no assurance that the securities or other assets received by the Fund in connection with such exchange offer or plan of reorganization will not have a lower value or income potential than may have been anticipated when the investment was made. Moreover, any securities received by the Fund upon completion of an exchange offer or plan of reorganization may be restricted as to resale. As a result of the Fund s participation in negotiations with respect to any exchange offer or plan of reorganization with respect to an issuer of distressed securities, the Fund may be restricted from disposing of such securities.

# Loans

The Fund may invest up to 5% of its total assets in loan participations and other direct claims against a borrower. The corporate loans in which the Fund invests primarily consist of direct obligations of a borrower and may include debtor in possession financings pursuant to Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, obligations of a borrower issued in connection with a restructuring pursuant to Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, leveraged buy-out loans, leveraged recapitalization loans, receivables purchase facilities, and privately placed notes. The Fund may invest in a corporate loan at origination as a co-lender or by acquiring in the secondary market participations in, assignments of or novations of a corporate loan. By purchasing a participation, the Fund acquires some or all of the interest of a bank or other lending institution in a loan to a corporate or government borrower. The participations typically will result in the Fund having a contractual relationship only with the lender not the borrower. The Fund will have the right to receive payments of principal, interest and any fees to which it is entitled only from the lender selling the participation and only upon receipt by the lender of the payments from the borrower. Many such loans are secured, although some may be unsecured. Such loans may be in default at the time

of purchase. Loans that are fully secured offer the Fund more protection than an unsecured loan in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal. However, there is no assurance that the liquidation of collateral from a secured loan would satisfy the corporate borrower s obligation, or that the collateral can be liquidated. Direct debt instruments may involve a risk of loss in case of default or insolvency of the borrower and may offer less legal protection to the Fund in the event of fraud or misrepresentation. In addition, loan participations involve a risk of insolvency of the lending bank or other financial intermediary. The markets in loans are not regulated by federal securities laws or the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC or the Commission ).

As in the case of other high yield investments, such corporate loans may be rated in the lower rating categories of the established rating services (Ba or lower by Moody s or BB or lower by Standard & Poor s), or may be unrated investments considered by Calamos to be of comparable quality. As in the case of other high yield investments, such corporate loans can be expected to provide higher yields than lower yielding, higher rated fixed income securities, but may be subject to greater risk of loss of principal and income. There are, however, some significant differences between corporate loans and high yield bonds. Corporate loan obligations are frequently secured by pledges of liens and security interests in the assets of the borrower, and the holders of corporate loans are frequently the beneficiaries of debt service subordination provisions imposed on the borrower s bondholders. These arrangements are designed to give corporate loan investors preferential treatment over high yield investors in the event of a deterioration in the credit quality of the issuer. Even when these arrangements exist, however, there can be no assurance that the borrowers of the corporate loans will repay principal and/or pay interest in full. Corporate loans generally bear interest at rates set at a margin above a generally recognized base lending rate that may fluctuate on a day-to-day basis, in the case of the prime rate of a U.S. bank, or which may be adjusted on set dates, typically 30 days but generally not more than one year, in the case of the London Interbank Offered Rate. Consequently, the value of corporate loans held by the Fund may be expected to fluctuate significantly less than the value of other fixed rate high yield instruments as a result of changes in the interest rate environment. On the other hand, the secondary dealer market for certain corporate loans may not be as well developed as the secondary dealer market for high yield bonds, and therefore presents increased market risk relating to liquidity and pricing concerns.

## **Foreign Securities**

The Fund may invest up to 35% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its managed assets in securities of foreign issuers in emerging markets. A foreign issuer is a foreign government or corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country. For these purposes, foreign securities do not include American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) or securities guaranteed by a United States person, but may include foreign securities in the form of European Depositary Receipts (EDRs), Global Depositary Receipts (GDRs) or other securities representing underlying shares of foreign issuers. Positions in those securities are not necessarily denominated in the same currency as the common stocks into which they may be converted. ADRs are receipts typically issued by an American bank or trust company evidencing ownership of the underlying securities. EDRs are European receipts listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange evidencing a similar arrangement. GDRs are U.S. dollar-denominated receipts evidencing ownership of foreign securities. The Fund may invest in sponsored or unsponsored ADRs. In the case of an unsponsored ADR, the Fund is likely to bear its proportionate share of the expenses of the depository and it may have greater difficulty in receiving shareholder communications than it would have with a sponsored ADR.

To the extent positions in portfolio securities are denominated in foreign currencies, the Fund s investment performance is affected by the strength or weakness of the U.S. dollar against those currencies. For example, if the dollar falls in value relative to the Japanese yen, the dollar value of a Japanese stock held in the portfolio will rise even though the price of the stock remains unchanged. Conversely, if the dollar rises in value relative to the yen, the dollar value of the Japanese stock will fall. (See discussion of transaction hedging and portfolio hedging below under Currency Exchange Transactions. )

Investors should understand and consider carefully the risks involved in foreign investing. Investing in foreign securities, which are generally denominated in foreign currencies, and utilization of forward foreign currency exchange contracts involve certain considerations comprising both risks and opportunities not typically associated with investing in U.S. securities. These considerations include: fluctuations in exchange rates of foreign currencies; possible imposition of exchange control regulation or currency restrictions that would prevent cash from being brought back to the United States less public information with respect to issuers of securities; less governmental supervision of stock exchanges, securities brokers, and issuers of securities; lack of uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards; lack of uniform settlement periods and trading practices; less liquidity and frequently greater price volatility in foreign markets than in the United States; possible imposition of non - U.S. withholding or other taxes; and sometimes less advantageous legal, operational and financial protections applicable to foreign sub-custodial arrangements.

Although the Fund intends to invest primarily in companies and government securities of countries having stable political environments, there is the possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, seizure or nationalization of foreign bank deposits or other assets, establishment of exchange controls, the adoption of foreign government restrictions, or other adverse political, social or diplomatic developments that could affect investment in these nations.

The Fund may invest in the securities of issuers located in emerging market countries. The securities markets of emerging countries are substantially smaller, less developed, less liquid and more volatile than the securities markets of the U.S. and other more developed countries. Disclosure and regulatory standards in many respects are less stringent than in the U.S. and other major markets. There also may be a lower level of monitoring and regulation of emerging markets and the activities of investors in such markets, and enforcement of existing regulations has been extremely limited. Economies in individual emerging markets may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of gross domestic product, rates of inflation, currency depreciation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments positions. Many emerging market countries have experienced high rates of inflation for many years, which has had and may continue to have very negative effects on the economies and securities markets of those countries.

#### **Currency Exchange Transactions**

Currency exchange transactions may be conducted either on a spot (i.e., cash) basis at the spot rate for purchasing or selling currency prevailing in the foreign exchange market or through forward currency exchange contracts (forward contracts). Forward contracts are contractual agreements to purchase or sell a specified currency at a specified future date (or within a specified time period) and price set at the time of the contract. Forward contracts are usually entered into with banks, foreign exchange dealers and broker-dealers, are not exchange traded, and are usually for less than one year, but may be renewed.

Forward currency exchange transactions may involve currencies of the different countries in which the Fund may invest and serve as hedges against possible variations in the exchange rate between

these currencies and the U.S. dollar. Currency exchange transactions are limited to transaction hedging and portfolio hedging involving either specific transactions or portfolio positions, except to the extent described below under

Synthetic Foreign Money Market Positions. Transaction hedging is the purchase or sale of forward contracts with respect to specific receivables or payables of the Fund accruing in connection with the purchase and sale of its portfolio securities or the receipt of dividends or interest thereon. Portfolio hedging is the use of forward contracts with respect to portfolio security positions denominated or quoted in a particular foreign currency. Portfolio hedging allows the Fund to limit or reduce its exposure in a foreign currency by entering into a forward contract to sell such foreign currency (or another foreign currency that acts as a proxy for that currency) at a future date for a price payable in U.S. dollars so that the value of the foreign denominated portfolio securities can be approximately matched by a foreign denominated liability. The Fund may not engage in portfolio hedging with respect to the currency of a particular country to an extent greater than the aggregate market value (at the time of making such sale) of the securities held in its portfolio denominated or quoted in that particular currency, except that the Fund may hedge all or part of its foreign currency exposure through the use of a basket of currencies or a proxy currency where such currencies or currency act as an effective proxy for other currencies. In such a case, the Fund may enter into a forward contract where the amount of the foreign currency to be sold exceeds the value of the securities denominated in such currency. The use of this basket hedging technique may be more efficient and economical than entering into separate forward contracts for each currency held in the Fund. The Fund may not engage in speculative currency exchange transactions.

If the Fund enters into a forward contract, the Fund s custodian will segregate liquid assets of the Fund having a value equal to the Fund s commitment under such forward contract. At the maturity of the forward contract to deliver a particular currency, the Fund may either sell the portfolio security related to the contract and make delivery of the currency, or it may retain the security and either acquire the currency on the spot market or terminate its contractual obligation to deliver the currency by purchasing an offsetting contract with the same currency trader obligating it to purchase on the same maturity date the same amount of the currency. It is impossible to forecast with absolute precision the market value of portfolio securities at the expiration of a forward contract. Accordingly, it may be necessary for the Fund to purchase additional currency on the spot market (and bear the expense of such purchase) if the market value of the security is less than the amount of currency the Fund is obligated to deliver and if a decision is made to sell the security and make delivery of the currency. Conversely, it may be necessary to sell on the spot market some of the currency received upon the sale of the portfolio security if its market value exceeds the amount of currency the Fund is obligated to deliver.

If the Fund retains the portfolio security and engages in an offsetting transaction, the Fund will incur a gain or a loss to the extent that there has been movement in forward contract prices. If the Fund engages in an offsetting transaction, it may subsequently enter into a new forward contract to sell the currency. Should forward prices decline during the period between the Fund s entering into a forward contract for the sale of a currency and the date it enters into an offsetting contract for the purchase of the currency, the Fund will realize a gain to the extent the price of the currency it has agreed to sell exceeds the price of the currency it has agreed to purchase exceeds the price of the currency it has agreed to sell. A default on the contract would deprive the Fund of unrealized profits or force the Fund to cover its commitments for purchase or sale of currency, if any, at the current market price.

Hedging against a decline in the value of a currency does not eliminate fluctuations in the value of a portfolio security traded in that currency or prevent a loss if the value of the security declines. Hedging transactions also preclude the opportunity for gain if the value of the hedged currency should rise. Moreover, it may not be possible for the Fund to hedge against a devaluation that is so generally

anticipated that the Fund is not able to contract to sell the currency at a price above the devaluation level it anticipates. The cost to the Fund of engaging in currency exchange transactions varies with such factors as the currency involved, the length of the contract period, and prevailing market conditions.

# **Synthetic Foreign Money Market Positions**

The Fund may invest in money market instruments denominated in foreign currencies. In addition to, or in lieu of, such direct investment, the Fund may construct a synthetic foreign money market position by (a) purchasing a money market instrument denominated in one currency, generally U.S. dollars, and (b) concurrently entering into a forward contract to deliver a corresponding amount of that currency in exchange for a different currency on a future date and at a specified rate of exchange. For example, a synthetic money market position in Japanese yen could be constructed by purchasing a U.S. dollar money market instrument, and entering concurrently into a forward contract to deliver a corresponding amount of U.S. dollars in exchange for Japanese yen on a specified date and at a specified rate of exchange. Because of the availability of a variety of highly liquid short-term U.S. dollar money market instruments, a synthetic money market position in such foreign currency, in terms of both income yield and gain or loss from changes in currency exchange rates, in general should be similar, but would not be identical because the components of the alternative investments would not be identical. The Fund currently does not intend to invest a significant amount of its assets in synthetic foreign money market positions. **Debt Obligations of Non-U.S. Governments** 

An investment in debt obligations of non-U.S. governments and their political subdivisions (sovereign debt) involves special risks that are not present in corporate debt obligations. The non-U.S. issuer of the sovereign debt or the non-U.S. governmental authorities that control the repayment of the debt may be unable or unwilling to repay principal or interest when due, and the Fund may have limited recourse in the event of a default. During periods of economic uncertainty, the market prices of sovereign debt may be more volatile than prices of debt obligations, sissuers. In the past, certain non-U.S. countries have encountered difficulties in servicing their debt obligations, withheld payments of principal and interest and declared moratoria on the payment of principal and interest on their sovereign debt.

A sovereign debtor s willingness or ability to repay principal and pay interest in a timely manner may be affected by, among other factors, its cash flow situation, the extent of its foreign currency reserves, the availability of sufficient non-U.S. currency, the relative size of the debt service burden, the sovereign debtor s policy toward its principal international lenders and local political constraints. Sovereign debtors may also be dependent on expected disbursements from non-U.S. governments, multilateral agencies and other entities to reduce principal and interest arrearages on their debt. The failure of a sovereign debtor to implement economic reforms, achieve specified levels of economic performance or repay principal or interest when due may result in the cancellation of third-party commitments to lend funds to the sovereign debtor, which may further impair such debtor s ability or willingness to service its debts.

# Eurodollar Instruments And Samurai And Yankee Bonds

The Fund may invest in Eurodollar instruments and Samurai and Yankee bonds. Eurodollar instruments are bonds of corporate and government issuers that pay interest and principal in U.S. dollars but are issued in markets outside the United States, primarily in Europe. Samurai bonds are yen-denominated bonds sold in Japan by non-Japanese issuers. Yankee bonds are U.S. dollar-denominated bonds typically issued in the U.S. by non-U.S. governments and their agencies and non-U.S. banks and corporations. The Fund may also invest in Eurodollar Certificates of Deposit (ECDs), Eurodollar Time

Deposits ( ETDs ) and Yankee Certificates of Deposit ( Yankee CDs ). ECDs are U.S. dollar-denominated certificates of deposit issued by non-U.S. branches of domestic banks; ETDs are U.S. dollar-denominated deposits in a non-U.S. branch of a U.S. bank or in a non-U.S. bank; and Yankee CDs are U.S. dollar-denominated certificates of deposit issued by a U.S. branch of a non-U.S. bank and held in the U.S. These investments involve risks that are different from investments in securities issued by U.S. issuers, including potential unfavorable political and economic developments, non-U.S. withholding or other taxes, seizure of non-U.S. deposits, currency controls, interest limitations or other governmental restrictions which might affect payment of principal or interest. **Convertible Securities** 

Convertible securities include any corporate debt security or preferred stock that may be converted into underlying shares of common stock. The common stock underlying convertible securities may be issued by a different entity than the issuer of the convertible securities. Convertible securities entitle the holder to receive interest payments paid on corporate debt securities or the dividend preference on a preferred stock until such time as the convertible security matures or is redeemed or until the holder elects to exercise the conversion privilege. As a result of the conversion feature, however, the interest rate or dividend preference on a convertible security is generally less than would be the case if the securities were issued in non-convertible form.

The value of convertible securities is influenced by both the yield of non-convertible securities of comparable issuers and by the value of the underlying common stock. The value of a convertible security viewed without regard to its conversion feature (i.e., strictly on the basis of its yield) is sometimes referred to as its investment value. The investment value of the convertible security typically will fluctuate inversely with changes in prevailing interest rates. However, at the same time, the convertible security will be influenced by its conversion value, which is the market value of the underlying common stock that would be obtained if the convertible security were converted. Conversion value fluctuates directly with the price of the underlying common stock.

If, because of a low price of the common stock, the conversion value is substantially below the investment value of the convertible security, the price of the convertible security is governed principally by its investment value. If the conversion value of a convertible security increases to a point that approximates or exceeds its investment value, the value of the security will be principally influenced by its conversion value. A convertible security will sell at a premium over its conversion value to the extent investors place value on the right to acquire the underlying common stock while holding a fixed income security. Holders of convertible securities have a claim on the assets of the issuer prior to the common stockholders, but may be subordinated to holders of similar non-convertible securities of the same issuer.

# **Synthetic Convertible Securities**

Calamos Advisors, LLC ( Calamos ) may create a synthetic convertible security by combining fixed income securities with the right to acquire equity securities. More flexibility is possible in the assembly of a synthetic convertible security than in the purchase of a convertible security. Although synthetic convertible securities may be selected where the two components are issued by a single issuer, thus making the synthetic convertible security similar to the true convertible security, the character of a synthetic convertible security allows the combination of components representing distinct issuers, when Calamos believes that such a combination would better promote the Fund s investment objective. A synthetic convertible security also is a more flexible investment in that its two components may be purchased separately. For example, the Fund may purchase a warrant for inclusion in a synthetic

convertible security but temporarily hold short-term investments while postponing the purchase of a corresponding bond pending development of more favorable market conditions.

A holder of a synthetic convertible security faces the risk of a decline in the price of the security or the level of the index involved in the convertible component, causing a decline in the value of the call option or warrant purchased to create the synthetic convertible security. Should the price of the stock fall below the exercise price and remain there throughout the exercise period, the entire amount paid for the call option or warrant would be lost. Because a synthetic convertible security includes the fixed-income component as well, the holder of a synthetic convertible security also faces the risk that interest rates will rise, causing a decline in the value of the fixed-income instrument.

The Fund may also purchase synthetic convertible securities manufactured by other parties, including convertible structured notes. Convertible structured notes are fixed income debentures linked to equity, and are typically issued by investment banks. Convertible structured notes have the attributes of a convertible security; however, the investment bank that issued the convertible note assumes the credit risk associated with the investment, rather than the issuer of the underlying common stock into which the note is convertible.

## Lending of Portfolio Securities

The Fund may lend its portfolio securities to broker-dealers and banks. Any such loan must be continuously secured by collateral in cash or cash equivalents maintained on a current basis in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned by the Fund. The Fund would continue to receive the equivalent of the interest or dividends paid by the issuer on the securities loaned, and would also receive an additional return that may be in the form of a fixed fee or a percentage of the collateral. The Fund may pay reasonable fees to persons unaffiliated with the Fund for services in arranging these loans. The Fund would have the right to call the loan and obtain the securities loaned at any time on notice of not more than five business days. The Fund would not have the right to vote the securities during the existence of the loan but would call the loan to permit voting of the securities, if, in Calamos judgment, a material event requiring a shareholder vote would otherwise occur before the loan was repaid. In the event of bankruptcy or other default of the borrower, the Fund could experience both delays in liquidating the loan collateral or recovering the loaned securities and losses, including (a) possible decline in the value of the collateral or in the value of the securities loaned during the period while the Fund seeks to enforce its rights thereto, (b) possible subnormal levels of income and lack of access to income during this period, and (c) expenses of enforcing its rights. **Options on Securities, Indexes and Currencies** 

The Fund may purchase and sell put options and call options on securities, indexes or foreign currencies. The Fund may purchase agreements, sometimes called cash puts, that may accompany the purchase of a new issue of bonds from a dealer.

A put option gives the purchaser of the option, upon payment of a premium, the right to sell, and the writer the obligation to buy, the underlying security, commodity, index, currency or other instrument at the exercise price. For instance, the Fund s purchase of a put option on a security might be designed to protect its holdings in the underlying instrument (or, in some cases, a similar instrument) against a substantial decline in the market value by giving the Fund the right to sell such instrument at the option exercise price. A call option, upon payment of a premium, gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the seller the obligation to sell, the underlying instrument at the exercise price. The Fund s purchase of a call option on a security, financial future, index, currency or other instrument might be

intended to protect the Fund against an increase in the price of the underlying instrument that it intends to purchase in the future by fixing the price at which it may purchase such instrument.

The Fund is authorized to purchase and sell exchange listed options and over-the-counter options (OTC options). Exchange listed options are issued by a regulated intermediary such as the Options Clearing Corporation (OCC), which guarantees the performance of the obligations of the parties to such options. The discussion below uses the OCC as an example, but is also applicable to other financial intermediaries.

With certain exceptions, OCC issued and exchange listed options generally settle by physical delivery of the underlying security or currency, although in the future cash settlement may become available. Index options and Eurodollar instruments are cash settled for the net amount, if any, by which the option is in-the-money (i.e., where the value of the underlying instrument exceeds, in the case of a call option, or is less than, in the case of a put option, the exercise price of the option) at the time the option is exercised. Frequently, rather than taking or making delivery of the underlying instrument through the process of exercising the option, listed options are closed by entering into offsetting purchase or sale transactions that do not result in ownership of the new option.

OTC options are purchased from or sold to securities dealers, financial institutions or other parties (Counterparties) through direct bilateral agreement with the Counterparty. In contrast to exchange listed options, which generally have standardized terms and performance mechanics, all the terms of an OTC option, including such terms as method of settlement, term, exercise price, premium, guarantees and security, are set by negotiation of the parties. The Fund may sell OTC options (other than OTC currency options) that are subject to a buy-back provision permitting the Fund to require the Counterparty to sell the option back to the Fund at a formula price within seven days. The Fund expects generally to enter into OTC options that have cash settlement provisions, although it is not required to do so. The staff of the SEC currently takes the position that OTC option sold by it (or the amount of a settle counterpart to an OTC option sold by it (or the amount of assets equal to the formula price for the repurchase of the option, if any, less the amount by which the option is in the money) are illiquid.

The Fund may also purchase and sell options on securities indices and other financial indices, which may include purchasing and selling options on stocks, indices, rates, credit spreads or currencies. Options on securities indices and other financial indices are similar to options on a security or other instrument except that, rather than settling by physical delivery of the underlying instrument, they settle by cash settlement, i.e., an option or an index gives the holder the right to receive, upon exercise of the option, an amount of cash if the closing level of the index upon which the option is based exceeds, in the case of a call, or is less than, in the case of a put, the exercise price of the option (except if, in the case of an OTC option, physical delivery is specified). This amount of cash is equal to the excess of the closing price of the index over the exercise price of the option, which also may be multiplied by a formula value. The seller of the option is obligated, in return for the premium received, to make delivery of this amount. The gain or loss on an option on an index depends on price movements in the instruments making upon the market, market segment industry or other composite on which the underlying index is based, rather than price movements in individual securities, as is the case with respect to options on securities.

The Fund will write call options and put options only if they are covered. For example, a call option written by the Fund will require the Fund to hold the securities subject to the call (or securities convertible into the needed securities without additional consideration) or to segregate cash or liquid assets sufficient to purchase and deliver the securities if the call is exercised. A call option sold by the Fund on an index will require the Fund to own portfolio securities which correlate with the index or to segregate cash or liquid assets equal to the excess of the index value over the exercise price on a current

basis. A put option written by the Fund requires the Fund to segregate cash or liquid assets equal to the exercise price.

OTC options entered into by the Fund and OCC issued and exchange listed index options will generally provide for cash settlement. As a result, when the Fund sells these instruments it will only segregate an amount of cash or liquid assets equal to its accrued net obligations, as there is no requirement for payment or delivery of amounts in excess of the net amount. These amounts will equal 100% of the exercise price in the case of a non cash-settled put, the same as an OCC guaranteed listed option sold by the Fund, or the in-the-money amount plus any sell-back formula amount in the case of a cash-settled put or call. In addition, when the Fund sells a call option on an index at a time when the in-the-money amount exceeds the exercise price, the Fund will segregate, until the option expires or is closed out, cash or cash equivalents equal in value to such excess. OCC issued and exchange listed options sold by the Fund other than those above generally settle with physical delivery, or with an election of either physical delivery or cash settlement and the Fund will segregate an amount of cash or liquid assets equal to the full value of the option. OTC options settling with physical delivery, or with an election of either physical delivery or cash settlement, will be treated the same as other options settling with physical delivery.

If an option written by the Fund expires, the Fund will generally realize a short-term capital gain equal to the premium received at the time the option was written. If an option purchased by the Fund expires, the Fund realizes a capital loss equal to the premium paid, which may be short-term or long-term depending on the Fund sholding period for the option.

Prior to the earlier of exercise or expiration, an option may be closed out by an offsetting purchase or sale of an option of the same series (type, exchange, underlying security or index, exercise price and expiration). There can be no assurance, however, that a closing purchase or sale transaction can be effected when the Fund desires.

The Fund will realize a short-term capital gain from a closing purchase transaction if the cost of the closing option is less than the premium received from writing the option, or, if it is more, the Fund will generally realize a short-term capital loss. If the premium received from a closing sale transaction is more than the premium paid to purchase the option, the Fund will realize a capital gain or, if it is less, the Fund will realize a capital loss, which in each case may be long-term or short-term depending on the Fund s holding period for the option. The principal factors affecting the market value of a put or a call option include supply and demand, interest rates, the current market price of the underlying security or index in relation to the exercise price of the option, the volatility of the underlying security or index, and the time remaining until the expiration date.

A put or call option purchased by the Fund is an asset of the Fund, valued initially at the premium paid for the option. The premium received for an option written by the Fund is recorded as a deferred credit. The value of an option purchased or written is marked-to-market daily and is valued at the closing price on the exchange on which it is traded or, if not traded on an exchange or no closing price is available, at the mean between the last bid and asked prices.

# **Risks Associated with Options**

There are several risks associated with transactions in options. For example, there are significant differences between the securities markets, the currency markets and the options markets that could result in an imperfect correlation among these markets, causing a given transaction not to achieve its objectives. A decision as to whether, when and how to use options involves the exercise of skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived transaction may be unsuccessful to some degree because of market behavior or

unexpected events. The ability of the Fund to utilize options successfully will depend on Calamos ability to predict pertinent market investments, which cannot be assured.

The Fund s ability to close out its position as a purchaser or seller of an OCC or exchange listed put or call option is dependent, in part, upon the liquidity of the option market. Among the possible reasons for the absence of a liquid option market on an exchange are: (i) insufficient trading interest in certain options; (ii) restrictions on transactions imposed by an exchange; (iii) trading halts, suspensions or other restrictions imposed with respect to particular classes or series of options or underlying securities including reaching daily price limits; (iv) interruption of the normal operations of the OCC or an exchange; (v) inadequacy of the facilities of an exchange or OCC to handle current trading volume; or (vi) a decision by one or more exchanges to discontinue the trading of options (or a particular class or series of options), in which event the relevant market for that option on that exchange would cease to exist, although outstanding options on that exchange would generally continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms. If the Fund were unable to close out an option that it has purchased on a security, it would have to exercise the option in order to realize any profit or the option would expire and become worthless. If the Fund were unable to close out a covered call option that it had written on a security, it would not be able to sell the underlying security until the option expired. As the writer of a covered call option on a security, the Fund foregoes, during the option s life, the opportunity to profit from increases in the market value of the security covering the call option above the sum of the premium and the exercise price of the call. As the writer of a covered call option on a foreign currency, the Fund foregoes, during the option s life, the opportunity to profit from currency appreciation.

The hours of trading for listed options may not coincide with the hours during which the underlying financial instruments are traded. To the extent that the option markets close before the markets for the underlying financial instruments, significant price and rate movements can take place in the underlying markets that cannot be reflected in the option markets.

Unless the parties provide for it, there is no central clearing or guaranty function in an OTC option. As a result, if the Counterparty (as described above under Options on Securities, Indexes and Currencies ) fails to make or take delivery of the security, currency or other instrument underlying an OTC option it has entered into with the Fund or fails to make a cash settlement payment due in accordance with the terms of that option, the Fund will lose any premium it paid for the option as well as any anticipated benefit of the transaction. Accordingly, Calamos must assess the creditworthiness of each such Counterparty or any guarantor or credit enhancement of the Counterparty s credit to determine the likelihood that the terms of the OTC option will be satisfied. The Fund will engage in OTC option transactions only with U.S. government securities dealers recognized by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York as

primary dealers or broker/dealers, domestic or foreign banks or other financial institutions which have received (or the guarantors of the obligation of which have received) a short-term credit rating of A-1 from S&P or P-1 from Moody s or an equivalent rating from any nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO) or, in the case of OTC currency transactions, are determined to be of equivalent credit quality by Calamos.

The Fund may purchase and sell call options on securities indices and currencies. All calls sold by the Fund must be covered. Even though the Fund will receive the option premium to help protect it against loss, a call sold by the Fund exposes the Fund during the term of the option to possible loss of opportunity to realize appreciation in the market price of the underlying security or instrument and may require the Fund to hold a security or instrument which it might otherwise have sold. As described more fully in the accompanying prospectus, this results in the potential for net asset value erosion. The Fund may purchase and sell put options on securities indices and currencies. In selling put options, there is a

risk that the Fund may be required to buy the underlying security at a disadvantageous price above the market price. **Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts** 

The Fund may use interest rate futures contracts, index futures contracts and foreign currency futures contracts. An interest rate, index or foreign currency futures contract provides for the future sale by one party and purchase by another party of a specified quantity of a financial instrument or the cash value of an index<sup>1</sup> at a specified price and time. A public market exists in futures contracts covering a number of indexes (including, but not limited to: the Standard & Poor s 500 Index, the Russell 2000 Index, the Value Line Composite Index, and the New York Stock Exchange Composite Index) as well as financial instruments (including, but not limited to: U.S. Treasury bonds, U.S. Treasury notes, Eurodollar certificates of deposit and foreign currencies). Other index and financial instrument futures contracts are available and it is expected that additional futures contracts will be developed and traded.

The Fund may purchase and write call and put futures options. Futures options possess many of the same characteristics as options on securities, indexes and foreign currencies (discussed above). A futures option gives the holder the right, in return for the premium paid, to assume a long position (call) or short position (put) in a futures contract at a specified exercise price at any time during the period of the option. Upon exercise of a call option, the holder acquires a long position in the futures contract and the writer is assigned the opposite short position. In the case of a put option, the opposite is true. The Fund might, for example, use futures contracts to hedge against or gain exposure to fluctuations in the general level of stock prices, anticipated changes in interest rates or currency fluctuations that might adversely affect either the value of the Fund s securities or the price of the securities that the Fund intends to purchase. Although other techniques could be used to reduce or increase the Fund s exposure to stock price, interest rate and currency fluctuations, the Fund may be able to achieve its desired exposure more effectively and perhaps at a lower cost by using futures contracts and futures options.

The Fund will only enter into futures contracts and futures options that are standardized and traded on an exchange, board of trade or similar entity, or quoted on an automated quotation system.

The success of any futures transaction depends on Calamos correctly predicting changes in the level and direction of stock prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other factors. Should those predictions be incorrect, the Fund s return might have been better had the transaction not been attempted; however, in the absence of the ability to use futures contracts, Calamos might have taken portfolio actions in anticipation of the same market movements with similar investment results, but, presumably, at greater transaction costs. When a purchase or sale of a futures contract is made by the Fund, the Fund is required to deposit with its custodian (or broker, if legally permitted) a specified amount of cash or U.S. government securities or other securities acceptable to the broker ( initial margin ). The margin required for a futures contract is set by the exchange on which the contract is traded and may be modified during the term of the contract, although the Fund s broker may require margin deposits in excess of the minimum required by the exchange. The initial margin is in the nature of

A futures contract on an index is an agreement pursuant to which two parties agree to take or make delivery of an amount of cash equal to the difference between the value of the index at the

1

close of the last trading day of the contract and the price at which the index contract was originally written. Although the value of a securities index is a function of the value of certain specified securities, no physical delivery of those securities is made.

a performance bond or good faith deposit on the futures contract, which is returned to the Fund upon termination of the contract, assuming all contractual obligations have been satisfied. The Fund expects to earn interest income on its initial margin deposits. A futures contract held by the Fund is valued daily at the official settlement price of the exchange on which it is traded. Each day the Fund pays or receives cash, called variation margin, equal to the daily change in value of the futures contract. This process is known as marking-to-market. Variation margin paid or received by the Fund does not represent a borrowing or loan by the Fund but is instead settlement between the Fund and the broker of the amount one would owe the other if the futures contract had expired at the close of the previous day. In computing net asset value, the Fund will mark-to-market its open futures positions.

The Fund is also required to deposit and maintain margin with respect to put and call options on futures contracts written by it. Such margin deposits will vary depending on the nature of the underlying futures contract (and the related initial margin requirements), the current market value of the option and other futures positions held by the Fund.

Although some futures contracts call for making or taking delivery of the underlying securities, usually these obligations are closed out prior to delivery by offsetting purchases or sales of matching futures contracts (same exchange, underlying security or index, and delivery month). If an offsetting purchase price is less than the original sale price, the Fund engaging in the transaction realizes a capital gain, or if it is more, the Fund realizes a capital loss. Conversely, if an offsetting sale price is more than the original purchase price, the Fund engaging in the transaction realizes a capital loss. The transaction costs must also be included in these calculations.

### **Risks Associated with Futures**

There are several risks associated with the use of futures contracts and futures options. A purchase or sale of a futures contract may result in losses in excess of the amount invested in the futures contract. In trying to increase or reduce market exposure, there can be no guarantee that there will be a correlation between price movements in the futures contract and in the portfolio exposure sought. In addition, there are significant differences between the securities and futures markets that could result in an imperfect correlation between the markets, causing a given transaction not to achieve its objectives. The degree of imperfection of correlation depends on circumstances such as: variations in speculative market demand for futures, futures options and the related securities, including technical influences in futures and futures options trading and differences between the securities markets and the securities underlying the standard contracts available for trading. For example, in the case of index futures contracts, the composition of the index, including the issuers and the weighing of each issue, may differ from the composition of the Fund s portfolio, and, in the case of interest rate futures contracts, the interest rate levels, maturities and creditworthiness of the issues underlying the futures contract may differ from the financial instruments held in the Fund s portfolio. A decision as to whether, when and how to use futures contracts involves the exercise of skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived transaction may be unsuccessful to some degree because of market behavior or unexpected stock price or interest rate trends.

Futures exchanges may limit the amount of fluctuation permitted in certain futures contract prices during a single trading day. The daily limit establishes the maximum amount that the price of a futures contract may vary either up or down from the previous day s settlement price at the end of the current trading session. Once the daily limit has been reached in a futures contract subject to the limit, no more trades may be made on that day at a price beyond that limit. The daily limit governs only price movements during a particular trading day and therefore does not limit potential losses because the limit may work to prevent the liquidation of unfavorable positions. For example, futures prices have occasionally moved to the daily limit for several consecutive trading days with little or no trading, thereby

preventing prompt liquidation of positions and subjecting some holders of futures contracts to substantial losses. Stock index futures contracts are not normally subject to such daily price change limitations.

There can be no assurance that a liquid market will exist at a time when the Fund seeks to close out a futures or futures option position. The Fund would be exposed to possible loss on the position during the interval of inability to close, and would continue to be required to meet margin requirements until the position is closed. In addition, many of the contracts discussed above are relatively new instruments without a significant trading history. As a result, there can be no assurance that an active secondary market will develop or continue to exist.

# **Limitations on Options and Futures**

If other options, futures contracts or futures options of types other than those described herein are traded in the future, the Fund may also use those investment vehicles, provided the Board of Trustees determines that their use is consistent with the Fund s investment objective.

When purchasing a futures contract or writing a put option on a futures contract, the Fund must maintain with its custodian (or broker, if legally permitted) cash or cash equivalents (including any margin) equal to the market value of such contract. When writing a call option on a futures contract, the Fund similarly will maintain with its custodian cash or cash equivalents (including any margin) equal to the amount by which such option is in-the-money until the option expires or is closed by the Fund.

The Fund may not maintain open short positions in futures contracts, call options written on futures contracts or call options written on indexes if, in the aggregate, the market value of all such open positions exceeds the current value of the securities in its portfolio, plus or minus unrealized gains and losses on the open positions, adjusted for the historical relative volatility of the relationship between the portfolio and the positions. For this purpose, to the extent the Fund has written call options on specific securities in its portfolio, the value of those securities will be deducted from the current market value of the securities portfolio.

The Fund has claimed an exclusion from registration as a commodity pool under the Commodity Exchange Act (CEA) and, therefore, the Fund and its officers and trustees are not subject to the registration requirements of the CEA. The Fund reserves the right to engage in transactions involving futures and options thereon to the extent allowed by Commodity Futures Trading Commission regulations in effect from time to time and in accordance with the Fund's policies.

# Warrants

The Fund may invest in warrants. A warrant is a right to purchase common stock at a specific price (usually at a premium above the market value of the underlying common stock at time of issuance) during a specified period of time. A warrant may have a life ranging from less than a year to twenty years or longer, but a warrant becomes worthless unless it is exercised or sold before expiration. In addition, if the market price of the common stock does not exceed the warrant s exercise price during the life of the warrant, the warrant will expire worthless. Warrants have no voting rights, pay no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the corporation issuing them. The percentage increase or decrease in the value of a warrant may be greater than the percentage increase or decrease in the value of the underlying common stock.

# **Portfolio Turnover**

Although the Fund does not purchase securities with a view to rapid turnover, there are no limitations on the length of time that portfolio securities must be held. Portfolio turnover can occur for a number of reasons, including calls for redemption, general conditions in the securities markets, more favorable investment opportunities in other securities, or other factors relating to the desirability of holding or changing a portfolio investment. The portfolio turnover rates may vary greatly from year to year. A high rate of portfolio turnover in the Fund would result in increased transaction expense. High portfolio turnover may also result in the realization of capital gains or losses and, to the extent net short-term capital gains are realized, any distributions resulting from such gains will be taxed at ordinary income tax rates for federal income tax purposes.

# **Short Sales**

The Fund may attempt to hedge against market risk and to enhance income by selling short against the box, that is: (1) entering into short sales of securities that it currently has the right to acquire through the conversion or exchange of other securities that it owns, or to a lesser extent, entering into short sales of securities that it currently owns; and (2) entering into arrangements with the broker-dealers through which such securities are sold short to receive income with respect to the proceeds of short sales during the period the Fund s short positions remain open. The Fund may make short sales of securities only if at all times when a short position is open the Fund owns an equal amount of such securities or securities convertible into or exchangeable for, without payment of any further consideration, securities of the same issue as, and equal in amount to, the securities sold short.

In a short sale against the box, the Fund does not deliver from its portfolio the securities sold and does not receive immediately the proceeds from the short sale. Instead, the Fund borrows the securities sold short from a broker-dealer through which the short sale is executed, and the broker-dealer delivers such securities, on behalf of the Fund, to the purchaser of such securities. Such broker-dealer is entitled to retain the proceeds from the short sale until the Fund delivers to such broker-dealer the securities sold short. In addition, the Fund is required to pay to the broker-dealer the amount of any dividends paid on shares sold short. Finally, to secure its obligation to deliver to such broker-dealer the securities sold short or securities convertible into or exchangeable for such securities without the payment of additional consideration. The Fund is said to have a short position in the securities sold until it delivers to the broker-dealer the securities sold, at which time the Fund receives the proceeds of the sale. Because the Fund ordinarily will want to continue to hold securities in its portfolio that are sold short, the Fund will normally close out a short position by purchasing on the open market and delivering to the broker-dealer an equal amount of the securities sold short, rather than by delivering portfolio securities.

A short sale works the same way, except that the Fund places in the segregated account cash or U.S. government securities equal in value to the difference between (i) the market value of the securities sold short at the time they were sold short and (ii) any cash or U.S. government securities required to be deposited with the broker as collateral. In addition, so long as the short position is open, the Fund must adjust daily the value of the segregated account so that the amount deposited in it, plus any amount deposited with the broker as collateral, will equal the current market value of the segregated account, plus any amount deposited with the broker, is equal to the market value of the securities sold short. However, the value of the broker, is equal to the market value of the securities sold short at the time they were sold short.

Short sales may protect the Fund against the risk of losses in the value of its portfolio securities because any unrealized losses with respect to such portfolio securities should be wholly or partially offset by a corresponding gain in the short position. However, any potential gains in such portfolio securities should be wholly or partially offset by a corresponding loss in the short position. The extent to which such gains or losses are offset will depend upon the amount of securities sold short relative to the amount the Fund owns, either directly or indirectly, and, in the case where the Fund owns convertible securities, changes in the conversion premium.

Short sale transactions of the Fund involve certain risks. In particular, the imperfect correlation between the price movements of the convertible securities and the price movements of the underlying common stock being sold short creates the possibility that losses on the short sale hedge position may be greater than gains in the value of the portfolio securities being hedged. In addition, to the extent that the Fund pays a conversion premium for a convertible security, the Fund is generally unable to protect against a loss of such premium pursuant to a short sale hedge. In determining the number of shares to be sold short against the Fund s position in the convertible securities, the anticipated fluctuation in the conversion premiums is considered. The Fund will also incur transaction costs in connection with short sales. Certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ) (and related Treasury Regulations thereunder), may limit the degree to which the Fund is able to enter into short sales and other transactions with similar effects without triggering adverse tax consequences, which limitations might impair the Fund s ability to achieve its investment objective. See Federal Income Tax Matters.

In addition to enabling the Fund to hedge against market risk, short sales may afford the Fund an opportunity to earn additional current income to the extent the Fund is able to enter into arrangements with broker-dealers through which the short sales are executed to receive income with respect to the proceeds of the short sales during the period the Fund s short positions remain open.

# **Interest Rate Transactions**

In order to seek to reduce the interest rate risk inherent in the Fund s underlying investments and capital structure, the Fund, if market conditions are deemed favorable, may enter into interest rate swap or cap transactions to attempt to protect itself from increasing dividend or interest expenses on its leverage. Interest rate swaps involve the Fund s agreement with the swap counterparty to pay a fixed rate payment in exchange for the counterparty agreeing to pay the Fund a payment at a variable rate that is expected to approximate the rate on any variable rate payment obligation on the Fund s leverage. The payment obligations would be based on the notional amount of the swap. The Fund may use an interest rate cap, which would require it to pay a premium to the cap counterparty and would entitle it, to the extent that a specified variable rate index exceeds a predetermined fixed rate, to receive from the counterparty payment of the difference based on the notional amount. The Fund would use interest rate swaps or caps only with the intent to reduce or eliminate the risk that an increase in short-term interest rates could have on common share net earnings as a result of leverage.

The Fund will usually enter into swaps or caps on a net basis; that is, the two payment streams will be netted out in a cash settlement on the payment date or dates specified in the instrument, with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments. The Fund intends to maintain in a segregated account with its custodian cash or liquid securities having a value at least equal to the Fund s net payment obligations under any swap transaction, marked-to-market daily.

The use of interest rate swaps and caps is a highly specialized activity that involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio security transactions. Depending on the state of interest rates in general, the Fund s use of interest rate swaps or caps could enhance or harm the overall performance on the common shares. To the extent there is a decline in

interest rates, the value of the interest rate swap or cap could decline, and could result in a decline in the net asset value of the common shares. In addition, if short-term interest rates are lower than the Fund s fixed rate of payment on the interest rate swap, the swap will reduce common share net earnings. If, on the other hand, short-term interest rates are higher than the fixed rate of payment on the interest rate swap, the swap will enhance common share net earnings. Buying interest rate caps could enhance the performance of the common shares by providing a maximum leverage expense. Buying interest rate caps could also decrease the net earnings of the common shares in the event that the premium paid by the Fund to the counterparty exceeds the additional amount the Fund would have been required to pay had it not entered into the cap agreement. The Fund has no current intention of selling an interest rate swap or cap.

Interest rate swaps and caps do not involve the delivery of securities or other underlying assets or principal. Accordingly, the risk of loss with respect to interest rate swaps is limited to the net amount of interest payments that the Fund is contractually obligated to make. If the counterparty defaults, the Fund would not be able to use the anticipated net receipts under the swap or cap to offset the dividend or interest payments on the Fund 's leverage. Depending on whether the Fund would be entitled to receive net payments from the counterparty on the swap or cap, which in turn would depend on the general state of short-term interest rates at that point in time, such a default could negatively impact the performance of the common shares.

Although this will not guarantee that the counterparty does not default, the Fund will not enter into an interest rate swap or cap transaction with any counter-party that Calamos believes does not have the financial resources to honor its obligation under the interest rate swap or cap transaction. Further, Calamos will continually monitor the financial stability of a counterparty to an interest rate swap or cap transaction in an effort to proactively protect the Fund s investments.

In addition, at the time the interest rate swap or cap transaction reaches its scheduled termination date, there is a risk that the Fund would not be able to obtain a replacement transaction or that the terms of the replacement would not be as favorable as on the expiring transaction. If this occurs, it could have a negative impact on the performance of the Fund s common shares.

The Fund may choose or be required to redeem some or all of the preferred shares or prepay any borrowings. Such redemption or prepayment would likely result in the Fund seeking to terminate early all or a portion of any swap or cap transaction. Such early termination of a swap could result in termination payment by or to the Fund. An early termination of a cap could result in a termination payment to the Fund.

# When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Securities and Reverse Repurchase Agreements

The Fund may purchase securities on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis. Although the payment and interest terms of these securities are established at the time the Fund enters into the commitment, the securities may be delivered and paid for a month or more after the date of purchase, when their value may have changed. The Fund makes such commitments only with the intention of actually acquiring the securities, but may sell the securities before settlement date if Calamos deems it advisable for investment reasons. The Fund may utilize spot and forward foreign currency exchange transactions to reduce the risk inherent in fluctuations in the exchange rate between one currency and another when securities are purchased or sold on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis.

The Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements with banks and securities dealers. A reverse repurchase agreement is a repurchase agreement in which the Fund is the seller of, rather than the investor in, securities and agrees to repurchase them at an agreed-upon time and price. Use of a reverse

repurchase agreement may be preferable to a regular sale and later repurchase of securities because it avoids certain market risks and transaction costs.

At the time when the Fund enters into a binding obligation to purchase securities on a when-issued basis or enters into a reverse repurchase agreement, liquid securities (cash, U.S. Government securities or other high-grade debt obligations) of the Fund having a value at least as great as the purchase price of the securities to be purchased will be segregated on the books of the Fund and held by the custodian throughout the period of the obligation. The use of these investment strategies may increase net asset value fluctuation.

# **Illiquid Securities**

The Fund may invest up to 15% of its managed assets in securities that, at the time of investment, are illiquid (determined using the Commission s standard applicable to investment companies, i.e., securities that cannot be disposed of within 7 days in the ordinary course of business at approximately the value at which the Fund has valued the securities). The Fund may invest without limitation in securities that have not been registered for public sale, but that are eligible for purchase and sale by certain qualified institutional buyers. Calamos, under the supervision of the Board of Trustees, will determine whether securities purchased under Rule 144A are illiquid (that is, not readily marketable) and thus subject to the Fund s limit on investing no more than 15% of its managed assets in illiquid securities. Investments in Rule 144A Securities could have the effect of increasing the amount of the Fund s assets invested in illiquid securities if qualified institutional buyers are unwilling to purchase these Rule 144A Securities. Illiquid securities may be difficult to dispose of at a fair price at the times when the Fund believes it is desirable to do so. The market price of illiquid securities generally is more volatile than that of more liquid securities, which may adversely affect the price that the Fund pays for or recovers upon the sale of illiquid securities. Illiquid securities are also more difficult to value and Calamos judgment may play a greater role in the valuation process. Investment of the Fund s assets in illiquid securities may restrict the Fund s ability to take advantage of market opportunities. The risks associated with illiquid securities may be particularly acute in situations in which the Fund s operations require cash and could result in the Fund borrowing to meet its short-term needs or incurring losses on the sale of illiquid securities.

The Fund may invest in bonds, corporate loans, convertible securities, preferred stocks and other securities that lack a secondary trading market or are otherwise considered illiquid. Liquidity of a security relates to the ability to easily dispose of the security and the price to be obtained upon disposition of the security, which may be less than would be obtained for a comparable more liquid security. Such investments may affect the Fund s ability to realize the net asset value in the event of a voluntary or involuntary liquidation of its assets.

# **Temporary Defensive Investments**

The Fund may make temporary investments without limitation when Calamos determines that a defensive position is warranted in securities with remaining maturities of less than one year, cash equivalents or cash. Such investments may be in money market instruments, consisting of obligations of, or guaranteed as to principal and interest by, the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities; certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances and other obligations of domestic banks having total assets of at least \$500 million and that are regulated by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities; commercial paper rated in the highest category by a recognized rating agency; and repurchase agreements.

#### **Repurchase Agreements**

As part of its strategy for the temporary investment of cash, the Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with member banks of the Federal Reserve System or primary dealers (as designated by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York) in such securities. A repurchase agreement arises when the Fund purchases a security and simultaneously agrees to resell it to the vendor at an agreed upon future date. The resale price is greater than the purchase price, reflecting an agreed upon market rate of return that is effective for the period of time the Fund holds the security and that is not related to the coupon rate on the purchased security. Such agreements generally have maturities of no more than seven days and could be used to permit the Fund to earn interest on assets awaiting long-term investment. The Fund requires continuous maintenance by the custodian for the Fund s account in the Federal Reserve/Treasury Book Entry System of collateral in an amount equal to, or in excess of, the market value of the securities that are the subject of a repurchase agreement. Repurchase agreements maturing in more than seven days are considered illiquid securities. In the event of a bankruptcy or other default of a seller of a repurchase agreement, the Fund could experience both delays in liquidating the underlying security and losses, including: (a) possible decline in the value of the underlying security during the period while the Fund seeks to enforce its rights thereto; (b) possible subnormal levels of income and lack of access to income during this period; and (c) expenses of enforcing its rights. **Real Estate Investment Funds ( REITS ) and Associated Risk Factors** 

# Real Estate Investment Funds (REIIs) and Associated Risk Factors

REITs are pooled investment vehicles which invest primarily in income producing real estate or real estate related loans or interests. REITs are generally classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs or a combination of equity and mortgage REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive income primarily from the collection of rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive income from the collection of interest payments. REITs are not subject to federal income tax on income and gains distributed to shareholders provided they comply with the applicable requirements of the Code. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management and other expenses paid by REITs in which it invests in addition to the expenses paid by the Fund. Debt securities issued by REITs are, for the most part, general and unsecured obligations and are subject to risks associated with REITs.

Investing in REITs involves certain unique risks in addition to those risks associated with investing in the real estate industry in general. An equity REIT may be affected by changes in the value of the underlying properties owned by the REIT. A mortgage REIT may be affected by changes in interest rates and the ability of the issuers of its portfolio mortgages to repay their obligations. REITs are dependent upon the skills of their managers and are not diversified. REITs are generally dependent upon maintaining cash flows to repay borrowings and to make distributions to shareholders and are subject to the risk of default by lessees or borrowers. REITs whose underlying assets are concentrated in properties used by a particular industry, such as health care, are also subject to risks associated with such industry.

REITs (especially mortgage REITs) are also subject to interest rate risks. When interest rates decline, the value of a REIT s investment in fixed rate obligations can be expected to rise. Conversely, when interest rates rise, the value of a REIT s investment in fixed rate obligations can be expected to decline. If the REIT invests in adjustable rate mortgage loans the interest rates on which are reset periodically, yields on a REIT s investments in such loans will gradually align themselves to reflect changes in market interest rates. This causes the value of such investments to fluctuate less dramatically in response to interest rate fluctuations than would investments in fixed rate obligations.

REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in a limited volume and may be subject to more abrupt or erratic price movements than larger company securities. Historically REITs have been more volatile in price than the larger capitalization stocks included in Standard & Poor s 500 Stock Index.

# **Other Investment Companies**

The Fund may invest in the securities of other investment companies to the extent that such investments are consistent with the Fund s investment objective and policies and permissible under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act ). Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may not acquire the securities of other domestic or non-U.S. investment companies if, as a result, (i) more than 10% of the Fund s total assets would be invested in securities of other investment companies, (ii) such purchase would result in more than 3% of the total outstanding voting securities of any one investment company being held by the Fund, or (iii) more than 5% of the Fund s total assets would be invested in any one investment company. These limitations do not apply to the purchase of shares of money market funds or any investment company in connection with a merger, consolidation, reorganization or acquisition of substantially all the assets of another investment company.

The Fund, as a holder of the securities of other investment companies, will bear its pro rata portion of the other investment companies expenses, including advisory fees. These expenses are in addition to the direct expenses of the Fund s own operations.

# **INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS**

The following are the Fund s fundamental investment restrictions. These restrictions may not be changed without the approval of the holders of a majority of the Fund s outstanding voting securities (which for this purpose and under the 1940 Act means the lesser of (i) 67% of the common shares represented at a meeting at which more than 50% of the outstanding common shares are represented or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding common shares). As long as preferred shares are outstanding, the investment restrictions can not be changed without the approval of a majority of the outstanding common and preferred shares, voting together as a class, and the approval of a majority of the outstanding preferred shares, voting separately by class.

The Fund may not:

- (1) Issue senior securities, except as permitted by the 1940 Act and the rules and interpretive positions of the Commission thereunder.
- (2) Borrow money, except as permitted by the 1940 Act and the rules and interpretive positions of the Commission thereunder.
- (3) Invest in real estate, except that the Fund may invest in securities of issuers that invest in real estate or interests therein, securities that are secured by real estate or interests therein, securities of real estate investment funds and mortgage-backed securities.
- (4) Make loans, except by the purchase of debt obligations, by entering into repurchase agreements or through the lending of portfolio securities and as otherwise permitted by the 1940 Act and the rules and interpretive positions of the Commission thereunder.

- (5) Invest in physical commodities or contracts relating to physical commodities.
- (6) Act as an underwriter, except as it may be deemed to be an underwriter in a sale of securities held in its portfolio.
- (7) Make any investment inconsistent with the Fund s classification as a diversified investment company under the 1940 Act and the rules and interpretive positions of the Commission thereunder.
- (8) Concentrate its investments in securities of companies in any particular industry as defined in the 1940 Act and the rules and interpretive positions of the Commission thereunder.

All other investment policies of the Fund are considered non-fundamental and may be changed by the Board of Trustees without prior approval of the Fund s outstanding voting shares.

Currently under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to issue preferred shares unless immediately after such issuance the net asset value of the Fund s portfolio is at least 200% of the liquidation value of the outstanding preferred shares (i.e., such liquidation value may not exceed 50% of the value of the Fund s total assets). In addition, currently under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to declare any cash dividend or other distribution on its common shares unless, at the time of such declaration, the net asset value of the Fund s portfolio (determined after deducting the amount of such dividend or distribution) is at least 200% of such liquidation value plus any senior securities representing indebtedness. Currently under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to incur indebtedness unless immediately after such borrowing the Fund has asset coverage of at least 300% of the value of the Fund s total assets). Additionally, currently under the 1940 Act, the Fund may not exceed 33 1/3% of the value of the Fund s total assets). Additionally, currently under the 1940 Act, the Fund may not declare any dividend or other distribution upon any class of its shares, or purchase any such shares, unless the aggregate indebtedness of the Fund has, at the time of the declaration of any such dividend or distribution or at the time of any such purchase, an asset coverage of at least 300% after deducting the amount of such dividend, distribution, or purchase price, as the case may be.

Currently under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to lend money or property to any person, directly or indirectly, if such person controls or is under common control with the Fund, except for a loan from the Fund to a company which owns all of the outstanding securities of the Fund, except directors qualifying shares.

Currently, under interpretive positions of the SEC, the Fund may not have on loan at any time securities representing more than one third of its total assets.

Currently under the 1940 Act, a senior security does not include any promissory note or evidence of indebtedness where such loan is for temporary purposes only and in an amount not exceeding 5% of the value of the total assets of the issuer at the time the loan is made. A loan is presumed to be for temporary purposes if it is repaid within sixty days and is not extended or renewed.

Currently, the Fund would be deemed to concentrate in a particular industry if it invested 25% or more of its total assets in that industry.

Currently under the 1940 Act, a diversified company means a management company which meets the following requirements: at least 75% of the value of its total assets is represented by cash and cash items (including receivables), government securities, securities of other investment companies, and

other securities for the purposes of this calculation limited in respect of any one issuer to an amount not greater in value than 5% of the value of the total assets of such management company and not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer.

Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may invest up to 10% of its total assets in the aggregate in shares of other investment companies and up to 5% of its total assets in any one investment company, provided the investment does not represent more than 3% of the voting stock of the acquired investment company at the time such shares are purchased. These limitations, however, do not apply to the purchase of shares of money market funds. As a shareholder in any investment company, the Fund will bear its ratable share of that investment company s expenses, and would remain subject to payment of the Fund s advisory fees and other expenses with respect to assets so invested. Holders of common shares would therefore be subject to duplicative expenses to the extent the Fund invests in other investment companies. In addition, the securities of other investment companies may also be leveraged and will therefore be subject to the same leverage risks described herein and in the prospectus. As described in the prospectus in the section entitled Risks, the net asset value and market value of leveraged shares will be more volatile and the yield to shareholders will tend to fluctuate more than the yield generated by unleveraged shares.

In addition, to comply with federal income tax requirements for qualification as a regulated investment company, the Fund s investments will be limited by both an income and an asset test. See Federal Income Tax Matters.

As a non-fundamental policy, the Fund may not issue preferred shares, borrow money or issue debt securities in an aggregate amount exceeding 38% of the Fund s total assets.

# MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

#### **Trustees and Officers**

The Fund s Board of Trustees provides broad oversight over the Fund s affairs. The officers of the Fund are responsible for the Fund s operations. The Fund s Trustees and officers are listed below, together with their age, positions held with the Fund, term of office and length of service and principal occupations during the past five years. Asterisks indicates those Trustees who are interested persons of the Fund within the meaning of the 1940 Act, and they are referred to as Interested Trustees. Trustees who are not interested persons of the Fund are referred to as Independent Trustees. Each of the Trustees serves as a Trustee of other investment companies (17 U. S. registered investment portfolios) for which Calamos serves as investment adviser (collectively, the Calamos Funds ). The address for all Independent and Interested Trustees and all officers of the Fund is 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563.

# **Trustees Who Are Interested Persons of the Fund:**

<b>Position(s) with</b>		Principal Occupation(s) and Other	
		Portfolios	
Name and Age	Fund	Overseen	Directorships
John P. Calamos, Sr.,	Trustee and President	19	Chairman, CEO, and Co-Chief Investment
67*			Officer, Calamos Asset Management, Inc.
			( CAM ), Calamos Holdings LLC ( CHLLC )
			and Calamos Advisors LLC and its
			predecessor ( Calamos Advisors ), and
			President and Co-Chief Investment Officer,
			Calamos Financial Services LLC and its
			predecessor ( CFS ); Director, CAM
		S-25	-

# **Trustees Who Are Not Interested Persons of the Fund:**

	Position(s) with		Principal Occupation(s) and Other
<b>Name and Age</b> Joe F. Hanauer, 70	Fund Trustee (since inception)	Portfolios Overseen 19	<b>Directorships</b> Private investor; Director, MAF Bancorp (bank holding company); Chairman and Director, Move, Inc. (internet provider of real estate information and products); Director, Combined Investments, L.P. (investment management)
Weston W. Marsh, 57	Trustee (since inception)	19	Of Counsel, Partner, Freeborn & Peters (law firm)
John E. Neal, 57	Trustee (since inception)	19	Private investor; Managing Director, Banc One Capital Markets, Inc. (investment banking) (2000-2004); Director, Focused Health Services (private disease management company), Equity Residential (publicly-owned REIT), Ranir LLC (oral products company) and CBA Commercial (commercial mortgage securitization company); Partner, Private Perfumery LLC (private label perfume company) and Linden LLC (health care private equity)
William R. Rybak, 56	Trustee (since inception)	19	Private investor; formerly Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Van Kampen Investments, Inc. and subsidiaries (investment manager); Director, Howe Barnes Hoefer Arnett, Inc. (investment services firm) and PrivateBancorp, Inc. (bank holding company); Trustee, JNL Series Trust, JNL Investors Series Trust, JNL Variable Fund LLC and JNLNY Variable Fund I LLC**
Stephen B. Timbers, 63	Trustee (since inception)	19	Private investor; formerly Vice Chairman, Northern Trust Corporation (bank holding company); formerly President and Chief Executive Officer, Northern Trust Investments, N. A. (investment manager); formerly President, Northern Trust Global Investments, a division of Northern Trust Corporation and Executive Vice President, The Northern Trust Corporation; formerly, Director, Northern Trust Securities, Inc.
David D. Tripple, 63	Trustee (since 2006)	19	

Private investor; Trustee, Century Shares Trust and Century Small Cap Select Fund\*\*\*

\* Mr. Calamos is an interested person of the Trust as defined in the 1940 Act because he is an affiliate of Calamos Advisors and Calamos Financial Services LLC.

- \*\* Overseeing 94 portfolios in fund complex.
- \*\*\* Overseeing two portfolios in fund complex.
  The address of the Trustees is 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563.

*Officers.* The preceding table gives information about Mr. John Calamos, who is president of the Fund. The following table sets forth each other officer s name and age as of the date of this statement of additional information, position with the Fund and date first appointed to that position, and principal occupation(s) during the past five years. Each officer serves until his or her successor is chosen and qualified or until his or her resignation or removal by the board of trustees.

<b>Name and Age</b> Nimish S. Bhatt, 44	<b>Position(s) with Fund</b> Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (since 2008)	Principal Occupation(s) and Other Directorships Senior Vice President and Director of Operations, CAM, CHLLC, Calamos Advisors and CFS (since 2004); Treasurer of the Fund (2004-2008); Senior Vice President, Alternative Investments and Tax Services, The BISYS Group, Inc., prior thereto		
Nick P. Calamos, 46	Vice President (since inception)	Senior Executive Vice President and Co-Chief Investment Officer, CAM, CHLLC, Calamos Advisors and CFS		
Patrick H. Dudasik, 52	Vice President (since inception)	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer, CAM and CHLLC (since 2004), Calamos Advisors and CFS (2001-2005)		
Cheryl L. Hampton, 38	Treasurer (since 2007)	Vice President, Calamos Advisors (since March 2007); Tax Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (1999 2007)		
Stathy Darcy, 41	Secretary (since 2007)	Vice President and Associate Counsel, Calamos Advisors (since 2006); prior thereto, Partner, Chapman and Cutler LLP (law firm)		
Mark J. Mickey, 56	Chief Compliance Officer (since 2005)	Chief Compliance Officer, Calamos Funds (since 2005) and Chief Compliance Officer, Calamos Advisors (2005-2006); Director of Risk Assessment and Internal Audit, Calamos Advisors (2003-2005); President, Mark Mickey Consulting (2002-2003)		

The address of each officer is 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563.

The Fund's Board of Trustees consists of seven members. In accordance with the Fund's Agreement and Declaration of Trust, the Board of Trustees is divided into three classes of approximately equal size. The terms of the trustees of the different classes are staggered. The terms of John P. Calamos, Weston W. Marsh and William R. Rybak will expire at the annual meeting of shareholders in 2008. The terms of Joe F. Hanauer, John E. Neal and David D. Tripple will expire at the annual meeting of shareholders in 2009. The term of Stephen B. Timbers will expire at the annual meeting of shareholders in 2009. The term of Stephen B. Timbers will expire at the annual meeting of shareholders in 2009. The term of Stephen B. Timbers will expire at the annual meeting of shareholders in 2009. The term of Stephen B. Timbers will expire at the annual meeting of shareholders in 2009. The term of Stephen B. Timbers will expire at the annual meeting of shareholders in 2009. The term of Stephen B. Timbers will expire at the annual meeting of shareholders in 2010. Messrs. Rybak and Timbers are the Trustees who represent the holders of preferred shares. Such classification of the Trustees may prevent the replacement of a majority of the Trustees for up to a two year period. Each of the Fund's officers serves until his or her successor is chosen and qualified or until his or her resignation or removal by the Board of Trustees.

Committees of the Board of Trustees. The Fund s Board of Trustees currently has four standing committees:

<u>Executive Committee</u>. Messrs. John Calamos and Stephen B. Timbers are members of the Executive Committee, which has authority during intervals between meetings of the Board of Trustees to exercise the powers of the Board, with certain exceptions.

<u>Audit Committee</u>. Stephen B. Timbers, Joe F. Hanauer, John E. Neal, William R. Rybak, Weston W. Marsh and David D. Tripple, each a non-interested Trustee, serve on the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee approves the selection of the independent auditors to the Trustees, approves services to be rendered by the auditors, monitors the auditors performance, reviews the results of the Fund s audit, determines whether to recommend to the Board that the Fund s audited financial statements be included in the Fund s annual report and responds to other matters deemed appropriate by the Board of Trustees.

<u>Governance Committee</u>. Stephen B. Timbers, Joe F. Hanauer, John E. Neal, William R. Rybak, Weston W. Marsh and David D. Tripple, each a non-interested Trustee, serve on the Governance Committee. The Governance Committee oversees the independence and effective functioning of the Board of Trustees and endeavors to be informed about good practices for fund boards. The members of the Governance Committee make recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding candidates for election as non-interested Trustees. The Governance Committee will consider shareholder recommendations regarding potential candidates for nomination as Trustees properly submitted to the Governance Committee for its consideration. A Fund shareholder who wishes to nominate a candidate to the Fund s Board of Trustees must submit any such recommendation in writing via regular mail to the attention of the Fund s Secretary, at the address of the Fund s principal executive offices. The shareholder recommendation must include:

the number and class of all Fund shares owned beneficially and of record by the nominating shareholder at the time the recommendation is submitted and the dates on which such shares were acquired, specifying the number of shares owned beneficially;

a full listing of the proposed candidate s education, experience (including knowledge of the investment company industry, experience as a director or senior officer of public or private companies, and directorships on other boards of other registered investment companies), current employment, date of birth, business and residence address, and the names and addresses of at least three professional references;

information as to whether the candidate is, has been or may be an interested person (as such term is defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund, Calamos or any of its affiliates, and, if believed not to be or have been an interested person, information regarding the candidate that will be sufficient for the Committee to make such determination;

the written and signed consent of the candidate to be named as a nominee and to serve as a Trustee of the Fund, if elected;

a description of all arrangements or understandings between the nominating shareholder, the candidate and/or any other person or persons (including their names) pursuant to which the shareholder recommendation is being made, and if none, so specify;

the class or series and number of all shares of the Fund owned of record or beneficially by the candidate, as reported by the candidate; and

such other information that would be helpful to the Governance Committee in evaluating the candidate. The Governance Committee may require the nominating shareholder to furnish other information it may reasonably require or deem necessary to verify any information furnished pursuant to the procedures delineated above or to determine the qualifications and eligibility of the candidate proposed by the nominating shareholder to serve as a Trustee. If the nominating shareholder fails to provide such

# Edgar Filing: CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND - Form N-2/A

### **Table of Contents**

additional information in writing within seven days of receipt of a written request from the Governance Committee, the recommendation of such candidate as a nominee will be deemed not properly submitted for consideration, and the Governance Committee is not required to consider such candidate. During periods when the Governance Committee is not actively recruiting new Trustees, shareholder recommendations will be kept on file until active recruitment is under way. After consideration of a shareholder recommendation, the Governance Committee may dispose of the shareholder recommendation.

<u>Dividend Committee</u>. Mr. Calamos serves as the sole member of the dividend committee. The dividend committee is authorized to declare distributions on the Fund s shares including, but not limited to, regular dividends, special dividends and short- and long-term capital gains distributions.

<u>Valuation Committee</u>. David D. Tripple, Stephen B. Timbers and Weston W. Marsh, each a non-interested Trustee, serve on the Valuation Committee. The Valuation Committee oversees the implementation of the valuation procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees. The members of the Valuation Committee make recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding valuation matters relating to the Fund.

In addition to the above committees, there is a Board of Trustees directed pricing committee comprised of officers of the Fund and employees of Calamos.

The following table identifies the number of meetings the Board of Trustees and each committee held during the fiscal year ended October 31, 2007.

	Number of Meetings During Fiscal Year Ended October 31, 2007
Board of Trustees	6
Executive Committee	0
Audit Committee	5
Governance Committee	2
Dividend Committee	0
Valuation Committee	3

The Fund s Agreement and Declaration of Trust provides that the Fund will indemnify the Trustees and officers against liabilities and expenses incurred in connection with any claim in which they may be involved because of their offices with the Fund, unless it is determined in the manner specified in the Agreement and Declaration of Trust that they have not acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that their actions were in the best interests of the Fund or that such indemnification would relieve any officer or Trustee of any liability to the Fund or its shareholders by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of his or her duties.

*Compensation of Officers and Trustees.* The Fund pays no salaries or compensation to any of its officers or to the Trustees who are affiliated persons of Calamos. The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the compensation paid to each Trustee by the Fund and the Calamos Fund Complex as a group. Compensation from the Fund is for the current calendar year and is estimated. Total compensation from the Calamos Fund Complex as a group is for the [calendar year ended December 31, 2006].

Name of Trustee	Estimated Aggregate Compensation From Fund		Total Compensation From Calamos Fund Complex <sup>(1)</sup> *	
John P. Calamos, Sr.	\$	0	\$	0
Joe F. Hanauer	\$	11,795	\$	131,000
Weston W. Marsh	\$	13,173	\$	146,000
John E. Neal	\$	13,909	\$	154,000
William R. Rybak	\$	12,989	\$	144,000
Steve B. Timbers	\$	16,853	\$	186,000
David D. Tripple	\$	14,093	\$	156,000

(1) Includes fees that may have been deferred during the year pursuant to a deferred compensation plan with Calamos Investment Trust. Deferred amounts are treated as though such amounts have been invested and reinvested in shares of one or more of the portfolios of the Calamos Investment Trust selected by the Trustee.

\* The Calamos Fund Complex consists of seven investment companies and each applicable series thereunder including the Fund, Calamos Investment Trust, Calamos Advisors Trust, Calamos Convertible Opportunities and Income Fund, Calamos Convertible and High Income Fund, Calamos Global Dynamic Income Fund and Calamos

Global Total

Return Fund.

The Fund has adopted a deferred compensation plan (the Plan ). Under the Plan, a Trustee who is not an interested person of Calamos and who has elected to participate in the Plan ( participating Trustees ) may defer receipt of all or a portion of his compensation from Fund in order to defer payment

of income taxes or for other reasons. The deferred compensation payable to the participating Trustee is credited to Trustee s deferral account as of the business day such compensation would have been paid to the Trustee. The value of a Trustee s deferred compensation account at any time is equal to what would be the value if the amounts credited to the account had instead been invested in shares of one or more of the portfolios of Calamos Investment Trust as designated by the Trustee. Thus, the value of the account increases with contributions to the account or with increases in the value of the measuring shares, and the value of the account decreases with withdrawals from the account or with declines in the value of the measuring shares. If a participating trustee retires, the Trustee may elect to receive payments under the plan in a lump sum or in equal installments over a period of five years. If a participating Trustee dies, any amount payable under the Plan will be paid to the Trustee s beneficiaries.

*Ownership of Shares of the Fund and Other Calamos Funds.* The following table indicates the value of shares that each Trustee beneficially owns in the Fund and the Calamos Fund Complex in the aggregate. The value of shares of the Calamos Funds is determined on the basis of the net asset value of the class of shares held as of December 31, 2007. The value of the shares held, are stated in ranges in accordance with the requirements of the Commission. The table reflects the Trustee s beneficial ownership of shares of the Calamos Fund Complex. Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the Commission.

	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in all Registered Investment Companies in the	
Name of Trustee	Fund	Calamos Funds	
Interested Trustees:			
John P. Calamos	Over \$100,000	Over \$100,000	
Non-Interested Trustees:			
Joe F. Hanauer	None	Over \$100,000	
Weston W. Marsh	\$50,001 100,000	Over \$100,000	
John E. Neal	Over \$100,000	Over \$100,000	
William Rybak	None	Over \$100,000	
Stephen B. Timbers	Over \$100,000	Over \$100,000	
David D. Tripple	\$50,001 100,000	Over \$100,000	
Code of Fthics. The Fund and Calamos have adopted	ed a code of ethics under Rule 17i-1 o	of the 1940 Act which is	

*Code of Ethics*. The Fund and Calamos have adopted a code of ethics under Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act which is applicable to officers, directors/Trustees and designated employees of Calamos and CFS. Employees of Calamos and CFS are permitted to make personal securities transactions, including transactions in securities that the Fund may purchase, sell or hold, subject to requirements and restrictions set forth in the code of ethics of Calamos and CFS. The code of ethics contains provisions and requirements designed to identify and address certain conflicts of interest between personal investment activities of Calamos and CFS employees and the interests of investment advisory clients such as the Fund. Among other things, the code of ethics prohibits certain types of transactions absent prior approval, imposes time periods during which personal transactions may not be made in certain securities transactions. Additional restrictions apply to portfolio managers, traders, research analysts and others involved in the investment advisory process. Exceptions to these and other provisions of the code of ethics may be granted in particular circumstances after review by appropriate personnel. Text only versions of the code of ethics can be viewed online or downloaded from the EDGAR Database on the Commission s internet web site a<u>t www.sec.go</u>v. You may review and copy the code of ethics by visiting the Commission s Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the Commission at 202-551-8090. In addition,

of the code of ethics may be obtained, after mailing the appropriate duplicating fee, by writing to the Commission s Public Reference Section, Washington, DC 20549-0102 or by e-mail request at <u>publicinfo@sec.gov</u>.

*Proxy Voting Procedures.* The Fund has delegated proxy voting responsibilities to Calamos, subject to the Board of Trustees general oversight. The Fund expects Calamos to vote proxies related to the Fund s portfolio securities for which the Fund has voting authority consistent with the Fund s best economic interests. Calamos has adopted its own Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (Policies). The Policies address, among other things, conflicts of interest that may arise between the interests of the Fund, and the interests of the adviser and its affiliates.

The following is a summary of the Policies used by Calamos in voting proxies.

To assist it in voting proxies, Calamos has established a Committee comprised of members of its Portfolio Management and Research Departments. The Committee and/or its members will vote proxies using the following guidelines.

In general, if Calamos believes that a company s management and board have interests sufficiently aligned with the Fund s interest, Calamos will vote in favor of proposals recommended by a company s board. More specifically, Calamos seeks to ensure that the board of directors of a company is sufficiently aligned with security holders interests and provides proper oversight of the company s management. In many cases this may be best accomplished by having a majority of independent board members. Although Calamos will examine board member elections on a case-by-case basis, it will generally vote for the election of directors that would result in a board comprised of a majority of independent directors.

Because of the enormous variety and complexity of transactions that are presented to shareholders, such as mergers, acquisitions, reincorporations, adoptions of anti-takeover measures (including adoption of a shareholder rights plan, requiring supermajority voting on particular issues, adoption of fair price provisions, issuance of blank check preferred stocks and the creation of a separate class of stock with unequal voting rights), changes to capital structures (including authorizing additional shares, repurchasing stock or approving a stock split), executive compensation and option plans, that occur in a variety of industries, companies and market cycles, it is extremely difficult to foresee exactly what would be in the best interests of the Fund in all circumstances. Moreover, voting on such proposals involves considerations unique to each transaction. Accordingly, Calamos will vote on a case-by-case basis on proposals presenting these transactions.

Finally, Calamos has established procedures to help resolve conflicts of interests that might arise when voting proxies for the Fund. These procedures provide that the Committee, along with Calamos Legal and Compliance Departments, will examine conflicts of interests with the Fund of which Calamos is aware and seek to resolve such conflicts in the best interests of the Fund, irrespective of any such conflict. If a member of the Committee has a personal conflict of interest, that member will refrain from voting and the remainder of the Committee will determine how to vote the proxy solely on the investment merits of any proposal. The Committee will then memorialize the conflict and the procedures used to address the conflict.

The Fund is required to file with the SEC its complete proxy voting record for the twelve-month period ending June 30, by no later than August 31 of each year. The Fund s proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ending June 30 is available by August 31 of each year (1) on the SEC s website at www.sec.gov and (2) without charge, upon request, by calling 800-582-6959.

You may obtain a copy a Calamos Policies by calling 800.582.6959, by visiting the Fund s website at www.calamos.com, by writing Calamos at: Calamos Investments, Attn: Client Services, 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, IL 60563, and on the Commission s website a<u>t www.sec.go</u>v.

S-31

#### **Investment Adviser and Investment Management Agreement**

Subject to the overall authority of the board of trustees, Calamos provides the Fund with investment research, advice and supervision and furnishes continuously an investment program for the Fund. In addition, Calamos furnishes for use of the Fund such office space and facilities as the Fund may require for its reasonable needs and supervises the business and affairs of the Fund and provides the following other services on behalf of the Fund and not provided by persons not a party to the investment management agreement: (i) preparing or assisting in the preparation of reports to and meeting materials for the Trustees; (ii) supervising, negotiating contractual arrangements with, to the extent appropriate, and monitoring the performance of, accounting agents, custodians, depositories, transfer agents and pricing agents, accountants, attorneys, printers, underwriters, brokers and dealers, insurers and other persons in any capacity deemed to be necessary or desirable to Fund operations; (iii) assisting in the preparation and making of filings with the Commission and other regulatory and self-regulatory organizations, including, but not limited to, preliminary and definitive proxy materials, amendments to the Fund s registration statement on Form N-2 and semi-annual reports on Form N-SAR and Form N-CSR; (iv) overseeing the tabulation of proxies by the Fund s transfer agent; (v) assisting in the preparation and filing of the Fund s federal, state and local tax returns; (vi) assisting in the preparation and filing of the Fund s federal excise tax return pursuant to Section 4982 of the Code; (vii) providing assistance with investor and public relations matters; (viii) monitoring the valuation of portfolio securities and the calculation of net asset value; (ix) monitoring the registration of shares of beneficial interest of the Fund under applicable federal and state securities laws; (x) maintaining or causing to be maintained for the Fund all books, records and reports and any other information required under the 1940 Act, to the extent that such books, records and reports and other information are not maintained by the Fund s custodian or other agents of the Fund; (xi) assisting in establishing the accounting policies of the Fund; (xii) assisting in the resolution of accounting issues that may arise with respect to the Fund s operations and consulting with the Fund s independent accountants, legal counsel and the Fund s other agents as necessary in connection therewith; (xiii) reviewing the Fund s bills; (xiv) assisting the Fund in determining the amount of dividends and distributions available to be paid by the Fund to its shareholders, preparing and arranging for the printing of dividend notices to shareholders, and providing the transfer and dividend paying agent, the custodian, and the accounting agent with such information as is required for such parties to effect the payment of dividends and distributions; and (xv) otherwise assisting the Fund as it may reasonably request in the conduct of the Fund s business, subject to the direction and control of the Trustees.

Under the investment management agreement, the Fund pays Calamos a fee based on the average weekly managed assets that is accrued daily and paid on a monthly basis. The fee paid by the Fund is at the annual rate of 1.00% of managed assets. Because the management fee paid to Calamos is based upon a percentage of the Fund s managed assets, the fee paid to Calamos is higher when the Fund is leveraged; thus, Calamos will have an incentive to use leverage.

Under the terms of its investment management agreement with the Fund, except for the services and facilities provided by Calamos as set forth therein, the Fund shall assume and pay all expenses for all other Fund operations and activities and shall reimburse Calamos for any such expenses incurred by Calamos. The expenses borne by the Fund shall include, without limitation: (a) organization expenses of the Fund (including out-of-pocket expenses, but not including Calamos overhead or employee costs); (b) fees payable to Calamos; (c) legal expenses; (d) auditing and accounting expenses; (e) maintenance of books and records that are required to be maintained by the Fund s custodian or other agents of the Fund; (f) telephone, telex, facsimile, postage and other communications expenses; (g) taxes and governmental fees; (h) fees, dues and expenses incurred by the Fund in connection with membership in investment company trade organizations and the expense of attendance at professional meetings of such organizations; (i) fees and expenses of accounting agents, custodians, transfer agents,

S-32

dividend disbursing agents and registrars; (j) payment for portfolio pricing or valuation services to pricing agents, accountants, bankers and other specialists, if any; (k) expenses of preparing share certificates; (l) expenses in connection with the issuance, offering, distribution, sale, redemption or repurchase of securities issued by the Fund; (m) expenses relating to investor and public relations provided by parties other than Calamos; (n) expenses and fees of registering or qualifying shares of beneficial interest of the Fund for sale; (o) interest charges, bond premiums and other insurance expenses; (p) freight, insurance and other charges in connection with the shipment of the Fund s portfolio securities; (q) the compensation and all expenses (specifically including travel expenses relating to Fund business) of Trustees, officers and employees of the Fund who are not affiliated persons of Calamos; (r) brokerage commissions or other costs of acquiring or disposing of any portfolio securities of the Fund; (s) expenses of printing and distributing reports, notices and dividends to shareholders; (t) expenses of preparing and setting in type, printing and mailing prospectuses and statements of additional information of the Fund and supplements thereto; (u) costs of stationery; (v) any litigation expenses; (w) indemnification of Trustees and officers of the Fund; (x) costs of shareholders and other meetings; (y) interest on borrowed money, if any; and (z) the fees and other expenses of listing the Fund s shares on the New York Stock Exchange or any other national stock exchange.

For the fiscal years ended October 31, 2004, October 31, 2005, October 31, 2006, and October 31, 2007, the Fund paid \$17,903,542, \$33,816,296, \$34,049,644, and \$35,897,921, respectively, in advisory fees.

The investment management agreement had an initial term ending August 1, 2005 and continues in effect from year to year thereafter so long as such continuation is approved at least annually by (1) the board of trustees or the vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund, and (2) a majority of the trustees who are not interested persons of any party to the investment management agreement, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The investment management agreement may be terminated at any time, without penalty, by either the Fund or Calamos upon 60 days written notice, and is automatically terminated in the event of its assignment as defined in the 1940 Act.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board of Trustees decision to approve the renewal of the Investment Management Agreement is available in the Fund s Annual Report to shareholders for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2007.

The use of the name Calamos in the name of the Fund is pursuant to licenses granted by Calamos, and the Fund has agreed to change the names to remove those references if Calamos ceases to act as investment adviser to the Fund. **Portfolio Managers** 

Calamos employs a team approach to portfolio management, with teams comprised generally of the Co-Chief Investment Officers (the Co-CIOs ), senior strategy analysts, intermediate analysts and junior analysts. The Co-CIOs, directors and senior strategy analysts are supported by and lead a team of investment professionals whose valuable contributions create a synergy of expertise that can be applied across many different investment strategies. John P. Calamos, Sr., Co-CIO of Calamos, generally focuses on the top-down approach of diversification by industry sector and macro-level investment themes, Nick P. Calamos, Co-CIO of Calamos, also focuses on the top-down approach of diversification by industry sector and macro-level investment themes and, in addition, focuses on the bottom-up approach and corresponding research and analysis. John P. Calamos, Jr., John Hillenbrand, Steve Klouda, Jeff Scudieri and Jon Vacko are each senior strategy analysts, and Matthew Toms is

S-33

Director of Fixed Income. The Co-CIOs, directors and senior strategy analysts are referred to collectively as Team Leaders.

The Team Leaders also have responsibility for the day-to-day management of accounts other than the Fund. Information regarding these other accounts is set forth below:

The Fund s Team Leaders are responsible for managing the Fund and other accounts, including separate accounts and unregistered funds.

#### Number of Other Accounts Managed and Assets by Account Type as of October 31, 2007\*

	Other Pooled							
	Regist	ered Investment	Iı	nvestment				
Portfolio Manager	Companies		Vehicles		<b>Other Accounts</b>			
	Accounts	Assets	Accounts	Assets	Accounts	Assets		
John P. Calamos	22	\$35,149,492,739	4	\$297,610,723	22,371	\$11,308,779,683		
Nick P. Calamos	22	\$35,149,492,739	4	\$297,610,723	22,371	\$11,308,779,683		
John P. Calamos, Jr.	20	\$34,678,281,091	4	\$297,610,723	22,371	\$11,308,779,683		
John Hillenbrand	19	\$33,129,883,529	3	\$242,155,204	22,371	\$11,308,779,683		
Steve Klouda	19	\$33,129,883,529	3	\$242,155,204	22,371	\$11,308,779,683		
Jeff Scudieri	19	\$33,129,883,529	3	\$242,155,204	22,371	\$11,308,779,683		
Jon Vacko	19	\$33,129,883,529	3	\$242,155,204	22,371	\$11,308,779,683		

# Number of Accounts Managed and Assets for Which Advisory Fee is Performance Based as of October 31, 2007\*

		Registered Investment Companies		t	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles		Other Accounts
Portfolio Manager							
	Α	ccounts	Assets		Accounts	Assets	<b>Accounts Assets</b>
John P. Calamos		1	\$565,845,779	)	2	\$148,730,762	0
Nick P. Calamos		1	\$565,845,779	)	2	\$148,730,762	0
	&ntTimes New Roman", Times, serif; font-size: 10pt;">						
John P. Calamos, Jr.	Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,389		(518)			

During the nine months ended December 30, 2017, our operating activities used cash of \$1.4 million, primarily resulting from our net loss and changes in our working capital accounts, adjusted for non-cash items including share

based compensation and depreciation and amortization.

During the nine month period ended December 24, 2016, cash provided by operating activities was \$14,000. Cash provided by operating activities in the first nine months of fiscal 2017 resulted primarily from an increase of \$3.7 million in deferred revenue due to advance payment arrangements for raw materials with customers, which was partially offset by a \$637,000 decrease in accounts payable, increase of accounts receivable of \$405,000, and increase in inventory of \$394,000.

Cash used in investing activities for the nine-month period ended December 30, 2017 was \$685,000, primarily related to leasehold improvements in conjunction with the Company's facility relocation to Dublin, California.

Cash provided by investing activities was \$813,000 for the nine month period ended December 24, 2016. Cash provided by investing activities in the first nine months of fiscal 2017 resulted primarily from a cash payment from Astronics of \$850,000 pertaining to the sale of our Switch product line, as well as a cash payment from Spanawave of \$375,000 received during the first quarter of fiscal 2017 pertaining to the sale of our legacy product lines. The Company had previously received \$375,000 during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2016 for a combined total of \$750,000. During the second quarter of fiscal 2017, the Company and Spanawave became engaged in a dispute as to whether the Company has fulfilled all the requirements to close phases one through five and to the application of \$375,000 related to the proposed commencement of phase 6 which was received during the first quarter of fiscal 2017. The cash payments were partially offset by additions to property and equipment of \$37,000 in the nine month period ended December 24, 2016.

Cash provided by financing activities for the nine month period ended December 30, 2017 was \$1.4 million, primarily due to proceeds from the new term loan with PFG.

Cash used in financing activities for the nine month period ended December 24, 2016 was \$518,000, primarily due to the repayment of the Company's term loan with PFG and a portion of the line of credit with Bridge Bank.

The Company incurred net losses of \$313,000 for the third quarter and \$2.7 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2018. These losses have contributed to an accumulated deficit of \$28.2 million as of December 30, 2017. The Company has also experienced delays in the development or refinement of features, receipt of orders, and shipments for the new ASG/ASA. These delays have contributed, in part, to a decrease in working capital.

The new ASG product has shipped to several customers, but potential delays in the development of features, longer than anticipated sales cycles, or uncertainty as to the Company's ability to efficiently manufacture the ASG/ASA, could significantly contribute to additional future losses and decreases in working capital.

To help fund operations, the Company relies on advances under the line of credit with Bridge Bank which expires on May 6, 2019. The agreement includes a subjective acceleration clause, which allows for amounts due under the facility to become immediately due in the event of a material adverse change in the Company's business condition (financial or otherwise), operations, properties or prospects, or ability to repay the credit based on the lender's judgement. As of December 30, 2017, the Company had borrowed \$552,000 under the line of credit.

On April 27, 2017, the Company entered into a new loan agreement with PFG. Under the terms of the agreement, PFG made a term loan to the Company in the principal amount of \$1,500,000, with funding occurring on April 28, 2017. The loan has a two-year term, with interest only payments for the term of the loan. However, as of June 24, 2017, September 30, 2017, and December 30, 2017, the Company was not in compliance with the loan's revenue and shareholders' equity covenants. On August 2, 2017, the Company and PFG entered into a short-term forbearance arrangement with respect to such noncompliance which expired on October 15, 2017. The Company is continuing to work with PFG to extend the previous agreed upon forbearance agreement, however, no assurance can be given that the Company will be able to extend the forbearance agreement beyond the initial forbearance period or agree on any amendments to the loan agreement including any revised covenants due to its current noncompliance. The default interest rate associated with any forbearance agreement is 6%, which is in addition to the loan's aggregate per annum interest rate of 16%. The Company will need to raise additional capital to rectify the noncompliance. No assurance can be given that the Company will be able to raise sufficient capital on timely basis.

These matters raise substantial doubt as to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. To address these matters, our management team has taken several actions which are described in Note 2 (Going Concern and

Management's Plan) above in an effort to provide additional liquidity and reduce costs and expenses going forward.

Management will continue to review all aspects of the business in an effort to improve cash flow and reduce costs and expenses, while continuing to invest, to the extent possible, in new product development for future revenue streams.

Management will also continue to seek additional working capital through debt, equity financing or possible product line sales, however there are no assurances that such financings or sales will be available at all, or on terms acceptable to the Company.

The Company's historical operating results and forecasting uncertainties indicate that substantial doubt exists related to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Forecasting uncertainties exist with respect to the ASG/ASA product line due to the potential longer than anticipated sales cycles as well as with potential delays in the refinement of certain features, and/or the Company's ability to efficiently manufacture it in a timely manner. The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern and do not include any adjustments that might result if the Company were unable to do so.

# ITEM 3 -QUANTITATI VE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Pursuant to Item 305 of Regulation S-K, the Company, as a smaller reporting company, is not required to provide the information required by this item.

# ITEM 4 - CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

The Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Principal Accounting & Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of December 30, 2017, which is the end of the fiscal quarter covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Principal Accounting & Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective to provide reasonable assurances that (i) the information the Company is required to disclose in the reports it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time period required by the Commission's rules and forms, and (ii) such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Principal Accounting

& Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

There were no significant changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting.

# **II - OTHER INFORMATION**

#### ITEM 1 - LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

As of December 30, 2017, the Company has no material pending legal proceedings. From time to time, the Company is involved in various disputes and litigation matters that arise in the ordinary course of business.

On October 16, 2017, the Company reached a settlement agreement with Spanawave and Liberty Test whereby all parties exchanged mutual releases and agreed that phases one through five of the Asset Purchase Agreement dated December 15, 2015 were concluded and the sale of the remaining phase (Phase 6) to Spanawave (which was in dispute) was abandoned. The abandoned Phase 6 Legacy Signal Generators product line (and related inventory) remains an asset of the Company. As part of the settlement, the Company, Spanawave and Liberty Test agreed to dismiss and or withdraw all related complaints, cross-complaints and arbitration claims.

#### ITEM 1A - RISK FACTORS

There has been no material change in the risk factors disclosed in the registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 24, 2017, except (i) with respect to the matter reported in Item 3, Defaults Upon Senior Securities, below and (ii) a continuing decrease in the Company's cash flow and liquidity, which increases the level of doubt as to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### **ITEM 2 - UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

None other than issuance of shares of common stock to PFG (see Note 7 above) as previously reported, pursuant to an exemption under Regulation D under the Securities Act of 1933.

#### **ITEM 3 - DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

On April 27, 2017, the Company entered into a new loan agreement with PFG. Under the terms of the agreement, PFG made a term loan to the Company in the principal amount of \$1,500,000. As of December 30, 2017, the Company was not in compliance with the loan's revenue and shareholders' equity covenants. On August 2, 2017, the Company and PFG entered into a short-term forbearance arrangement with respect to such noncompliance, which expired on October 15, 2017. The Company is continuing to work with PFG to extend the previous agreed upon forbearance agreement however, no assurance can be given that the Company will be able to extend the forbearance agreement beyond the initial forbearance period or agree on any amendments to the loan agreement including any revised covenants due to its current noncompliance. The default interest rate associated with any forbearance agreement is 6%, which is in addition to the aggregate per annum interest rate described in Note 7. The Company will be able to raise sufficient capital on a timely basis.

The Company maintains a \$2.5 million Revolving Accounts Receivable Line of Credit agreement with Bridge Bank. The agreement provides for a maximum borrowing capacity of \$2.5 million of which \$2.0 million is subject to a borrowing base calculation and \$500,000 is non-formula based. The loan agreement is secured by all assets of the Company including intellectual property and general intangibles and provides for a borrowing capacity equal to 80% of eligible accounts receivable. The loan agreement contains financial and non-financial covenants that are customary for this type of lending and includes a covenant to maintain an asset coverage ratio of at least 150% (defined as unrestricted cash and cash equivalents maintained with Bridge Bank, plus eligible accounts receivable aged less than 90 days from the invoice date, divided by the total amount of outstanding principal of all obligations under the loan agreement). While the Company maintained the asset coverage ratio, the Company was in a cross default at December 30, 2017, because of the PFG noncompliance described above.

# ITEM 4 - MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

# **ITEM 5 - OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

# ITEM 6 - EXHIBITS

- 31.1 <u>Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act.</u>
- 31.2 Certification of Principal Accounting & Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act.
- 32.2 <u>Certification of Principal Accounting & Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act.</u>
- 101.INS\*\* XBRL Instance
- 101.SCH\*\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema
- 101.CAL\*\*XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation
- 101.DEF\*\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition
- 101.LAB\*\*XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels
- 101.PRE\*\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation

# SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

GIGA-TRONICS INCORPORATED (Registrant)

By:

- Date: February 12, 2018 /s/ John R. Regazzi John R. Regazzi Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)
- Date: February 12, 2018 /s/ Temi Oduozor Temi Oduozor Corporate Controller & Principal Accounting & Financial Officer