## Payden&Rygel Quarterly Portfolio Review

### Day to Day Fund 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2021



PAYDEN.COM LOS ANGELES | BOSTON | LONDON | MILAN





September 2021

Dear Client,

As we approach another year-end, we want to take this opportunity to share with you how the firm, in this very challenging time, has maintained its ability to ensure the highest quality of service to our clients. September marked our 38th year in business, and the structure and focus of the firm have not changed. We continue to nurture a culture of collaboration where competition is external, not internal, allowing us to concentrate solely on the needs of our clients.

As a result of our collaborative structure, working from home during the pandemic has gone very well. Although we are anxious to get back to the office on a full-time basis, the health and safety of our employees is a top concern. We will continue to evaluate the situation and keep you well informed of the return-to-office schedule that is adopted.

Turning now to the U.S. and global economies, Delta variant disruptions have led to a slowdown in growth. For example, countries across the Asia-Pacific region reinstituted lockdown procedures to keep the virus at bay, hospitals in the U.S. were forced to ration care in some states, and the prices for input materials skyrocketed across the U.S. and Europe. Looking specifically at the U.S. there are two very important decisions that will need to be made before year-end. First, the debt ceiling will need to be lifted or suspended, and second, President Biden will have to decide whether to reappoint Jerome Powell to another term as chair of the Federal Reserve or to tap someone new. Against this backdrop, we want to assure you that your portfolio is positioned, if necessary, to have increased liquidity.

Again, we want to reiterate that, over the past 38 years, we have maintained a strong culture focused on teamwork and collaboration. This focus has allowed us to manage the firm and our business in a consistent manner, regardless of the market environment. Looking ahead, we continue to monitor the markets as new developments occur and we are always available to answer questions or concerns. Most importantly, our very best wishes for your health and safety in the coming months.

Warmest regards,

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Joan A. Payden

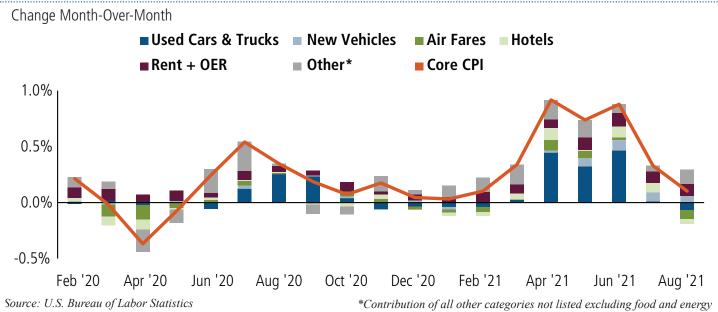
President & CEO

## ECONOMIC REVIEW AND OUTLOOK



GDP growth appeared to slow somewhat in the third quarter due to the Delta-driven resurgence in Covid-19 cases and supply chain issues, after reaching new highs in the second quarter. The slight pull-back in consumer activity also had an impact on consumer prices, leading to a deceleration in month-over-month and year-over-year readings in July and August. While inflation has appeared to have reached a near-term peak, it's possible price pressures could re-emerge as Delta fades and the labor market tightens. For example, home prices have shot up this year, and, while asset prices aren't included in CPI, rent and owner's equivalent rent (OER) constitute roughly 40% of the price index and both categories have recorded robust increases this year, as shown in the graph below.

#### HIGH INFLATION READINGS HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY A HANDFUL OF CATEGORIES



The labor market was another hot topic in the third quarter as headlines warned of a "Great Resignation." While the number of people quitting reached a series high (see graph below) and some businesses are finding it difficult to hire enough people to keep up with blossoming consumer demand, there are still millions of Americans who remain unemployed. Despite strong job growth in July, the August jobs report surprised to the downside. The Federal Open Market Committee decided not to taper their asset purchases at the September meeting, but Chair Powell said that a taper announcement could come "as soon as the next meeting" if the economy progressed broadly as expected.

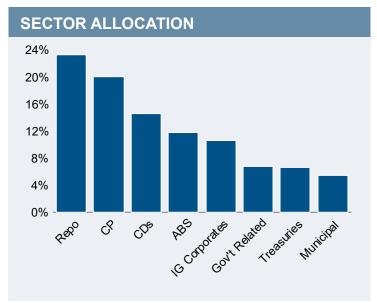
#### STRONG LABOR DEMAND HAS LED TO A RECORD NUMBER OF QUITS

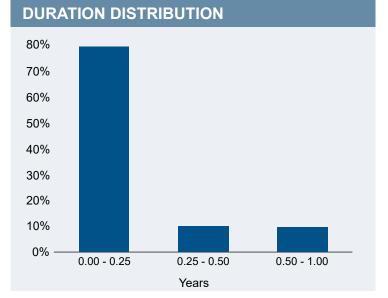


#### FLORIDA TRUST DAY TO DAY FUND

#### Portfolio Review and Market Update - 3rd Quarter 2021

# PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS (As of 9/30/2021)Portfolio Market Value\$715.9 millionFitch RatingAAA mmfDays to Maturity48 daysSEC 7-Day Yield (net)0.04%





Government/Government-guaranteed: 38%

#### PORTFOLIO RETURNS - Periods Ending 9/30/2021

	3rd Quarter	2021 YTD	Trailing 1 Yr	Trailing 5 Yr	Trailing 10 Yr	Since Inception (1/13/09)
FLORIDA TRUST DAY TO DAY FUND (gross)	0.03%	0.10%	0.15%	1.33%	0.81%	0.70%
FLORIDA TRUST DAY TO DAY FUND (net)*	0.01%	0.03%	0.07%	1.23%	0.70%	0.60%
ICE BofA US 3-Month Treasury Bill Index	0.02%	0.04%	0.07%	1.16%	0.63%	0.53%

Periods over one year are annualized

\*Represents income-only return from UMB.



#### MARKET THEMES

The third quarter of 2021 brought increased volatility across both equity and bond markets. On the macroeconomic front, a rapid rise in case counts from the Delta variant interrupted the strong recovery global economies had experienced in the first half of the year. In the U.S., the economy slowed, while inflation remained elevated, albeit driven by just a few particularly volatile sectors. In a somewhat surprising move at the September Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting, it was announced that a tapering of asset purchases could begin shortly. This news pushed U.S. Treasury yields modestly higher toward the end of the quarter. In commodity markets, crude oil and natural gas prices extended their rally, benefiting from rising global fuel consumption and supply chain disruptions.

#### STRATEGY

- We continue to diversify our credit exposure through corporates and asset-backed securities (ABS) to maintain differentiated sources of high-quality income.
- We utilized corporate issuance to optimize positioning and maintained the usage of floating rate issues given their short duration profile and yield advantage.

#### INTEREST RATES

Interest rates moved higher and the curve steepened in the wake of the September FOMC meeting, where participants signaled a more aggressive path of rate hikes. However, maturities less than one year and outside of the debt ceiling range of mid-October to mid-November remain well anchored, as the glut of cash in the market continues to keep downward pressure on money market rates. Excess liquidity could push the Fed Funds rate of 7 basis points towards the 5 basis point reverse repo floor, while yields should remain low in the front end, as a steeper yield curve reflects the increased pace of tapering.

- U.S. Treasury yields with maturities one year and shorter barely moved during the quarter, and the three-month bill ended down one basis point to 0.03%. However, the two-year note jumped from a quarter low of 0.17% to 0.28%, and the three-year note moved from a quarter low of 0.32% to 0.51%.
- One-month and three-month LIBOR yields declined slightly to 0.08% and 0.13%, respectively.

#### SECTORS

Investment-grade corporates and asset-backed securities were the sources of returns for the quarter. Short maturity U.S. corporate and ABS spreads were relatively unchanged resulting in positive performance. Historically tight corporate spreads reflect broad and robust corporate earnings and a strong economic outlook. With the Fed on hold amid continued strong demand for high-quality front-end investments, short term interest rates and spreads will likely remain low and tight. Since the debt ceiling expiry date has passed and until a resolution is reached, the Treasury will spend down cash on hand forcing negative Treasury bill supply. While all-in yields are low, the incremental credit yield over U.S. Treasuries will likely remain attractive and demand for short-dated credit will remain robust.



#### **OUR STRATEGIES**

#### **Multi-Sector**

**Short Maturity Bonds** 

**U.S. Core Bond** 

**Absolute Return Fixed Income** 

Strategic Income

**Global Fixed Income** 

**Liability Driven Investing** 

#### **Sector-Specific**

**Emerging Markets Debt** 

Government/Sovereign

**High Yield Bonds & Loans** 

Inflation-Linked/TIPS

Investment Grade Corporate Bonds

**Municipal Bonds (U.S.)** 

**Securitized Bonds** 

#### **Income-Focused Equities**

**Equity Income** 

Available in: Separate Accounts – Mutual Funds (U.S. and UCITS) Collective Trusts ("CITs") – Customized Solutions

For more information about Payden & Rygel's strategies, contact us at a location listed below.

Payden&Rygel

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