By the Commission.
Shoshana M. Grove, Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011–7396 Filed 3–29–11; 8:45 am]
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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 29616; 812–13801]

Simple Alternatives, LLC and The RBB Fund, Inc.; Notice of Application

Date: March 24, 2011.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”).

ACTION: Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (“Act”) for an exemption from section 15(a) of the Act and rule 18f–2 under the Act, as well as from certain disclosure requirements.

APPLICANTS: Simple Alternatives, LLC (“Simple Alternatives”) and The RBB Fund, Inc. (the “Company”).

FILING DATES: The application was filed on July 23, 2010, and amended on December 22, 2010 and March 11, 2011.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING:
An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Secretary, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549–1090. Applicants: c/o Gilbert H. Davis, Esq., Sims Moss Kline & Davis LLP, Suite 1700, Three Ravinia Drive, Atlanta, Georgia 30346.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Emerson S. Davis, Sr., Senior Counsel, at (202) 551–6608, or Jarret M. Grossnickle, Assistant Director, at (202) 551–6821 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants request an order that would permit them to enter into and materially amend subadvisory agreements without shareholder approval and would grant relief from certain disclosure requirements.

APPLICANTS: Simple Alternatives, LLC (“Simple Alternatives”) and The RBB Fund, Inc. (the “Company”).

SUMMARY OF APPLICANT:

1. The Company, a Maryland corporation, is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company and offers eighteen series, including the S1 Fund (“S1 Fund”).

2. Simple Alternatives is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Advisers Act”) and serves as the investment adviser to the S1 Fund. An Adviser will serve as the investment adviser to each Fund pursuant to an investment advisory agreement (“Advisory Agreement”) with the Fund. Each Advisory Agreement will be approved by the Company’s board of directors (“Board”), including a majority of the directors who are not “interested persons,” as defined in section 2(a)(19) of the Act, of the Company or the Adviser (“Independent Directors”) and by the initial shareholder of the Fund.

3. Applicants request an order that would permit them to enter into and materially amend subadvisory agreements (“Subadvisory Agreements”) with certain unaffiliated subadvisers (each, a “Subadviser”) to provide investment advisory services to the Funds. Simple Alternatives currently employs eight Subadvisers for the S1 Fund. Each Subadviser is and each future Subadviser will be registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act. The Adviser will supervise, evaluate and allocate assets to the Subadvisers, and make recommendations to the Board about their hiring, retention or termination, at all times subject to the authority of the Board.

4. Applicants also request relief with respect to existing and future series of the Company and any other existing or future registered open-end management investment company or series thereof that: (a) is advised by Simple Alternatives or any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with Simple Alternatives (each, an “Adviser”); (b) uses the manager of managers structure described in the application (the “Manager of Managers Structure”) and (c) complies with the terms and conditions of this application (together with the S1 Fund, the “Funds”) and each individually, a “Fund”). The only existing registered open-end management investment company that currently intends to rely on the requested order is named as an applicant. If the name of any Fund contains the name of a Subadviser (as defined below), the name of the Adviser that serves as the primary adviser to the Fund will precede the name of the Subadviser.

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PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE—Continued

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<tr>
<td>April 26, 2011</td>
<td>Deadline for Petitioner’s Form 61 or initial brief in support of petition (see 39 CFR 3001.115(a) and (b)).</td>
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<td>May 16, 2011</td>
<td>Deadline for answering brief in support of Postal Service (see 39 CFR 3001.115(c)).</td>
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<td>May 31, 2011</td>
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<td>June 7, 2011</td>
<td>Deadline for motions for summary judgment if filed, or for motions for oral argument if the parties have not requested oral argument (see 39 CFR 3001.115(b)).</td>
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<td>July 14, 2011</td>
<td>Expiration of the Commission’s 120-day decisional schedule (see 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5)).</td>
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Applicants also request an exemption from the various disclosure provisions described below that may require the Funds to disclose fees paid by the Adviser to the Subadvisers. An exemption is requested to permit the each Fund to disclose (as both a dollar amount and as a percentage of the respective Fund’s net assets): (a) The aggregate fees paid to the Adviser and any Affiliated Subadvisers; and (b) the aggregate fees paid to Subadvisers (collectively, “Aggregate Fee Disclosure”). Any Fund that employs an Affiliated Subadviser also will provide separate disclosure of any fees paid to any Affiliated Subadviser.

Applicants’ Legal Analysis

1. Section 15(a) of the Act provides, in relevant part, that it is unlawful for any person to act as an investment adviser to a registered investment company except pursuant to a written contract that has been approved by the vote of a majority of the company’s outstanding voting securities. Rule 18f–2 under the Act provides that each series or class of stock in a series investment company affected by a matter must approve that matter if the Act requires shareholder approval.

2. Form N–1A is the registration statement used by open-end investment companies. Item 19(a)(3) of Form N–1A requires disclosure of the method and amount of the investment adviser’s compensation.

3. Rule 20a–1 under the Act requires proxies solicited with respect to an investment company to comply with Schedule 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“1934 Act”). Items 22(c)(1)(i), 22(c)(1)(ii), 22(c)(1)(iii), 22(c)(6) and 22(c)(9) of Schedule 14A, taken together, require a proxy statement for a shareholder meeting at which the advisory contract will be voted upon to include the “rate of compensation of the investment adviser,” the “aggregate amount of the investment adviser’s fees,” a description of the “terms of the contract to be acted upon,” and, if a change in the advisory fee is proposed, the existing and proposed fees and the difference between the two fees.

4. Regulation S–X sets forth the requirements for financial statements required to be included as part of investment company registration statements and shareholder reports filed with the Commission. Sections 6–07(2)(a), (b) and (c) of Regulation S–X require that investment companies include in their financial statements information about investment advisory fees.

5. Section 6(c) of the Act provides that the Commission may exempt any person, security, or transaction or any class or classes of persons, securities, or transactions from any provisions of the Act, or from any rule thereunder, if such exemption is necessary or appropriate in the public interest and consistent with the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act. Applicants state that the requested relief meets this standard for the reasons discussed below.

6. Applicants assert that the shareholders are relying on the Adviser’s expertise to select one or more Subadvisers best suited to achieve a Fund’s investment objectives. Applicants assert that, from the perspective of the shareholder, the role of the Subadvisers is substantially equivalent to that of the individual portfolio managers employed by traditional advisory firms. Applicants state that requiring shareholder approval of each Subadvisory Agreement would subject a Fund to expenses and delays and may preclude the Adviser from acting promptly. Applicants note that the Advisory Agreement and any subadvisory agreement with an Affiliated Subadviser will remain subject to section 15(a) of the Act and rule 18f–2 under the Act.

7. Applicants assert that Subadvisers use a “posted” rate schedule to set their fees. Applicants state that, while Subadvisers are willing to negotiate fees lower than those posted in the schedule, they are reluctant to do so where the fees are disclosed to the public and other Subadvisers. Applicants submit that the requested relief will allow the Adviser to negotiate more effectively with Subadvisers.

Applicants’ Conditions

Applicants agree that any order granting the requested relief will be subject to the following conditions:

1. Before a Fund may rely on the requested order, the operation of the Fund in the manner described in the application will be approved by a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, as defined in the Act, or in the case of a Fund whose public shareholders purchase shares on the basis of a prospectus containing the disclosure contemplated by condition 2 below, by the initial shareholder(s) before offering shares of that Fund to the public.

2. Each Fund relying on the requested order will disclose in its prospectus the existence, substance, and effect of any order granted pursuant to this application. Each Fund will hold itself out to the public as utilizing the Manager of Managers Structure. The prospectus will prominently disclose that the Adviser has ultimate responsibility (subject to oversight by the Board) to oversee the Subadvisers and recommend their hiring, termination, and replacement.

3. Within 90 days of the hiring of a new Subadviser, Fund shareholders will be furnished all information about the new Subadviser that would be included in a proxy statement, except as modified to permit Aggregate Fee Disclosure. This information will include Aggregate Fee Disclosure and any change in disclosure caused by the addition of the new Subadviser. To meet this obligation, each Fund will provide shareholders, within 90 days of the hiring of a new Subadviser, an information statement meeting the requirements of Regulation 14C, Schedule 14C and Item 22 of Schedule 14A under the 1934 Act, except as modified by the order to permit Aggregate Fee Disclosure.

4. An Adviser will not enter into a Subadvisory Agreement with any Affiliated Subadviser in such agreement, including the compensation to be paid thereunder, being approved by the shareholders of the applicable Fund.

5. At all times, at least a majority of the Board will be Independent Directors, and the nomination of new or additional Independent Directors will be placed within the discretion of the then-existing Independent Directors.

6. Whenever a subadviser change is proposed for a Fund with an Affiliated Subadviser, the Board, including a majority of the Independent Directors, will make a separate finding, reflected in the applicable Board minutes, that such change is in the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders, and does not involve a conflict of interest from which the Adviser or the Affiliated Subadviser derives an inappropriate advantage.

7. Independent legal counsel, as defined in rule 0–1a(6) under the Act, will be engaged to represent the Independent Directors. The selection of such counsel will be within the discretion of the then-existing Independent Directors.

8. Each Adviser will provide the Board, no less frequently than quarterly, with information about the profitability of the Adviser on a per-Fund basis. The information will reflect the impact on profitability of the hiring or termination of any Subadviser during the applicable quarter.

9. Whenever a Subadviser is hired or terminated, the Adviser will provide the Board with information showing the expected impact on the profitability of the Adviser.
10. An Adviser will provide general management services to each Fund, including overall supervisory responsibility for the general management and investment of each Fund’s assets and, subject to review and approval of the Board, will: (a) Set each Fund’s overall investment strategies; (b) evaluate, select and recommend Subadvisers to manage all or a part of each Fund’s assets; (c) allocate and, when appropriate, reallocate each Fund’s assets among one or more Subadvisers; (d) monitor and evaluate the performance of Subadvisers; and (e) implement procedures reasonably designed to ensure that the Subadvisers comply with each Fund’s investment objective, policies and restrictions.

11. No Director or officer of the Company or a Fund, or director, manager, or officer of an Adviser, will own directly or indirectly (other than through a pooled investment vehicle that is not controlled by such person), any interest in a Subadviser, except for (a) ownership of interests in the Adviser or any entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the Adviser or (b) ownership of less than 1% of the outstanding securities of any class of equity or debt of any publicly traded company that is either a Subadviser or an entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with a Subadviser.

12. Each Fund will disclose in its registration statement the Aggregate Fee Disclosure.

13. In the event the Commission adopts a rule under the Act providing substantially similar relief to that in the order requested in the application, the requested order will expire on the effective date of that rule.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Cathy H. Ahn, Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011–7417 Filed 3–29–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Rel. No. IC–29617; File No. 812–13842]


March 24, 2011.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”).

ACTION: Notice of application for an order under Section 26(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”).

APPLICANTS: American Family Life Insurance Company (the “Company”), American Family Variable Account I (the “Life Account”), and American Family Variable Account II (the “Annuity Account”) (together, the “Applicants”).

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants request an order of the Commission, pursuant to Section 26(c) of the 1940 Act, approving the substitution of shares of the Vanguard Capital Growth Portfolio (“Replacement Portfolio”) of the Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund (“Vanguard Fund”) for Service Class 2 Shares of the Fidelity Variable Insurance Products Growth Portfolio (“Replaced Portfolio”) of the Fidelity Variable Insurance Products Fund (“Fidelity Fund”) currently held by the Life Account and the Annuity Account (each an “Account,” together, the “Accounts”) to support variable life insurance and annuity contracts issued by the Company (collectively, the “Contracts”).

DATES: Filing Date: The application was filed on November 10, 2010 and amended and restated on February 28, 2011.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Secretary of the Commission and serving Applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests must be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on April 20, 2011, and should be accompanied by proof of service on Applicants in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Cathy H. Ahn, Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011–7417 Filed 3–29–11; 8:45 am]

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained via the Commission’s Web site by searching for the file number, or for an applicant using the Company name box, at http://www.sec.gov/search/search.htm, or by calling (202) 551–8090.

Applicants’ Representation

1. The Company is a stock life insurance company organized under Wisconsin law. The Company conducts a conventional life insurance business and is authorized to transact the business of life insurance, including annuities, in nineteen States. For purposes of the 1940 Act, the Company is the depositor and sponsor of each of the Accounts as those terms have been interpreted by the Commission with respect to variable life insurance and variable annuity separate accounts.

2. Under the insurance law of Wisconsin, the assets of each Account attributable to the Contracts issued through that Account are owned by the Company, but are held separately from the other assets of the Company for the benefit of the owners of, and the persons entitled to payment under, those Contracts. Each Account is a “separate account” as defined by Rule 0–1(e) under the 1940 Act, and is registered with the Commission as a unit investment trust. Each Account is comprised of a number of subaccounts and each subaccount invests exclusively in one of the insurance dedicated mutual fund portfolios made available as investment vehicles underlying the Contracts. Currently, the Replaced Portfolio is available as an investment option under the Company’s variable life insurance and variable annuity Contracts.

3. The Life Account is currently divided into nine (9) subaccounts. The assets of the Life Account, support variable life insurance contracts and interests in the Account offered through such contracts have been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”), on Form N–6 (File Nos. 333–44956 and 333–147408).

4. The Annuity Account is currently divided into nine (9) subaccounts. The assets of the Annuity Account support variable annuity contracts and interests in the Account offered through such contracts have been registered under the 1933 Act on Form N–4 (File No. 333–45592).