# WealthBuilders, LLC

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www.wealthbllc.com

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#### FORM ADV PART 2A BROCHURE

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of WealthBuilders, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, contact us at 408-647-0518. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about WealthBuilders, LLC is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. The searchable IARD/CRD number for WealthBuilders, LLC is 286348.

WealthBuilders, LLC is a registered investment adviser. Registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

# Item 2 Summary of Material Changes

Form ADV Part 2 requires registered investment advisers to amend their brochure when information becomes materially inaccurate. If there are any material changes to an adviser's disclosure brochure, the adviser is required to notify you and provide you with a description of the material changes.

Since our last annual updating amendment dated February 4, 2020, we have the following material changes to report:

Our new address is: 704 J St, San Diego, CA 92101, USA

#### Advisory Business

WealthBuilders, LLC will primarily utilize low-cost, index funds by Dimensional Fund Advisors ("DFA"). The Advisor may include legacy positions and other types of investments along with the Client's account[s] at Betterment or TD Ameritrade, as appropriate.

#### Fees and Compensation

#### Portfolio Management

Our annual portfolio management fee is billed and payable, monthly in advance, based on the balance at end of the previous billing period. If the portfolio management agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of a calendar quarter, our fees will apply on a pro rata basis, which means that the advisory fee is payable in proportion to the number of days in the month for which you are a client.

#### Financial Planning Services and Consulting Services

We offer financial planning and consulting services on a fixed fee basis as outlined below. The fees are negotiable depending upon the complexity and scope of the plan, client's financial situation, and objectives. The fees are due and payable on completion of the contracted services.

- <u>WealthPlan Premium</u> Our minimum fee is \$5,000 per year for a household. This package includes up to six (6) meetings per year and provides unlimited access to the advisor via phone, email, and video chat.
- <u>WealthPlan Legacy</u> This package is designed for clients who are in year 2+ of their planning relationship who wish to downsize from the WealthPlan Premium package. Clients will maintain access to all of the firms planning tools and will have a set amount of financial planning service hours annually. This package includes up to four (4) meetings per year to make updates and implement changes to the financial plan. The minimum fee is \$3,000 per year.
- If client maintains an investment account of \$500,000+, both the aforementioned services will be offered at no additional cost.

#### Web-Based Portfolio Management Services

Our annual advisory fee for web-based portfolio management services consists of an asset-based management fee equal to 0.16% of the value of your account. This fee is separate and apart from the portfolio management service fees noted above. This advisory fee is payable monthly, in arrears, based on the average daily balance of your account. The terms and conditions of this program shall be set forth in a written portfolio management agreement executed by the client and our firm.

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# Item 4 Advisory Business

#### **Description of Firm**

WealthBuilders, LLC is a registered investment adviser based in San Diego, California. We are organized as a limited liability company ("LLC") under the laws of the State of California. We have been providing investment advisory services since January 2017. We are owned by Eric A. Rodriguez.

The following paragraphs describe our services and fees. Refer to the description of each investment advisory service listed below for information on how we tailor our advisory services to your individual needs. As used in this brochure, the words "we," "our," and "us" refer to WealthBuilders, LLC and the words "you," "your," and "client" refer to you as either a client or prospective client of our firm.

#### **Portfolio Management Services**

WealthBuilders, LLC offers discretionary and non-discretionary portfolio management services. Our investment advice is tailored to meet our clients' needs and investment objectives. If you retain our firm for portfolio management services, we will meet with you to determine your investment objectives, risk tolerance, and other relevant information at the beginning of our advisory relationship. The information we gather will be used to develop a strategy that enables our firm to give you continuous and focused investment advice and/or to make investments on your behalf. As part of our portfolio management services, we may customize an investment portfolio for you according to your risk tolerance and investing objectives.

We may also invest your assets according to one or more model portfolios developed by our firm. These models are designed for investors with varying degrees of risk tolerance ranging from a more aggressive investment strategy to a more conservative investment approach. Once we construct an investment portfolio for you, or select a model portfolio, we will monitor your portfolio's performance on an ongoing basis, and will re-balance the portfolio as required by changes in market conditions and in your financial circumstances.

To participate in our discretionary portfolio management services, we require you to grant our firm discretionary authority to manage your account. Discretionary authorization will allow us to determine the specific securities, and the amount of securities, to be purchased or sold for your account without your approval prior to each transaction. Discretionary authority is typically granted by the investment advisory agreement you sign with our firm and the appropriate trading authorization forms. You may limit our discretionary authority (for example, limiting the types of securities that can be purchased or sold for your account) by providing our firm with your restrictions and guidelines in writing.

If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we will obtain your approval prior to the execution of any transactions for your account(s). You have an unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice provided by our firm on a non-discretionary basis.

WealthBuilders, LLC will primarily utilize low-cost, index funds by Dimensional Fund Advisors ("DFA"). The Advisor may include legacy positions and other types of investments along with the Client's account[s] at Betterment or TD Ameritrade, as appropriate.

#### Web-Based Portfolio Management Services

We offer discretionary portfolio management services that are delivered to you through an automated and interactive web-based investment management system (i.e., "robo-advisory" services). The investment advice rendered under this program is tailored to meet with your individual investment needs and objectives and is delivered exclusively based upon information you submit via a web-based investment questionnaire. Your responses to the electronic investment questionnaire are used by the web-based system to determine whether the available investment programs offered are appropriate for you generally, and, if so, to select a particular investment option that fits with your unique investment profile.

After submission of the online investment questionnaire, the web-based system will select an investment option for you that employs one or more proprietary model investment portfolios ("models"), the underlying holdings of which have been selected by our firm. We have diversified the models available within this program across various investment styles and/or asset classes and designed them, in part, to reduce the transaction costs incurred within client accounts. While the proprietary models offered are generally designed to consider and mitigate transaction based charges, there may be instances where transaction fees and other costs are incurred within your account. The investment and reinvestment of your assets within the program is managed on a discretionary basis by our firm, and will occur automatically in accordance with the proprietary investment model(s) you have selected via the web-based system. As the discretionary advisor to your account, our firm will automatically rebalance your holdings on a periodic basis to maintain the target asset allocation percentages within the selected models. You can change your investment allocations and/or investment strategy at any time by going online and updating your web-based information.

You may withdraw assets from your account at any time directly via the web-based portal, subject to the usual and customary securities settlement procedures. Our investment models typically rely on long-term investment strategies and asset withdrawals may therefore impair the achievement of your specific investment objectives.

If you participate in our web-based discretionary portfolio management services, you will be required to grant our firm discretionary authority to manage your account. Discretionary authorization will allow our firm to determine the specific securities, and the amount of securities, to be purchased or sold for your account without your approval prior to each transaction. Discretionary authority is typically granted by the investment advisory agreement you sign with our firm and/or the appropriate trading authorization forms. Clients participating in this investment program may not impose any restrictions on the management of their accounts or otherwise limit any discretionary authority granted.

In providing the portfolio management services under this program, all information will be provided through the web-based portal. Our firm will not verify any information we receive from you, or your agent(s), and we will rely on the information you provide. It is your responsibility to promptly update your account application through the web-based portal if there are ever any changes in your financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reallocating and/or re-balancing your account.

#### **Financial Planning Services and Consulting Services**

WealthBuilders, LLC will typically provide a variety of financial planning services to individuals, and families, pursuant to a written financial planning agreement. Services are customized to a Client's financial situation, their goals, and objectives. Generally, personal financial planning services involves preparing and maintaining the client's financial plan, as well as providing ongoing financial consultations based on the Client's financial goals and objectives. This planning or consulting may encompass multiple areas of need, including, but not limited to risk management, cash-flow planning, tax planning, investment planning, retirement planning, personal savings, education savings, estate planning, and other areas of a Client's financial situation. A financial plan developed for or financial consultation rendered to the Client will usually include general recommendations for a course of activity or specific actions to be taken by the Client. For example, recommendations may be made that the Client start or revise their investment programs, commence or alter retirement savings, establish education savings and/or charitable giving programs. WealthBuilders, LLC may also refer Clients to an accountant, attorney or other specialist, as appropriate for their unique situation. For certain financial

planning engagements, the Advisor will provide a written summary of Client's financial situation, observations, and recommendations. For consulting or ad-hoc engagements, the Advisor may or may not provide a written summary.

We may also use financial planning software to determine your current financial position and to define and quantify your long-term goals and objectives. Once we specify those long-term objectives (both financial and non-financial), we will develop shorter-term, targeted objectives. Once we review and analyze the information you provide to our firm and the data derived from our financial planning software, we will deliver a written plan to you, designed to help you achieve your stated financial goals and objectives.

Financial plans are based on your financial situation at the time we present the plan to you, and on the financial information you provide to us. You must promptly notify our firm if your financial situation, goals, objectives, or needs change.

You are under no obligation to act on our financial planning recommendations. Should you choose to act on any of our recommendations, you are not obligated to implement the financial plan through any of our other investment advisory services. Moreover, you may act on our recommendations by placing securities transactions with any brokerage firm.

#### Educational Seminars and Public Appearances

At times, WealthBuilders, LLC may deliver educational seminars and/or public appearances for clients and prospective clients. The public appearances and seminars are not designed to provide specific and/or personal advice to a specific client.

#### State of California Required Disclosures

Pursuant to the California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), 10 CCR Section 260.235.2, WealthBuilders, LLC hereby makes the following statement: a conflict exists between the interests of our firm and the interests of the client. Further, the client is under no obligation to act upon our recommendations, and if the client elects to act on any of the recommendations, the client is under no obligation to effect the transactions through our firm.

All material conflicts of interest under CCR Section 260.238 (k) are disclosed regarding the investment adviser, its representatives or any of its employees, which could be reasonably expected to impair the rendering of unbiased and objective advice.

While the firm endeavor at all times to offer clients our specialized services at reasonable costs, the fees charged by other advisers for comparable services may be lower than the fees charged by WealthBuilders, LLC.

#### Wrap Fee Programs

We do not participate in any wrap fee program.

#### **Types of Investments**

We primarily offer advice on equity securities ("stocks"), corporate debt securities ("bonds"), mutual funds, and exchange traded funds ("ETFs"). Additionally, we may advise you on various types of investments based on your stated goals and objectives. We may also provide advice on any type of investment held in your portfolio at the inception of our advisory relationship. Refer to the *Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss* below for additional disclosures on this topic.

#### Assets Under Management

As of February 2, 2021, we provide continuous management services for \$17,350,000 in client assets managed on a discretionary basis and \$0 assets on a non-discretionary basis. We also manage \$5,000,000 in client assets on a non-continuous basis.

# Item 5 Fees and Compensation

#### **Portfolio Management Services**

Our annual fee for portfolio management services is based on a percentage of assets in your account and is set forth in the following annual fee schedule.

Assets Under Management	Annual Fee
Under \$1,999,999	1.00%
\$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999	0.85%
Over \$3,000,000	Negotiable

Our annual portfolio management fee is billed and payable, monthly in advance, based on the balance at end of the previous billing period. If the portfolio management agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of a calendar quarter, our fees will apply on a pro rata basis, which means that the advisory fee is payable in proportion to the number of days in the month for which you are a client. Our advisory fee is negotiable, depending on individual client circumstances.

At our discretion, we may combine the account values of family members living in the same household to determine the applicable advisory fee. For example, we may combine account values for you and your minor children, joint accounts with your spouse, and other types of related accounts. Combining account values may increase the asset total, which may result in your paying a reduced advisory fee based on the available breakpoints in our fee schedule stated above.

We will deduct our fee directly from your account through the qualified custodian holding your funds and securities. We will deduct our advisory fee only when the following requirements are met:

- You provide our firm with written authorization permitting the fees to be paid directly from your account held by the qualified custodian.
- We send you an invoice showing the amount of the fee, the value of the assets on which the fee is based, the time period covered by the fee, and the specific manner in which the fee was calculated.
- The qualified custodian agrees to send you a statement, at least quarterly, indicating all
  amounts disbursed from your account including the amount of the advisory fee paid directly to
  our firm.

We encourage you to reconcile our invoices with the statement(s) you receive from the qualified custodian. If you find any inconsistent information between our invoice and the statement(s) you receive from the qualified custodian call our main office number located on the cover page of this brochure.

You may terminate the portfolio management agreement upon written notice. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the portfolio management agreement, which means you will incur advisory fees only in proportion to the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. If you have pre-paid advisory fees that we have not yet earned, you will receive a prorated refund of those fees.

#### **Financial Planning Services and Consulting Services**

We offer financial planning and consulting services on a fixed fee basis. The fees are negotiable depending upon the complexity and scope of the plan, client's financial situation, and objectives. The fees are due and payable on completion of the contracted services.

- <u>WealthPlan Premium</u> Our minimum fee is \$5,000 per year for a single person. This package includes up to six (6) meetings per year and provides unlimited access to the advisor via phone, email, and video chat.
- <u>WealthPlan Legacy</u>This package is designed for clients who are in year 2+ of their planning relationship who wish to downsize from the WealthPlan Premium package. Clients will maintain access to all of the firms planning tools and will have a set amount of financial planning service hours annually. This package includes up to four (4) meetings per year to make updates and implement changes to the financial plan. It also provides unlimited access to the advisor via phone, email, and video chat. The minimum fee is \$3,000 per year.
- If client maintains an investment account of \$500,000+, both the aforementioned services will be offered at no additional cost.

Payments for all services can be made via check, ACH, or credit card. Client will be invoiced by WealthBuilders, LLC once financial planning agreement is executed. You may terminate the agreement by providing our firm written notice. Upon written termination, the fee will be prorated and any unearned fee will be refunded to the client. Please note, WealthBuilders, LLC will not bill an amount above \$500.00 more than six (6) months in advance.

#### Web-Based Portfolio Management Services

Our annual advisory fee for web-based portfolio management services consists of an asset-based management fee equal to 0.16% of the value of your account. This fee is separate and apart from the portfolio management service fees noted above. This advisory fee is payable monthly, in arrears, based on the average daily balance of your account. The terms and conditions of this program shall be set forth in a written portfolio management agreement executed by the client and our firm.

If our web-based portfolio management services agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of a calendar quarter, our fees will apply on a pro-rata basis, which means that our advisory fee is payable only in proportion to the number of days in the calendar quarter for which you are a client.

We will deduct our advisory fee directly from your account through the qualified custodian holding your funds and securities. Our fee will be deducted directly from your account only when: (1) you have given our firm and your account custodian written authorization authorizing the same; (2) we send you an invoice showing the amount of the fee, the value of the assets on which the fee is based, and the specific manner in which the fee was calculated and, (3) where your account custodian will deliver an account statement to you at least quarterly showing all activity in your account, including, without limitation, any direct debits of our advisory fees. You should review all account statements for accuracy.

Our agreement for services will continue in effect until terminated by either party. You may terminate the management agreement upon 30 days written notice to our firm. You will incur a pro-rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the agreement, which means you will incur advisory fees only in proportion to the number of days in the calendar quarter during which you were a client.

#### **Educational Seminars and Public Appearances**

Fees for Educational Seminars will range from \$250 to \$15,000 per engagement. The fee can be negotiable in certain circumstances. The fee will be agreed upon and due in advance of the seminar or public appearance. Fees will be determined by the length of the event, the number of attendees and

whether or not educational materials are being provided. In the event that seminar attendees will be responsible for payment, the fee will be published on the seminar announcement or invitation and will be due in advance of the seminar. WealthBuilders, LLC may also provide pro-bono seminars at its own discretion. Seminars are offered to organizations and the public on a variety of financial topics. Seminar fees are non-refundable.

In the event of inclement weather, or flight cancellation, the speaker shall make all reasonable attempts to make alternative travel arrangements to arrive in time for the presentation. If travel is impossible, we will waive the speaker fee, but the client will still be responsible for any non-refundable travel expenses.

The Advisor's fee is exclusive of, and in addition to, advisory fees, financial planning and consulting fees, and/or other related costs and expenses, which may be incurred by the Client.

#### Additional Fees and Expenses

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may invest, or recommend that you invest, in mutual funds and exchange traded funds. The fees that you pay to our firm for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds or exchange traded funds (described in each fund's prospectus) to their shareholders. These fees will generally include a management fee and other fund expenses. You will also incur transaction charges and/or brokerage fees when purchasing or selling securities. These charges and fees are typically imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian through whom your account transactions are executed. We do not share in any portion of the brokerage fees/transaction charges imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian. To fully understand the total cost you will incur, you should review all the fees charged by mutual funds, exchange traded funds, our firm, and others. For information on our brokerage practices, refer to the *Brokerage Practices* section of this brochure.

#### State of California Required Disclosures

While our firm endeavors at all times to offer clients specialized services at reasonable costs, the fees charged by other investments advisers for comparable services may be lower than the fees charged by our firm.

#### **IRA Rollover Considerations**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may recommend that you withdraw the assets from your employer's retirement plan and roll the assets over to an individual retirement account ("IRA") that we will manage on your behalf. If you elect to roll the assets to an IRA that is subject to our management, we will charge you an asset based fee as set forth in the agreement you executed with our firm. This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice on our behalf have an incentive to recommend a rollover to you for the purpose of generating fee based compensation rather than solely based on your needs. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to complete the rollover. Moreover, if you do complete the rollover, you are under no obligation to have the assets in an IRA managed by our firm.

Many employers permit former employees to keep their retirement assets in their company plan. Also, current employees can sometimes move assets out of their company plan before they retire or change jobs. In determining whether to complete the rollover to an IRA, and to the extent the following options are available, you should consider the costs and benefits of:

- 1. Leaving the funds in your employer's (former employer's) plan.
- 2. Moving the funds to a new employer's retirement plan.
- 3. Cashing out and taking a taxable distribution from the plan.
- 4. Rolling the funds into an IRA rollover account.

Each of these options has advantages and disadvantages and before making a change we encourage you to speak with your CPA and/or tax attorney.

If you are considering rolling over your retirement funds to an IRA for us to manage here are a few points to consider before you do so:

- 1. Determine whether the investment options in your employer's retirement plan address your needs or whether you might want to consider other types of investments.
  - a. Employer retirement plans generally have a more limited investment menu than IRAs.
  - b. Employer retirement plans may have unique investment options not available to the public such as employer securities, or previously closed funds.
- 2. Your current plan may have lower fees than our fees.
  - a. If you are interested in investing only in mutual funds, you should understand the cost structure of the share classes available in your employer's retirement plan and how the costs of those share classes compare with those available in an IRA.
  - b. You should understand the various products and services you might take advantage of at an IRA provider and the potential costs of those products and services.
- 3. Our strategy may have higher risk than the option(s) provided to you in your plan.
- 4. Your current plan may also offer financial advice.
- 5. If you keep your assets titled in a 401k or retirement account, you could potentially delay your required minimum distribution beyond age 70.5.
- 6. Your 401k may offer more liability protection than a rollover IRA; each state may vary.
  - a. Generally, federal law protects assets in qualified plans from creditors. Since 2005, IRA assets have been generally protected from creditors in bankruptcies. However, there can be some exceptions to the general rules so you should consult with an attorney if you are concerned about protecting your retirement plan assets from creditors.
- 7. You may be able to take out a loan on your 401k, but not from an IRA.
- 8. IRA assets can be accessed any time; however, distributions are subject to ordinary income tax and may also be subject to a 10% early distribution penalty unless they qualify for an exception such as disability, higher education expenses or the purchase of a home.
- 9. If you own company stock in your plan, you may be able to liquidate those shares at a lower capital gains tax rate.
- 10. Your plan may allow you to hire us as the manager and keep the assets titled in the plan name.

It is important that you understand the differences between these types of accounts and to decide whether a rollover is best for you. Prior to proceeding, if you have questions contact your investment adviser representative, or call our main number as listed on the cover page of this brochure.

# Item 6 Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management

We do not accept performance-based fees or participate in side-by-side management. Performancebased fees are fees that are based on a share of a capital gains or capital appreciation of a client's account. Side-by-side management refers to the practice of managing accounts that are charged performance-based fees while at the same time managing accounts that are not charged performancebased fees. Our fees are calculated as described in the *Fees and Compensation* section above, and are not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains upon, or capital appreciation of, the funds in your advisory account.

# Item 7 Types of Clients

We offer investment advisory services to individuals, including high net worth individuals, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, corporations, and other business entities. In general, we require a minimum of \$500,000 to open and maintain an investment management advisory account. At our discretion, we may waive this minimum account size. For example, we may waive the minimum if you appear to have significant potential for increasing your assets under our management. We may also combine account values for you and your minor children, joint accounts with your spouse, and other types of related accounts to meet the stated minimum.

### Item 8 Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss

We may use one or more of the following methods of analysis or investment strategies when providing investment advice to you:

<u>Modern Portfolio Theory</u> - a theory of investment which attempts to maximize portfolio expected return for a given amount of portfolio risk, or equivalently minimize risk for a given level of expected return, by carefully diversifying the proportions of various assets.

*Risk:* Market risk is that part of a security's risk that is common to all securities of the same general class (stocks and bonds) and thus cannot be eliminated by diversification.

<u>Long-Term Purchases</u> - securities purchased with the expectation that the value of those securities will grow over a relatively long period of time, generally greater than one year.

*Risk:* Using a long-term purchase strategy generally assumes the financial markets will go up in the long-term which may not be the case. There is also the risk that the segment of the market that you are invested in or perhaps just your particular investment will go down over time even if the overall financial markets advance. Purchasing investments long-term may create an opportunity cost - "locking-up" assets that may be better utilized in the short-term in other investments.

<u>Short-Term Purchases</u> - securities purchased with the expectation that they will be sold within a relatively short period of time, generally less than one year, to take advantage of the securities' short-term price fluctuations.

*Risk*: Using a short-term purchase strategy generally assumes that we can predict how financial markets will perform in the short-term which may be very difficult and will incur a disproportionately higher amount of transaction costs compared to long-term trading. There are many factors that can affect financial market performance in the short-term (such as short-term interest rate changes, cyclical earnings announcements, etc.) but may have a smaller impact over longer periods of times.

<u>Trading</u> - We may use frequent trading (in general, selling securities within 30 days of purchasing the same securities) as an investment strategy when managing your account(s). Frequent trading is not a fundamental part of our overall investment strategy, but we may use this strategy occasionally when we determine that it is suitable given your stated investment objectives and tolerance for risk. This may include buying and selling securities frequently in an effort to capture significant market gains and avoid significant losses.

*Risk*: When a frequent trading policy is in effect, there is a risk that investment performance within your account may be negatively affected, particularly through increased brokerage and other transactional costs and taxes.

Our investment strategies and advice may vary depending upon each client's specific financial situation. As such, we determine investments and allocations based upon your predefined objectives, risk tolerance, time horizon, financial information, liquidity needs and other various suitability factors. Your restrictions and guidelines may affect the composition of your portfolio. It is important that you notify us immediately with respect to any material changes to your financial circumstances, including for example, a change in your current or expected income level, tax circumstances, or employment status.

We will not perform quantitative or qualitative analysis of individual securities. Instead, we will advise you on how to allocate your assets among various classes of securities or third party money managers. We primarily rely on investment model portfolios and strategies developed by the third party money managers and their portfolio managers. We may replace/recommend replacing a third party money manager if there is a significant deviation in characteristics or performance from the stated strategy and/or benchmark.

#### **Tax Considerations**

Our strategies and investments may have unique and significant tax implications. However, unless we specifically agree otherwise, and in writing, tax efficiency is not our primary consideration in the management of your assets. Regardless of your account size or any other factors, we strongly recommend that you consult with a tax professional regarding the investing of your assets.

Moreover, custodians and broker-dealers must report the cost basis of equities acquired in client accounts on or after January 1, 2011. Your custodian will default to the First-In First-Out ("FIFO") accounting method for calculating the cost basis of your investments. You are responsible for contacting your tax advisor to determine if this accounting method is the right choice for you. If your tax advisor believes another accounting method is more advantageous, provide written notice to our firm immediately and we will alert your account custodian of your individually selected accounting method. Decisions about cost basis accounting methods will need to be made before trades settle, as the cost basis method cannot be changed after settlement.

#### **Risk of Loss**

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that you should be prepared to bear. We do not represent or guarantee that our services or methods of analysis can or will predict future results, successfully identify market tops or bottoms, or insulate clients from losses due to market corrections or declines. We cannot offer any guarantees or promises that your financial goals and objectives will be met. Past performance is in no way an indication of future performance.

#### **Recommendation of Particular Types of Securities**

We primarily recommend stocks, bonds, exchange traded funds ("ETFs"), and mutual funds. However, we may advise on other types of investments as appropriate for you since each client has different needs and different tolerance for risk. Each type of security has its own unique set of risks associated with it and it would not be possible to list here all of the specific risks of every type of investment. Even within the same type of investment, risks can vary widely. However, in very general terms, the higher the anticipated return of an investment, the higher the risk of loss associated with the investment.

**Bonds:** Corporate debt securities (or "bonds") are typically safer investments than equity securities, but their risk can also vary widely based on: the financial health of the issuer; the risk that the issuer might default; when the bond is set to mature; and, whether or not the bond can be "called" prior to maturity. When a bond is called, it may not be possible to replace it with a bond of equal character paying the same rate of return.

**Stocks:** There are numerous ways of measuring the risk of equity securities (also known simply as "equities" or "stock"). In very broad terms, the value of a stock depends on the financial health of the company issuing it. However, stock prices can be affected by many other factors including, but not limited to the class of stock (for example, preferred or common); the health of the market sector of the issuing company; and, the overall health of the economy. In general, larger, better established companies ("large cap") tend to be safer than smaller start-up companies ("small cap") are but the mere size of an issuer is not, by itself, an indicator of the safety of the investment.

Mutual Funds and Exchange Traded Funds: Mutual funds and exchange traded funds ("ETFs") are professionally managed collective investment systems that pool money from many investors and invest in stocks, bonds, short-term money market instruments, other mutual funds, other securities, or any combination thereof. The fund will have a manager that trades the fund's investments in accordance with the fund's investment objective. While mutual funds and ETFs generally provide diversification. risks can be significantly increased if the fund is concentrated in a particular sector of the market. primarily invests in small cap or speculative companies, uses leverage (i.e., borrows money) to a significant degree, or concentrates in a particular type of security (i.e., equities) rather than balancing the fund with different types of securities. ETFs differ from mutual funds since they can be bought and sold throughout the day like stock and their price can fluctuate throughout the day. The returns on mutual funds and ETFs can be reduced by the costs to manage the funds. Also, while some mutual funds are "no load" and charge no fee to buy into, or sell out of, the fund, other types of mutual funds do charge such fees which can also reduce returns. Mutual funds can also be "closed end" or "open end". So-called "open end" mutual funds continue to allow in new investors indefinitely whereas "closed end" funds have a fixed number of shares to sell which can limit their availability to new investors.

ETFs may have tracking error risks. For example, the ETF investment adviser may not be able to cause the ETF's performance to match that of the underlying index or other benchmark, which may negatively affect the ETF's performance. In addition, for leveraged and inverse ETFs that seek to track the performance of their underlying indices or benchmarks on a daily basis, mathematical compounding may prevent the ETF from correlating with performance of its benchmark. In addition, an ETF may not have investment exposure to all of the securities included in its Underlying Index, or its weighting of investment exposure to such securities may vary from that of the Underlying Index. Some ETFs may invest in securities or financial instruments that are not included in the underlying index, but which are expected to yield similar performance.

# **Item 9 Disciplinary Information**

We are required to disclose the facts of any legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management. We do not have any required disclosures under this item.

# Item 10 Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

We have not provided information on other financial industry activities and affiliations because we do not have any relationship or arrangement that is material to our advisory business or to our clients with any of the types of entities listed below.

- 1. broker-dealer, municipal securities dealer, or government securities dealer or broker.
- investment company or other pooled investment vehicle (including a mutual fund, closed-end investment company, unit investment trust, private investment company or "hedge fund," and offshore fund).
- 3. other investment adviser or financial planner.
- 4. futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, or commodity trading advisor.
- 5. banking or thrift institution.
- 6. accountant or accounting firm.
- 7. lawyer or law firm.
- 8. insurance company or agency.
- 9. pension consultant.
- 10.real estate broker or dealer.

11.sponsor or syndicator of limited partnerships.

# Item 11 Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading

#### **Description of Our Code of Ethics**

We strive to comply with applicable laws and regulations governing our practices. Therefore, our Code of Ethics includes guidelines for professional standards of conduct for persons associated with our firm. Our goal is to protect your interests at all times and to demonstrate our commitment to our fiduciary duties of honesty, good faith, and fair dealing with you. All persons associated with our firm are expected to adhere strictly to these guidelines. Persons associated with our firm are also required to report any violations of our Code of Ethics. Additionally, we maintain and enforce written policies reasonably designed to prevent the misuse or dissemination of material, non-public information about you or your account holdings by persons associated with our firm.

Clients or prospective clients may obtain a copy of our Code of Ethics by contacting us at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure.

#### Participation or Interest in Client Transactions

Neither our firm nor any persons associated with our firm has any material financial interest in client transactions beyond the provision of investment advisory services as disclosed in this brochure.

#### **Personal Trading Practices**

Our firm or persons associated with our firm may buy or sell the same securities that we recommend to you or securities in which you are already invested. A conflict of interest exists in such cases because we have the ability to trade ahead of you and potentially receive more favorable prices than you will receive. To mitigate this conflict of interest, it is our policy that neither our firm nor persons associated with our firm shall have priority over your account in the purchase or sale of securities.

# Item 12 Brokerage Practices

We recommend the brokerage and custodial services of Betterment Securities and TD Ameritrade (whether one or more "Custodian"). In all cases, the recommended Custodian is a securities brokerdealer and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. We believe that the recommended Custodian provides quality execution services for you at competitive prices. Price is not the sole factor we consider in evaluating best execution. We also consider the quality of the brokerage services provided by the Custodian, including the value of the Custodian's reputation, execution capabilities, commission rates, and responsiveness to our clients and our firm. In recognition of the value of the services the Custodian provides, you may pay higher commissions and/or trading costs than those that may be available elsewhere.

WealthBuilders, LLC is not affiliated with the brokerage firms. The brokerage firms do not supervise the advisor, its agents or activities.

WealthBuilders, LLC does not maintain custody of your assets that we manage or which we advise, although we may be deemed to have custody of your assets if you give us authority to withdraw advisory fees from your account. Your assets must be maintained in an account at a "qualified custodian", generally a broker-dealer or bank. We may also recommend that our clients use MTG, LLC d/b/a Betterment Securities ("Betterment Securities"), a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC, as the qualified custodian. We are independently owned and operated and are not affiliated with Betterment Securities. Betterment Securities will hold your assets in a brokerage account and buy and sell securities when we and/or you instruct them to. While we recommend that you use Betterment Securities as custodian/broker, you will decide whether to do so and will open your account with Betterment Securities by entering into an account agreement directly with them. We do not open the account for you, although we may assist you in doing so. If you do not wish to place your assets with Betterment Securities, then we cannot manage your account on Betterment for Advisors.

#### How We Select Brokers/Custodians

We seek to recommend a custodian/broker that will hold your assets and execute transactions on terms that are, overall, most advantageous when compared with other available providers and their services. We consider a wide range of factors, including:

- Capability to execute, clear, and settle trades (buy and sell securities for your account) itself or to facilitate such services;
- · Capability to facilitate timely transfers and payments to and from accounts;
- · Availability of investment research and tools that assist us in making investment decisions;
- · Quality of services;
- · Competitiveness of the price of those services and willingness to negotiate the prices;
- · Reputation, financial strength, and stability; and
- Prior service to us and our other clients.

#### Your Brokerage and Custody Costs

For our clients' accounts that Betterment Securities maintains, Betterment Securities generally does not charge you separately for custody services, but is compensated as part of the Betterment For Advisors (defined below) platform fee, which is a percentage of the dollar amount of assets in the account in lieu of commissions. We have determined that having Betterment Securities execute trades is consistent with our duty to seek "best execution" of your trades. Best execution means the most favorable terms for a transaction based on all relevant factors, including those listed above. Refer to *How We Select Brokers/Custodians* above.

#### Services Available to Us Via Betterment For Advisors

Betterment Securities serves as broker dealer to Betterment For Advisors, an investment and advice platform serving independent investment advisory firms like us ("Betterment For Advisors"). Betterment For Advisors also makes available various support services which may not be available to Betterment's retail customers. Some of those services help us manage or administer our clients' accounts, while others help us manage and grow our business. Betterment For Advisors' support services are generally available on an unsolicited basis (we don't have to request them) and at no charge to us. The following is a more detailed description of Betterment For Advisors' support services:

**1. Services That Benefit You**: Betterment For Advisors includes access to a range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of client assets through Betterment Securities. Betterment Securities' services described in this paragraph generally benefit you and your account.

**2. Services That May Not Directly Benefit You**: Betterment For Advisors also makes available to us other products and services that benefit us, but may not directly benefit you or your account. These products and services assist us in managing and administering our clients' accounts, such as software and technology that may: assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and client reporting of our clients' accounts; provide access to client account data (such as duplicate trade confirmations and account statements); provide pricing and other market data; and assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and client reporting.

**3. Services That Generally Benefit Only Us**: By using Betterment For Advisors, we will be offered other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. These services include: educational conferences and events, consulting on technology, compliance, legal, and business needs; publications and conferences on practice management and business succession.

#### **Our Interest In Betterment Securities' Services**

The availability of these services from Betterment For Advisors benefits us because we do not have to produce or purchase them. In addition, we don't have to pay for Betterment Securities' services. These services may be contingent upon us committing a certain amount of business to Betterment Securities in assets in custody. We may have an incentive to recommend that you maintain your account with Betterment Securities, based on our interest in receiving Betterment For Advisors and Betterment Securities' services that benefit our business rather than based on your interest in receiving the best value in custody services and the most favorable execution of your transactions. This is a potential conflict of interest. We believe, however, that our selection of Betterment Securities as custodian and broker is in the best interests of our clients. Our selection is primarily supported by the scope, quality, and price of Betterment Securities' service.

#### **TD Ameritrade Institutional**

We participate in the institutional advisor program (the "Program") offered by TD Ameritrade Institutional. TD Ameritrade Institutional is a division of TD Ameritrade Inc., member FINRA/SIPC ("TD Ameritrade "), an unaffiliated SEC-registered broker-dealer and FINRA member. TD Ameritrade offers to independent investment advisors services which include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions. We receive some benefits from TD Ameritrade through our participation in the Program.

As disclosed above, we participate in TD Ameritrade's institutional customer program and we may recommend TD Ameritrade to you for custody and brokerage services. There is no direct link between our participation in the Program and the investment advice we give you, although we receive economic benefits through our participation in the Program that are typically not available to TD Ameritrade retail investors. These benefits include the following products and services (provided without cost or at a discount): receipt of duplicate Client statements and confirmations; research related products and

tools; consulting services; access to a trading desk serving our participants; access to block trading (which provides the ability to aggregate securities transactions for execution and then allocate the appropriate shares to your accounts); the ability to have advisory fees deducted directly from your accounts; access to an electronic communications network for order entry and account information; access to mutual funds with no transaction fees and to certain institutional money managers; and discounts on compliance, marketing, research, technology, and practice management products or services provided to us by third party vendors. TD Ameritrade may also have paid for business consulting and professional services received by our related persons. Some of the products and services made available by TD Ameritrade through the Program may benefit us but may not benefit your accounts. These products or services may assist us in managing and administering your accounts, including accounts not maintained at TD Ameritrade. Other services made available by TD Ameritrade are intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. The benefits received by us or our personnel through participation in the Program do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to TD Ameritrade. As part of our fiduciary duties to you, we endeavor at all times to put your interests first. You should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by us or our related persons in and of itself creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence our choice of TD Ameritrade for custody and brokerage services.

#### **Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits**

We do not have any soft dollar arrangements.

#### **Economic Benefits**

As a registered investment adviser, we have access to the institutional platform of your account custodian. As such, we will also have access to research products and services from your account custodian and/or other brokerage firm. These products may include financial publications, information about particular companies and industries, research software, and other products or services that provide lawful and appropriate assistance to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities. Such research products and services are provided to all investment advisers that utilize the institutional services platforms of these firms, and are not considered to be paid for with soft dollars. However, you should be aware that the commissions charged by a particular broker for a particular transaction or set of transactions may be greater than the amounts another broker who did not provide research services or products might charge.

#### **Brokerage for Client Referrals**

We do not receive client referrals from broker-dealers in exchange for cash or other compensation, such as brokerage services or research.

#### **Directed Brokerage**

In limited circumstances, and at our discretion, some clients may instruct our firm to use one or more particular brokers for the transactions in their accounts. If you choose to direct our firm to use a particular broker, you should understand that this might prevent our firm from aggregating trades with other client accounts or from effectively negotiating brokerage commissions on your behalf. This practice may also prevent our firm from obtaining favorable net price and execution. Thus, when directing brokerage business, you should consider whether the commission expenses, execution, clearance, and settlement capabilities that you will obtain through your broker are adequately favorable in comparison to those that we would otherwise obtain for you.

#### **Block Trades**

We do not combine multiple orders for shares of the same securities purchased for advisory accounts we manage (this practice is commonly referred to as "block trading") because we typically invest in mutual funds and exchange traded funds which generally do not trade in blocks.

We do not block trade for non-discretionary accounts. Accordingly, non-discretionary accounts may pay different costs than discretionary accounts pay. If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we may not be able to buy and sell the same quantities of securities for you and you may pay higher commissions, fees, and/or transaction costs than clients who enter into discretionary arrangements with our firm.

# **Item 13 Review of Accounts**

#### Portfolio Management Reviews

Eric Rodriguez, Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer, of WealthBuilders, LLC will monitor your accounts on an ongoing basis and will conduct account reviews at least annually, to ensure the advisory services provided to you are consistent with your investment needs and objectives. Additional reviews may be conducted based on various circumstances, including, but not limited to contributions and withdrawals, year-end tax planning, market moving events, security specific events, and/or, changes in your risk/return objectives. We will not provide you with additional or regular written reports. You will receive trade confirmations and monthly or quarterly statements from your account custodian(s).

#### **Financial Planning Reviews**

Eric Rodriguez, Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer, of WealthBuilders, LLC will review financial plans as needed, depending on the arrangements made with you at the inception of your advisory relationship to ensure that the advice provided is consistent with your investment needs and objectives. Generally, we will contact you periodically to determine whether any updates may be needed based on changes in your circumstances. Changed circumstances may include, but are not limited to marriage, divorce, birth, death, inheritance, lawsuit, retirement, job loss and/or disability, among others. We recommend meeting with you at least annually to review and update your plan if needed. Additional reviews will be conducted upon your request. Such reviews and updates may be subject to our then current hourly rate.

We will provide you with additional or regular written reports in conjunction with account reviews. Reports we provide to you will contain relevant account and/or market-related information such as an inventory of account holdings and account performance, etc. You will receive trade confirmations and monthly or quarterly statements from your account custodian(s).

# Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation

#### **TD Ameritrade Institutional Customer Program**

As disclosed above under *Item 12 Brokerage Practices*, we participate in TD Ameritrade's Institutional Customer Program ("Institutional Program") and we may recommend TD Ameritrade to clients for custodial and brokerage services. There is no direct link between our participation in the program and the investment advice we give to our clients, although we receive economic benefits through our participation in the program that are typically not available to TD Ameritrade retail investors. These benefits include the following products and services (provided without cost or at a discount): receipt of duplicate client statements and confirmations; research related products and tools; consulting services; access to a trading desk serving adviser participants; access to block trading (which provides the ability to aggregate securities transactions for execution and then allocate the appropriate shares to client accounts); the ability to have advisory fees deducted directly from client information; access to an electronic communications network for client order entry and account information; access to mutual funds with no transaction fees and to certain institutional money managers; and discounts on compliance, marketing, research, technology, and practice management products or services provided to our firm by third party vendors. TD Ameritrade may also have paid for business consulting and professional services received by our Associated Persons. Some of the

products and services made available by TD Ameritrade through the program may benefit our firm but may not benefit our Client accounts. These products or services may assist us in managing and administering Client accounts, including accounts not maintained at TD Ameritrade. Other services made available by TD Ameritrade are intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. The benefits received by our Firm or our Associated Persons through participation in the program do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to TD Ameritrade. As part of our fiduciary duties to our clients, we endeavor at all times to put the interests of our clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by our firm or our Associated Persons in and of themselves creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence our choice of TD Ameritrade for custody and brokerage services.

We receive a non-economic benefit from Betterment for Advisors and Betterment Securities in the form of the support products and services it makes available to us and other independent investment advisors whose clients maintain their accounts at Betterment Securities. These products and services, how they benefit us, and the related conflicts of interest are described above (see Item 12—Brokerage Practices). The availability to us of Betterment For Advisors and Betterment Securities' products and services is not based on us giving particular investment advice, such as buying particular securities for our clients.

Refer to the *Brokerage Practices* section above for disclosures on research and other benefits we may receive resulting from our relationship with your account custodian.

### Item 15 Custody

As paying agent for our firm, Betterment Securities and TD Ameritrade will directly debit your account(s) for the payment of our advisory fees. This ability to deduct our advisory fees from your accounts causes our firm to exercise limited custody over your funds or securities. We do not have physical custody of any of your funds and/or securities. Your funds and securities will be held with a bank, broker-dealer, or other qualified custodian. You will receive account statements from TD Ameritrade and Betterment Securities at least quarterly at <u>www.bettermentsecurities.com</u>. The account statements from your custodian(s) will indicate the amount of our advisory fees deducted from your account(s) each billing period. You should carefully review account statements for accuracy.

WealthBuilders, LLC is not affiliated with the custodian(s). The custodian(s) do not supervise the advisor, its agents or activities.

We will also provide statements to you reflecting the amount of the advisory fee deducted from your account. You should compare our statements with the statements from your account custodian(s) to reconcile the information reflected on each statement. If you have a question regarding your account statement, or if you did not receive a statement from your custodian, contact us immediately at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure.

### **Item 16 Investment Discretion**

Before we can buy or sell securities on your behalf, you must first sign our discretionary management agreement and the appropriate trading authorization forms.

You may grant our firm discretion over the selection and amount of securities to be purchased or sold for your account(s) without obtaining your consent or approval prior to each transaction. You may specify investment objectives, guidelines, and/or impose certain conditions or investment parameters for your account(s). For example, you may specify that the investment in any particular stock or

industry should not exceed specified percentages of the value of the portfolio and/or restrictions or prohibitions of transactions in the securities of a specific industry or security. Refer to the *Advisory Business* section in this brochure for more information on our discretionary management services.

If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we will obtain your approval prior to the execution of any transactions for your account(s). You have an unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice provided by our firm on a non-discretionary basis.

# **Item 17 Voting Client Securities**

We will not vote proxies on behalf of your advisory accounts. At your request, we may offer you advice regarding corporate actions and the exercise of your proxy voting rights. If you own shares of applicable securities, you are responsible for exercising your right to vote as a shareholder.

In most cases, you will receive proxy materials directly from the account custodian. However, in the event we were to receive any written or electronic proxy materials, we would forward them directly to you by mail, unless you have authorized our firm to contact you by electronic mail, in which case, we would forward any electronic solicitations to vote proxies.

# **Item 18 Financial Information**

Our firm does not have any financial condition or impairment that would prevent us from meeting our contractual commitments to you. We do not take physical custody of client funds or securities, or serve as trustee or signatory for client accounts, and, we do not require the prepayment of more than \$500 in fees six or more months in advance. Therefore, we are not required to include a financial statement with this brochure.

We have not filed a bankruptcy petition at any time in the past ten years.

# Item 19 Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

Refer to the Part(s) 2B for background information about our principal executive officers, management personnel and those giving advice on behalf of our firm.

Our firm is not actively engaged in any business other than giving investment advice that is not already disclosed above.

Neither our firm, nor any persons associated with our firm are compensated for advisory services with performance-based fees. Refer to the *Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management* section above for additional information on this topic.

Neither our firm, nor any of our management persons have any reportable arbitration claims, civil, self-regulatory organization proceedings, or administrative proceedings.

Neither our firm, nor any of our management persons have a material relationship or arrangement with any issuer of securities.

#### State of California Required Disclosures

All material conflicts of interest under CCR Section 260.238 (k) are disclosed regarding the investment adviser, its representatives or any of its employees, which could be reasonably expected to impair the rendering of unbiased and objective advice.

# **Item 20 Additional Information**

#### **Your Privacy**

We view protecting your private information as a top priority. Pursuant to applicable privacy requirements, we have instituted policies and procedures to ensure that we keep your personal information private and secure.

We do not disclose any non-public personal information about you to any non-affiliated third parties, except as permitted by law. In the course of servicing your account, we may share some information with our service providers, such as transfer agents, custodians, broker-dealers, accountants, consultants, and attorneys.

We restrict internal access to non-public personal information about you to employees, who need that information in order to provide products or services to you. We maintain physical and procedural safeguards that comply with regulatory standards to guard your non-public personal information and to ensure our integrity and confidentiality. We will not sell information about you or your accounts to anyone. We do not share your information unless it is required to process a transaction, at your request, or required by law.

You will receive a copy of our privacy notice prior to or at the time you sign an advisory agreement with our firm. Thereafter, we will deliver a copy of the current privacy policy notice to you on an annual basis. Contact our main office at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure if you have any questions regarding this policy.

If you decide to close your account(s) we will adhere to our privacy policies, which may be amended from time to time.

If we make any substantive changes in our privacy policy that would further permit or require disclosures of your private information, we will provide written notice to you. Where the change is based on permitted disclosures, you will be given an opportunity to direct us as to whether such disclosure is acceptable. Where the change is based on required disclosures, you will only receive written notice of the change. You may not opt out of the required disclosures.

If you have questions about our privacy policies contact our main office at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure and ask to speak to the Chief Compliance Officer.

#### **Trade Errors**

In the event a trading error occurs in your account, our policy is to restore your account to the position it should have been in had the trading error not occurred. Depending on the circumstances, corrective actions may include canceling the trade, adjusting an allocation, and/or reimbursing the account.

#### **Class Action Lawsuits**

We do not determine if securities held by you are the subject of a class action lawsuit or whether you are eligible to participate in class action settlements or litigation nor do we initiate or participate in litigation to recover damages on your behalf for injuries as a result of actions, misconduct, or negligence by issuers of securities held by you.

Eric Rodriguez, CFP<sup>®</sup>

# WealthBuilders, LLC

704 J Street San Diego, CA 92101

Telephone: 408-647-0518

January 15, 2021

#### FORM ADV PART 2B BROCHURE SUPPLEMENT

This brochure supplement provides information about Eric Rodriguez that supplements the WealthBuilders, LLC brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Contact us at 408-647-0518 if you did not receive WealthBuilders, LLC's brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Eric Rodriguez (CRD # 4787519) is available on the SEC's website at <u>www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.</u>

# Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience

#### Eric Rodriguez, CFP®

Year of Birth: 1982 Formal Education After High School:

• San Jose State University, BA Communications, 8/2000 - 12/2004

Business Background:

- WealthBuilders, LLC, Managing Member/ Chief Compliance Officer, 10/2016 Present
- Fleetcor Technologies, Director of Strategic Sales, 4/2017 7/2018
- LearnVest, Senior Manager Business Development, 6/2015 4/2017
- American Express, National Manager Business Development, 12/2010 5/2015
- ADP, District Manager, 1/2010 1/2011
- World Group Securities, Registered Representative, 1/2004 1/2010

#### Certifications: CFP

**The CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, CFP**<sup>®</sup> and federally registered CFP<sup>®</sup> (with flame design) marks (collectively, the "CFP<sup>®</sup> marks") are professional certification marks granted in the United States by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. ("CFP Board").

The CFP<sup>®</sup> certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP<sup>®</sup> certification. It is recognized in the United States and a number of other countries for its (1) high standard of professional education; (2) stringent code of conduct and standards of practice; and (3) ethical requirements that govern professional engagements with clients. Currently, more than 71,000 individuals have obtained CFP<sup>®</sup> certification in the United States.

To attain the right to use the CFP<sup>®</sup> marks, an individual must satisfactorily fulfill the following requirements:

- Education Complete an advanced college-level course of study addressing the financial planning subject areas that CFP Board's studies have determined as necessary for the competent and professional delivery of financial planning services, and attain a Bachelor's Degree from a regionally accredited United States college or university (or its equivalent from a foreign university). CFP Board's financial planning subject areas include insurance planning and risk management, employee benefits planning, investment planning, income tax planning, retirement planning, and estate planning;
- Examination Pass the comprehensive CFP<sup>®</sup> Certification Examination. The examination includes case studies and client scenarios designed to test one's ability to correctly diagnose financial planning issues and apply one's knowledge of financial planning to real world circumstances;
- Experience Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent, measured as 2,000 hours per year); and
- Ethics Agree to be bound by CFP Board's *Standards of Professional Conduct*, a set of documents outlining the ethical and practice standards for CFP<sup>®</sup> professionals.

Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to continue to use the CFP<sup>®</sup> marks:

• Continuing Education - Complete 30 hours of continuing education hours every two years, including two hours on the *Code of Ethics* and other parts of the *Standards of Professional Conduct*, to maintain competence and keep up with developments in the financial planning field; and

 Ethics - Renew an agreement to be bound by the Standards of Professional Conduct. The Standards prominently require that CFP<sup>®</sup> professionals provide financial planning services at a fiduciary standard of care. This means CFP<sup>®</sup> professionals must provide financial planning services in the best interests of their clients.

CFP<sup>®</sup> professionals who fail to comply with the above standards and requirements may be subject to CFP Board's enforcement process, which could result in suspension or permanent revocation of their CFP<sup>®</sup> certification.

# **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Form ADV Part 2B requires disclosure of certain criminal or civil actions, administrative proceedings, and self-regulatory organization proceedings, as well as certain other proceedings related to suspension or revocation of a professional attainment, designation, or license. Mr. Eric Rodriguez has no required disclosures under this item.

# **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

#### **Outside Business Activities**

Eric Rodriguez is the author of "*R.E.T.I.R.E. On Your Terms: 6 Steps To Build To Build Your Wealth*", a personal finance book that provides general financial planning information to high earning sales executives, business owners, and growing families. Mr. Rodriguez's duties as the author of "*R.E.T.I.R.E. On Your Terms: 6 Steps To Build To Build Your Wealth*" can create a potential conflict of interest to his provision of advisory services through WealthBuilders, LLC should a client purchase the book. Mr. Rodriguez receives compensation for the book in the amount of \$19.99 per book sold. Since the book is already written, he does not devote any additional time to this outside business activity.

Eric Rodriguez is the managing member and co-host of the podcast, Avocado Toast Podcast LLC, a podcast that provides financial education to millennials. Along with the podcast, Mr. Rodriguez and co-host Mathew Wheeler, CPA, will conduct the Avocado Toast Financial Planning Club ("Club"). The Club is a Do-It-Yourself community of like-minded individuals with an interest in financial education. The purpose of the Club is to provide affordable educational resources so the members can do their own financial plans, tax, and investment management. The Club will have a monthly subscription rate of \$19.99-\$40 per month. Mr. Rodriguez devotes approximately 8 hours per month to this outside business activity. Mr. Rodriguez duties do not create a conflict of interest to his provision of advisory services through WealthBuilders, LLC as no clients of the RIA will be clients of Avocado Toast.

# **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Refer to the *Other Business Activities* section above for disclosures on Mr. Rodriguez's receipt of additional compensation as a result of his other business activities.

Also, refer to the *Fees and Compensation*, *Client Referrals and Other Compensation, and Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations* section(s) of WealthBuilders, LLC's firm brochure for additional disclosures on this topic.

# **Item 6 Supervision**

As the Managing Member/ Chief Compliance Officer of WealthBuilders, LLC, Eric Rodriguez supervises the advisory activities of our firm. Eric Rodriguez can be reached at 408-647-0518.

# Item 7 Requirements for State Registered Advisers

Eric Rodriguez does not have any reportable arbitration claims, has not been found liable in a reportable civil, self-regulatory organization or administrative proceeding, and has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.