

# Efficient Wealth Management, LLC

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June 21, 2017

FORM ADV PART 2 BROCHURE

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Efficient Wealth Management, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (281) 528-1200. 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 Efficient Wealth Management, LLC is also available on the SEC's website at <a href="www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>. The searchable IARD/CRD number for Efficient Wealth Management, LLC is 134242.

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 Material Changes**

As a registered investment adviser, we must ensure that our brochure is current and accurate and makes full disclosure of all material facts relating to the advisory relationship. If there have been any material changes to our business or advisory practices since our last annual update, we will provide a description of such material changes here.

Since our last annual updating amendment dated March 20, 2017, we have made the following material changes to our brochure:

• Item 4 has been updated to include the firm's new fee schedule.

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## **Item 4 Advisory Business**

Efficient Wealth Management, LLC, is registered investment adviser based in The Woodlands, Texas. We are organized as a limited liability company under the laws of the State of Texas. We have been providing investment advisory services since 2005. Paul James Carroll, Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer, is our principal owner. Our mission is to provide our clients with sensible and unbiased financial planning solutions where the interests of our clients always come first. Our goal is to assist our clients in prioritizing and qualifying their financial goals, setting realistic expectations and implementing a disciplined and prudent investment and savings strategy to achieve these goals.

As a result of a change effective June 9, 2017, to the Employment Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), Efficient Wealth Management, LLC hereby acknowledges that it is a "fiduciary" when the firm's services are subject to the provisions of ERISA of 1974, as amended.

The following paragraphs describe our services and fees. Please 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 Efficient Wealth Management, LLC and the words "you", "your" and "client" refer to you as either a client or prospective client of our firm. Also, you may see the term Associated Person throughout this brochure. As used in this brochure, our Associated Persons are our firm's officers, employees, and all individuals providing investment advice on behalf of our firm.

# **Portfolio Monitoring & Asset Allocation Services**

We provide discretionary portfolio management services to our clients. 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 (the "suitability information") at the beginning of our advisory relationship. We will use the suitability information we gather 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 will customize an investment portfolio for you in accordance with your risk tolerance and investing objectives. Once we construct an investment portfolio for you, we will monitor your portfolio's performance on an ongoing basis, and will rebalance the portfolio as required by changes in market conditions and in your financial circumstances.

If you participate in our discretionary portfolio management services, we require you 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, a limited power of attorney, or trading authorization forms. You may limit our discretionary authority (for example, limiting the types of securities that can be purchased for your account) by providing our firm with your restrictions and guidelines in writing.

As part of this service, we will assist you in determining your investment goals and objectives, risk tolerance, and retirement plan time horizon in order to create an initial portfolio allocation designed to complement your educational, home ownership, and retirement funds goals and objectives. The advisory representative will then prepare an investment policy describing asset-class allocation recommendations without detailing specific holdings.

Our investment strategy will focus primarily on a buy and hold approach as opposed to short-term trading. Each portfolio will be initially designed to meet a particular investment goal, which your advisory representative has determined to be suitable for your circumstances. Once the appropriate portfolio has been determined, your advisory representative will review the portfolio at least monthly and, if necessary, rebalance your portfolio, based upon your individual needs and stated goals and objectives. As our client, you will have the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments to be held in your portfolio. Our strategy, generally, will be to seek long term portfolio growth while providing you with access to the personal advisory services of an advisory representative on at least an annual basis, or more often, depending upon your specific agreement with your advisory representative. Our advisory representatives will not attempt to manage short-term market fluctuations with active trading (market-timing/allocation, etc.).

In our work with clients, we discuss the payout options for defined benefit, 401(k) and other retirement plan types. When doing so, we may recommend that the client choose a lump sum payout. This may be a conflict of interest if the client decides to place those funds with us to be managed.

Our fee for portfolio management services is based on a percentage of your assets we manage and is charged according to the following fee schedule:

Portfolio Value	<u>Advisory Fee</u>
\$0 to \$2,000,000	1.0%
\$2,000,001 to \$4,000,000	0.9%
\$4,000,001 to \$7,000,000	0.8%
\$7,000,001 to \$10,000,000	0.7%
\$10,000,001 to \$25,000,000	0.6%
\$25,000,001 and up	0.5%

- \* Our minimum quarterly investment advisory fee is \$4,500
- \* Older client relationships may be subject to different fee schedules or minimum quarterly fees.
- \* If for any reason the client named in the Investment Advisory Agreement no longer wants to continue services with Efficient Wealth Management within the first 60 days after the Investment Advisory Agreement signing date, the client will receive a full refund of any fees paid.

For all accounts the fee schedule is tiered, whereby fees are assessed a flat percentage according to the corresponding portfolio value bracket.

At our discretion, we may assess lower than stated fees for existing accounts. We may also 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.

Unless otherwise agreed upon in writing, the advisory fee is allocated among all aggregated accounts and deducted in accordance with such allocation.

We may enter into arrangements with clients where we will manage retirement plan assets on a discretionary basis. If you engage our firm for such services, we must adhere to ERISA bonding requirements pursuant to ERISA Section 412 as well as any other applicable ERISA requirements.

Our annual portfolio management fee is billed and payable quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter. The initial fee is payable when your account is established. 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 quarter for which you are a client. Additional deposits to your account during a quarter are subject to the same fee procedures. Our advisory fee is negotiable, depending on individual client circumstances.

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 you have given our firm written authorization permitting the fees to be paid directly from your account. Further, the qualified custodian will deliver an account statement to you at least quarterly. These account statements will show all disbursements from your account. You should review all statements for accuracy. We will also receive a duplicate copy of your account statements.

You may terminate the portfolio management agreement by providing written notice to our firm. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the agreement for services, 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**

We offer financial planning services to individuals, mostly associated with the aviation industry. Our financial planning services will focus primarily on assisting individuals, who are considering retirement or who have retired from the aviation industry, in planning for their financial futures. We also work with aviation professionals, who are still accumulating wealth, in planning for their retirements. These services typically involve providing a variety of services to clients regarding the management of their financial resources based upon an analysis of their individual needs. The process typically begins with an initial complementary consultation. If during or after the initial consultation, you decide to engage our firm for financial planning services, we will collect pertinent information about your personal and financial circumstances and objectives. As required, we will conduct follow up meetings for the purposes of reviewing and/or collecting financial data. Once we study and analyzed the information you provide, we will deliver a written financial plan to you that is 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 our firm. You must promptly notify our firm if your financial situation, goals, objectives, or needs change.

Some clients may only require advice on a single aspect of the management of their financial resources. Under these circumstances, we offer general consulting services that are designed to address only those specific areas of interest or concern, depending on your unique circumstances.

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.

We charge an hourly fee of \$250.00 for financial planning services for non-asset management clients only. This is negotiable depending on the scope and complexity of the plan, your situation, and your financial objectives. An estimate of the total time/cost will be determined at the start of the advisory relationship. In limited circumstances, the cost/time could potentially exceed the initial estimate. In such cases, we will notify you and request that you approve the additional fee.

Fees are due upon completion of services rendered. However, we may allow for other fee-paying arrangements. For example, we may require that you pay an initial retainer fee equal to one-half of the estimated fee in advance of any services rendered. The balance would then be due upon completion of the contracted services however the work provided by the firm will always be completed within six months of collecting the initial deposit.

At our discretion, we may offset our advisory fees to the extent you implement your financial plan through our Portfolio Monitoring and Asset Allocation Services described above.

You may terminate the financial planning agreement by providing written notice to our firm. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the agreement. In the event there are any prepaid, unearned fees, we will promptly refund a pro rata share to you.

#### **Selection Of Other Advisers**

After gathering information about your financial situation and objectives, we may recommend that you utilize the services of an unaffiliated third party investment adviser ("TPA") who is better suited to manage your assets. Any TPA that we recommend has been vetted by our firm and must be registered as an investment adviser with either the Securities and Exchange Commission or with the appropriate state authority (ies).

Factors that we take into consideration when making our recommendation(s) include, but are not limited to, the TPA's performance and management style, fees, your financial needs and circumstances, investment goals, risk tolerance, and investment objectives. Our selection process is geared towards finding a right match for your expressed goals, while taking into consideration costs and expenses.

If you choose to engage the TPA(s) we recommend, you will be required to sign an agreement directly with the recommended TPA(s). That TPA will actively manage your portfolio and will assume discretionary investment authority over your account, provided you grant such authority in writing. Further, if you are an existing client, we will no longer be the adviser of record on your account, and the advisory agreement you have with our firm will terminate.

The advisory fee you pay to the TPA is established and payable in accordance with the ADV brochure provided by each TPA to whom you are referred. These fees may or may not be negotiable. We will share in the advisory fee you pay directly to the TPA for up to four years. Our compensation arrangement is set forth in the solicitor's disclosure document you will receive at the time of the referral.

You may terminate your advisory relationship with the TPA according to the terms of your agreement with the TPA. You should review each TPA's brochure for specific information on how you may terminate your advisory relationship with the TPA and

how you may receive a refund, if applicable. You should contact the TPA directly for questions regarding your advisory agreement with the TPA.

## **Types of Investments**

We primarily offer advice on equity securities, warrants, corporate debt securities, commercial paper, certificates of deposit, municipal securities, investment company securities, U.S. Government securities, options contracts on securities, futures contracts on securities and commodities, and interest in partnerships investing in real estate, oil and gas interests, and others.

Additionally, we may advise you on any type of investment that we deem appropriate 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.

You may request that we refrain from investing in particular securities or certain types of securities. You must provide these restrictions to our firm in writing.

## **Assets Under Management**

As of March 17, 2017, we manage \$295,208,983 in client assets on a discretionary basis.

## **Item 5 Fees and Compensation**

Please refer to the "Advisory Business" section in this Brochure for information on our advisory fees, fee paying arrangements, and refund policy according to each service we offer.

# **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, please refer to the "Brokerage Practices" section of this Disclosure 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. 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 performance-based fees.

Performance-based fees are fees that are based on a share of capital gains or capital appreciation of a client's account. Our fees are calculated as described in the Advisory Business 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 currently offer investment advisory services to individuals (including high net worth individuals and trust). We will also service charitable organizations, corporations, and other business entities. In general, we require a minimum of \$1,000,000 to open and maintain an 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

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 horizon, financial information, liquidity needs, and other various suitability factors. Your restrictions and guidelines may affect the composition of your portfolio.

# **Investment Strategies**

We may use one or more of the following investment strategies when formulating investment advice:

• Modern Portfolio Theory (MPT) - Asset Allocation (MPT is utilized extensively). MPT is 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. Market risk applies with MPT. 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.

## **Methods of Analysis**

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

- Long Term Purchases 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.
- Short Term Purchases 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.
- Margin Transactions a securities transaction in which an investor borrows money to purchase a security, in which case the security serves as collateral on the loan.
- Options Trading/Writing: a securities transaction that involves buying or selling (writing) an option. If you write an option, and the buyer exercises the option, you are obligated to purchase or deliver a specified number of shares at a specified price at the expiration of the option regardless of the market value of the security at expiration of the option. Buying an option gives you the right to purchase or sell a specified number of shares at a specified price until the date of expiration of the option regardless of the market value of the security at expiration of the option.

#### 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**

Where suitable, we primarily recommend investment in Exchange Traded Funds and Indexed Mutual Funds; however, we may recommend 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 it.

Mutual funds and exchange traded funds 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. Exchange traded funds 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". Open-end funds calculate the value of one share, known as the net asset value (NAV), only once a day, when the investment markets close. All purchase and sales for the day are recorded at that NAV. To figure its NAV, a fund adds up the total value of its investment holdings, subtracts the fund's fees and expenses, and divides that amount by the number of fund shares that investors are currently holding. NAV isn't necessarily a measure of a fund's success, as stock prices are, however. Since open-end funds can issue new shares and buy back old ones all the time, the number of shares and the dollars invested in the fund are constantly changing. That's why in comparing two funds it makes more sense to look at their total return over time rather than to compare their NAVs. Closed-end funds differ from open-end funds because they raise money only once in a single offering, much the way a stock issue raises money for the company only once, at its initial public offering, or IPO. After the shares are sold, the closed-end fund uses the money to buy a portfolio of underlying investments, and any further growth in the size of the fund depends on the return on its investments, not new investment dollars. The fund is then listed on an exchange, the way an individual stock is, and shares trade throughout the day.

# **Item 9 Disciplinary Information**

Efficient Wealth Management has been registered and providing investment advisory services since 2005. Neither our firm nor any of our associated persons has any reportable legal or disciplinary information.

# **Item 10 Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**

As disclosed in the "Advisory Business" section of this brochure, we may recommend that you use a third party adviser ("TPA") based on your needs and suitability. We will receive compensation from the TPA for recommending that you use their services. These compensation arrangements present a conflict of interest because we have a financial

incentive to recommend the services of the third party adviser. You are not obligated, contractually or otherwise, to use the services of any TPA we recommend.

## **Item 11 Code of Ethics and Personal Trading**

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 our Associated Persons. 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 of our Associated Persons are expected to adhere strictly to these guidelines. Our Code of Ethics also requires that certain persons associated with our firm submit reports of their personal account holdings and transactions to a qualified representative of our firm who will review these reports on a periodic basis. 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.

Our Code of Ethics is available to you upon request. You may obtain a copy of our Code of Ethics by contacting us at (281) 528-1200 or via email at Paul@EWealthMgmt.com.

## **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 eliminate this conflict of interest, it is our policy that neither our Associated Persons nor we 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 Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("Schwab") or Fidelity Institutional Wealth Services ("Fidelity"), securities broker-dealer and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. We believe that Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. and Fidelity Institutional Wealth Services provide 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 Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. and Fidelity Institutional Wealth Services, including the value of research provided, the firm's reputation, execution capabilities, commission rates, and responsiveness to our clients and our firm. In recognition of the value of research services and additional brokerage products and services Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. and Fidelity Institutional Wealth Services, provides, you may pay higher commissions and/or trading costs than those that may be available elsewhere.

Although not a material consideration when determining whether to recommend that a client utilize the services of a particular broker-dealer/custodian, we may receive from Schwab or Fidelity without cost (and/or at a discount) support services and/or products, certain of which assist us to better monitor and service client accounts maintained at such institutions. Included within the support services that may be obtained by us may be investment-related research, pricing information and market data, software and other technology that provide access to client account data, compliance and/or practice management-related publications, discounted or gratis consulting services, discounted and/or gratis attendance at conferences, meetings, and other educational and/or social events, marketing support, computer hardware and/or software, and/or other products used by us in furtherance of its investment supervisory business operations.

As indicated above, certain of the support services and/or products that *may* be received may assist us in managing and administering client accounts. Others do not directly provide such assistance, but rather assist us to manage and further develop its business enterprise.

Our clients do not pay more for investment transactions effected and/or assets maintained at Schwab or Fidelity as a result of this arrangement. There is no corresponding commitment made by us to Schwab or Fidelity to invest any specific amount or percentage of client assets in any specific mutual funds, securities, or other investment products as result of the above arrangement.

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 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 (the practice of combining multiple orders for shares of the same securities is commonly referred to as "block trading"). Accordingly, you may pay different prices for the same securities transactions than other clients pay. Furthermore, 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 other clients.

## **Item 13 Review of Accounts**

Paul James Carroll, Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer, or the assigned advisory representative on the account will review your accounts on a monthly basis. We will conduct an extensive client account review and meeting at least annually or more frequently if economic, political, or market conditions dictate or upon your request. We may conduct interim meetings or account reviews at your request or upon our receipt of information material to the management of your portfolio.

You will receive statements directly from your account custodian on either a monthly or quarterly basis. The statements will reflect the position, current pricing, transactions in each account, including fees paid from your account to our firm. You may also receive periodic asset allocation reports showing drift and total balance of the account.

## Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation

We may compensate an individual and/or firm for client referrals. We will enter into an agreement with the individual or firm and remit a portion of its advisory fees for referrals. This arrangement is fully explained to the client when this situation arises. Our client advisory fees are not affected by the referral fees paid to the individual or firm. All solicitors who refer clients will comply with the requirements of the jurisdiction where they operate. When applicable, the solicitor will be licensed as investment advisor(s) or notice filed in the applicable jurisdiction.

# **Item 15 Custody**

We 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 independent qualified custodian. You will receive account statements from the independent qualified custodian(s) holding your funds and securities at least quarterly. 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.

# **Item 16 Investment Discretion**

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. Before we can buy or sell securities on your behalf, you must first sign our discretionary management agreement.

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. Please refer to the "Advisory Business" section in this Brochure for more information on our discretionary management services.

# **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 common stock or mutual funds, 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 solicitation to vote proxies.

## **Item 18 Financial Information**

Our firm does not have any financial conditions or impairments 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 fees six or more months in advance and in excess of \$500. Therefore, we are not required to include a financial statement with this brochure.

# **Item 19 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 nonpublic personal information about you to any nonaffiliated 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 nonpublic 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 nonpublic 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. Please contact Paul James Carroll, Principal and Chief Compliance Officer at (281) 528-1200 or via email at: <a href="Paul@EWealthMgmt.com">Paul@EWealthMgmt.com</a>, if you have any questions regarding this policy.

#### **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. If a trade error results in a profit, the custodian will donate the proceeds to charity.

#### **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.



# Paul James Carroll, CFP® Efficient Wealth Management, LLC

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June 21, 2017

# FORM ADV PART 2B BROCHURE SUPPLEMENT

This brochure supplement provides information about Paul James Carroll that supplements the Efficient Wealth Management, LLC's brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Paul Carroll at (281) 528-1200 if you did not receive Efficient Wealth Management, LLC's brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Paul Carroll is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. The searchable CRD number for Paul Carroll is 1896590.

## Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience

### Paul James Carroll, CFP®

Year of Birth: 1962

Formal Education After High School:

- Texas A&M University Masters of Science Finance 1987
- University of Maryland Bachelors of Science Business 1985

## Business Background:

- Efficient Wealth Management, LLC ("EWM") Managing Member/Chief Compliance Officer 11/2003 to Present
- United Airlines Pilot 1997 to Present

#### *Certifications:*

## CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ (CFP®), 2006

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

The CFP® certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP® 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 73,000 individuals have obtained CFP® certification in the United States.

To attain the right to use the CFP® 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;

- <u>Examination</u> Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination administered in 10 hours over a two-day period 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;
- <u>Experience</u> Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent measured as 2000 hours per year); and
- <u>Ethics</u> Agree to be bound by CFP Board's Standards of Professional Conduct a set of documents outlining the ethical and practice standards for CFP® 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® marks:

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

# **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Mr. Carroll does not have any reportable legal or disciplinary information.

#### **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

Mr. Carroll's is a commercial pilot for United Airlines and flies approximately 20 hours per month. Additionally, Mr. Carroll is a member of EWM Holdings, LLC a real estate holding company; he spends a minimal amount of time in this endeavor.

# **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Mr. Carroll does not receive any additional compensation or economic benefit from a non-client for providing investment advisory services beyond what is received as a result of his employment with Efficient Wealth Management, LLC.

# **Item 6 Supervision**

Mr. Carroll is Managing Member/Chief Compliance Officer of Efficient Wealth Management, LLC; therefore Mr. Carroll's advisory activities are not supervised by any other individual.



# Elizabeth A. Brady Efficient Wealth Management, LLC

2829 Technology Forest Blvd, Suite 300 The Woodlands, TX 77381

Tel.: (281) 528-1200

100 Congress Avenue, Suite 2000 Austin, TX 78701 Tel: (512) 643-0010

June 21, 2017

FORM ADV PART 2B BROCHURE SUPPLEMENT

This brochure supplement provides information about Elizabeth A. Brady that supplements the Efficient Wealth Management, LLC's brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Paul Carroll at (281) 528-1200 if you did not receive Efficient Wealth Management, LLC's brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Elizabeth Brady is available on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>. The searchable CRD number for Elizabeth A. Brady is 6284248.

### Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience

### Elizabeth A. Brady

Year of Birth: 1990

Formal Education After High School:

- College of Financial planning, working towards CFP® Certification, 2014
- Texas A&M University, Bachelor of Arts, Economics, 2012

Business Background:

Efficient Wealth Management, LLC ("EWM"), Wealth Manager, 10/2013 to Present
 Efficient Wealth Management, LLC ("EWM"), Relationship Manager, 06/2012 to 10/2013

#### License:

• Series 65 attained in 2013

## **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Elizabeth A. Brady does not have any reportable legal or disciplinary information.

#### **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

Elizabeth A. Brady does not have any other business activities.

## **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Elizabeth A. Brady does not receive any additional compensation or economic benefit from a non-client for providing investment advisory services beyond what is received as a result of her employment with Efficient Wealth Management, LLC.

# **Item 6 Supervision**

Elizabeth's advisory activities are supervised by Paul Carroll, Managing Member/Chief Compliance Officer.



# Ashley Dominey Stewart, CFP® Efficient Wealth Management, LLC

2829 Technology Forest Blvd, Suite 300 The Woodlands, TX 77381

Tel.: (281) 528-1200

100 Congress Avenue, Suite 2000 Austin, TX 78701 Tel: (512) 643-0010

June 21, 2017

# FORM ADV PART 2B BROCHURE SUPPLEMENT

This brochure supplement provides information about Ashley Dominey Stewart that supplements the Efficient Wealth Management, LLC's brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Paul Carroll at (281) 528-1200 if you did not receive Efficient Wealth Management, LLC's brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Ashley Stewart is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. The searchable CRD number for Ashley Stewart is 5538191.

## Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience

# Ashley Dominey Stewart, CFP®

Year of Birth: 1986

Formal Education After High School:

- Texas Tech University, Masters of Science, Personal Financial Planning, 2009
- Texas Tech University, Bachelors of Science, Personal Financial Planning, 2008

Business Background:

- Efficient Wealth Management, LLC ("EWM"), Wealth Manager, 01/2014 to Present
- Efficient Wealth Management, LLC ("EWM"), Senior Relationship Manager, 10/2013 to 01/2014
- Houston Wealth Strategies, Associate Wealth Advisor, 08/2012-09/2013
- Saunders & Associates, LLC, Associate Planner, 04/2011 to 08/2012
- Edward Jones, Summer Intern National Headquarters, Summer 2008

*Certifications:* 

# CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER<sup>TM</sup> (CFP<sup>®</sup>), 2013

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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 73,000 individuals have obtained CFP<sup>®</sup> certification in the United States.

To attain the right to use the  ${\sf CFP}^{\it \$}$  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;

- <u>Examination</u> Pass the comprehensive CFP<sup>®</sup> Certification Examination. The examination, administered in 10 hours over a two-day period, 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;
- <u>Experience</u> Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent, measured as 2,000 hours per year); and
- <u>Ethics</u> 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:

- <u>Continuing Education</u> 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
- <u>Ethics</u> 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.

# **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Ashley Dominey Stewart does not have any reportable legal or disciplinary information.

#### **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

Ashley Dominey Stewart does not have any other business activities.

# **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Ashley Dominey Stewart does not receive any additional compensation or economic benefit from a non-client for providing investment advisory services beyond what is

received as a result of his employment with Efficient Wealth Management, LLC.

# **Item 6 Supervision**

Ashley's advisory activities are supervised by Paul Carroll, Managing Member/Chief Compliance Officer.



## Sarah Babin

# Efficient Wealth Management, LLC

2829 Technology Forest Blvd, Suite 300 The Woodlands, TX 77381

Tel.: (281) 528-1200

100 Congress Avenue, Suite 2000 Austin, TX 78701 Tel: (512) 643-0010

June 21, 2017

# FORM ADV PART 2B BROCHURE SUPPLEMENT

This brochure supplement provides information about Sarah Babin that supplements the Efficient Wealth Management, LLC's brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Paul Carroll at (281) 528-1200 if you did not receive Efficient Wealth Management, LLC's brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Sarah Babin is available on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>. The searchable CRD number for Sarah Babin is 6438824.

## Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience

#### Sarah Babin

Year of Birth: 1989

Formal Education After High School:

- Texas A&M University, working towards CFP® Certification, 2014
- Texas A&M University, Bachelor of Business Administration, Management, 2011

Business Background:

- Efficient Wealth Management, LLC ("EWM"), Wealth Manager, 04/2014 to Present
- BBVA Compass, Asst. Branch Manager, 07/2012 to 04/2014
- College Station ISD, Substitute Teacher, 01/2012 to 06/2012

#### License:

Series 65 attained in 2014

## **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Sarah Babin does not have any reportable legal or disciplinary information.

#### **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

Sarah Babin does not have any other business activities.

# **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Sarah Babin does not receive any additional compensation or economic benefit from a non-client for providing investment advisory services beyond what is received as a result of her employment with Efficient Wealth Management, LLC.

# **Item 6 Supervision**

Sarah's advisory activities are supervised by Paul Carroll, Managing Member/Chief Compliance Officer.

## **CODE OF ETHICS**

### **Efficient Wealth Management**

#### **Preamble**

Our clients' interests always come first. Our experience shows that if we serve our clients well, our own success will follow. Our assets are our people, capital and reputation. If any of these is ever diminished, the last is the most difficult to restore.

#### Introduction

This is the Code of Ethics (the "Code") of Efficient Wealth Management (the "Company"). The Company's Policies on Insider Trading and Personal Securities Transactions are included in the Code.

## **General Principles**

The Company is a fiduciary for its investment advisory clients. Because of this fiduciary relationship, it is generally improper for the Company or its Associated Persons to: use for their own benefit (or the benefit of anyone other than the client), to the detriment of the client, information about the Company's trading or recommendations for client accounts; or take advantage of investment opportunities that would otherwise be available for the Company's clients.

Also, as a matter of business policy, the Company wants to avoid even the appearance that the Company, its Associated Persons, or others receive any improper benefit from information about client trading or accounts or from our relationships with our clients or with the brokerage community.

The Company expects all Associated Persons to comply with the spirit of the Code, as well as the specific rules contained in the Code.

The Company treats violations of this Code (including violations of the spirit of the Code) very seriously. Violation of either the letter or the spirit of this Code, may result in the Company taking disciplinary measures, including, without limitation, imposing penalties or fines, reduction of compensation, demotion, requiring unwinding of the trade, requiring disgorgement of trading gains, suspending or terminating of employment, or any combination of the foregoing.

Improper trading activity can constitute a violation of this Code. Nevertheless, the Code can be violated by failing to file required reports, or by making inaccurate or

misleading reports or statements concerning trading activity or securities accounts. Individual conduct can violate this Code even if no clients are harmed by such conduct.

This is an abbreviated version of the Efficient Wealth Management Code of Ethics. The full version is available upon request. Please contact us at:

Efficient Wealth Management 2829 Technology Forest Blvd Suite 300

The Woodlands, TX 77381

Phone: 281 528-1200

Fax: 888 868-1168

Email: Paul@EWealthMgmt.com



# **Customer Information Privacy Principles**

Like most industries today, the financial services industry is rapidly being shaped by technology, which is literally changing the way we do business. To be successful in this environment, we must continue to insure that our customers are confident that we will manage their financial affairs expertly and confidentially.

At Efficient Wealth Management, our customers have access to a broad range of products and services. To deliver these products and services as effectively and conveniently as possible, it is essential that we use technology to manage and maintain certain customer information.

We want to assure all of our customers that whenever information is used, it is done with discretion. The safeguarding of customer information is an issue we take seriously at Efficient Wealth Management. To affirm our continuing commitment to the proper use of customer information, we have set forth the following Privacy Principles. It is these Privacy Principles that guide us in serving the privacy needs of our customers.

- 1. **Recognition of a Customer's Expectation of Privacy**: At Efficient Wealth Management, we believe the confidentiality and protection of customer information is one of our fundamental responsibilities. And while information is critical to providing quality service, we recognize that one of our most important assets is our customers' trust. Thus, the safekeeping of customer information is a priority for Efficient Wealth Management.
- 2. **Use, Collection, and Retention of Customer Information**: Efficient Wealth Management limits the use, collection, and retention of customer information to what we believe is necessary or useful to conduct our business, provide quality service, and offer products, services, and other opportunities that may be of interest to our customers. Information collected may include, but is not limited to: name, address, telephone number, tax identification number, date of birth, employment status, annual income and net worth.
- 3. **Maintenance of Accurate Information**: Efficient Wealth Management recognizes that it must maintain accurate customer records. Therefore, Efficient Wealth Management has established procedures to maintain the accuracy of customer information and to keep such information current and complete. These procedures include responding to requests to correct inaccurate information in a timely manner.

- 4. Limiting Employee Access to Information: At Efficient Wealth Management, employee access to personally identifiable customer information is limited to those with a business reason to know such information. Employees are educated on the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of customer information and on these Privacy Principles. Because of the importance of these issues, all Efficient Wealth Management employees are responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of customer information and employees who violate these Privacy Principles will be subject to disciplinary measures.
- 5. **Protection of Information via Established Security Procedures:** Efficient Wealth Management recognizes that a fundamental element of maintaining effective customer privacy procedures is to provide reasonable protection against the unauthorized access to customer information. Therefore, Efficient Wealth Management has established appropriate security standards and procedures to guard against any unauthorized access to customer information.
- 6. Restrictions on the Disclosure of Customer Information: Efficient Wealth Management does not disclose any nonpublic personal information about its customers or former customers to any nonaffiliated third parties. In the course of servicing a client's account, Efficient Wealth Management may share some information with its service providers, such as transfer agents, custodians, broker/dealers, accountants and lawyers; in the normal course of our business (for example, with consumer reporting agencies and government agencies); when legally required or permitted in connection with fraud investigations and litigation; in connection with acquisitions and sales; and at the request or with the permission of a customer.

It is Efficient Wealth Management's policy never to sell information about current or former customers or their accounts to anyone. It is also Efficient Wealth Management's policy not to share information unless required to process a transaction, at the request of a customer, or as required by law.

- 7. **Maintaining Customer Privacy in Business Relationships with Third Parties:** If we provide personally identifiable customer information to a third party with which we have a business relationship, we will insist that the third party keep such information confidential, consistent with the conduct of our business relationship.
- 8. **Disclosure of Privacy Principles to Customers:** Efficient Wealth Management recognizes and respects the privacy expectations of our customers. We want our customers to understand our commitment to privacy in our use of customer information. As a result of our commitment, we have developed these Privacy Principles which are made readily available to our customers. Customers who have questions about these Privacy Principles or have a question about the privacy of their customer information should call Paul J. Carroll at 1-888-396-3969 or e-mail him at paul@efficientwealthmanagement.com.

These Privacy Principles apply to individuals, and we reserve the right to change these Privacy Principles, and any of the policies or procedures described above, at any time without prior notice. These Privacy Principles are for general guidance and do not constitute a contract or create legal rights and do not modify or amend any agreements we have with our customers.

Paul J. Carroll, Principal

Paul J. Carroll

Efficient Wealth Management, LLC



# EFFICIENT WEALTH MANAGEMENT'S BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN SUMMARY STATEMENT

Efficient Wealth Management has developed and implemented a Business Continuity Plan ("BCP") that includes redundant data centers and alternate facilities to protect its business processes and technology environment in the event of a significant business disruption. Efficient Wealth Management's policy is to respond to a significant business disruption (SBD) in an effort to safeguard employees' lives and firm property, make a financial and operational assessment, quickly recover and resume operations, protect the firm's books and records, and allow our customers to transact business.

The plan addresses business disruptions that may be caused by a local incident or by a regional or market related disaster that applies to many companies. The Plan covers our critical business processes and related employees essential for Efficient Wealth Management to continue to conduct business for an interim or temporary period during a business interruption. Every important aspect of Efficient Wealth Management's securities business, including data back-up and recovery; all mission critical systems; financial and operational assessments; alternative communications with customers, employees, and regulators; alternate physical location of employees; critical supplier, contractor, bank and counter-party impact; regulatory reporting; and assuring our customers prompt access to their funds and securities if we are unable to continue our business is addressed in this plan.

Efficient Wealth Management's goal is to recover its Critical Business Processes with minimal interruption, depending on the nature of the disruption. In a disruption to only our firm or a building housing our firm, we will transfer our operations to a local site when needed and expect to recover and resume business relatively quickly. In a disruption affecting our business district, city, or region, we will transfer our operations to a site outside of the affected area, and presume to recover and resume business within a short period of time. If the significant business disruption is so severe that it prevents us from remaining in business, we will assure our customer's prompt access to their funds and securities.

If after a significant business disruption you cannot contact us as you usually do at (281) 528-1200, please use our emergency contact number: (281) 402-6400 or you may go to our website for contact instructions: <a href="https://www.EfficientWealthManagement.com">www.EfficientWealthManagement.com</a>.

If you cannot access us through either of those means, you can directly contact the custodian of your account:

Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. 800-435-4000 www.schwab.com

Fidelity Institutional Wealth Services 800-343-3548 <u>www.fidelity.com</u>

They can provide instructions on how they may provide prompt access to your funds and securities including accepting buy and sell orders and issuing checks and wires from your account. If your account is held at a mutual fund or insurance company, you should contact the company directly for access to your securities.

Please be advised that our business continuity plan is subject to change and modification. Our firm will update this plan whenever we have a material change to our operations, structure, business, or location or to our custodians. In addition, our firm will review our plan annually to modify it for any changes. If the plan is modified, we will promptly post the revised summary on our Website. If you have questions about our business continuity planning or would like a written copy of the summary of our BCP, you can contact us at:

Efficient Wealth Management 2829 Technology Forest Blvd Suite 300

The Woodlands, TX 77381

Email: Paul@EfficientWealthManagement.com