

# RA Financial Services Part 2A of Form ADV The Brochure

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Rodgers & Associates, LLC. doing business as RA Financial Services (“RAFS”). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 717-560-3800. 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.

RAFS is a registered investment adviser. Registration as an investment adviser does not imply any level of skill or training.

Additional information about RAFS is also available on the SEC’s website at: [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

## **Material Changes**

Our most recent annual update to Part 2A of Form ADV was made in March 2024. This brochure dated July 2024, amends RAFS' Brochure that was filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") in March 2024.

As of July 1, 2024, Bluespring Wealth Partners, LLC acquired Rodgers & Associates, LLC (the "Transaction"). In connection with the Transaction, Rodgers & Associates, Ltd., a Pennsylvania Corporation was converted to a Delaware limited liability company with the name Rodgers & Associates, LLC.

A copy of RAFS's Complete Form ADV Brochure and Brochure Supplement is available without charge by contacting RAFS at (717) 560-3800. Additional information about RAFS is also available on the SEC's website at: [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

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## **Advisory Business**

### Firm History

Rodgers & Associates (“Rodgers”), a registered investment adviser specializing in wealth management services, offers investment management, financial planning, and consultation services mainly to individuals who are nearing retirement or already retired.

Rodgers & Associates was founded in 1996 by Rick & Jessica Rodgers. On July 1, 2024, Bluespring Wealth Partners, LLC acquired Rodgers & Associates, LLC (the “Transaction”). In connection with the Transaction, Rodgers & Associates, Ltd., a Pennsylvania Corporation, was converted to a Delaware limited liability company with the name Rodgers & Associates, LLC. As of December 31, 2023, Rodgers managed \$1,341,661,104 on a discretionary basis on behalf of approximately 994 Clients. RAFS offers an alternative form of investment management services to clients with investable assets generally below \$1,000,000. As of December 31, 2023, RAFS managed \$112,156,251 on a discretionary basis on behalf of approximately 196 Clients.

### Services Provided

#### *Investment Management Services*

RAFS offers Clients investment management services as covered in the Investment Advisory Agreement where each Client’s investment account and portfolio is managed on a regular and continuous basis. RAFS may assist Clients in determining, among other things, suitability, investment objectives, goals, time horizons, and risk tolerances. The Client’s investment policy statement (“IPS”) will be developed from these goals and objectives, and RAFS will manage the Client’s portfolio based on that IPS, primarily using exchange traded funds (“ETFs”) or mutual funds. RAFS will manage advisory accounts on a discretionary basis. Account supervision is guided by stated objectives of the Client (e.g., maximum capital appreciation, growth, income, or growth and income). Within its discretionary capacity, RAFS may, without specific approval by the Client, purchase or sell securities to meet investment needs of the Client.

RAFS recommends Clients utilize a rebalancing program that is exclusively offered by Charles Schwab. The rebalancing program is called iRebal and will be used to assist RAFS in maintaining a Client’s recommended asset allocation that is noted in the Client’s IPS.

#### *Financial Planning Services*

RAFS offers financial planning services to include comprehensive or segmented (limited) financial plans, investment plans, and/or individual consultations regarding a Client’s financial affairs as covered in the Investment Advisory Agreement. The design and implementation of a financial plan may begin with the process of gathering data regarding income, expenses, taxes, insurance coverage, retirement plans, wills, trusts, investments and/or other relevant information pertaining to a Client’s overall financial situation. This information is carefully analyzed taking into account a Client’s goals and stated objectives, and a series of recommendations and/or alternative strategies will be developed which are designed to achieve optimum overall results. Typically a completed financial plan will be presented to the Client within ninety (90) days of the contract date, provided

that the Client has promptly provided all information needed to prepare the financial plan.

### *Hourly Consultation Services*

In addition to offering investment management and financial planning services, RAFS may also offer specific administrative and consulting services on an hourly basis. This hourly consultation service may take the form of general investment advice and, if applicable, financial planning, for individuals and/or institutions. It may also take the form of investment advice for individuals or institutions that do not meet the minimum requirement for the investment management service. Additionally, it may take the form of various consulting arrangements.

From time to time, RAFS offers liquidation advice on Clients' existing holdings in partnerships investing in equipment leasing, cable television, fast food franchising, agriculture, raw land, alternative energy, research and development, and leveraged buy-outs. Additionally, RAFS may also offer liquidation advice on real estate investment trusts. RAFS does not recommend the purchase of any such investment partnership or real estate investment trust.

## **Fees and Compensation**

### Investment Management Services

Fees generally are based on a percentage of assets under management, and in no case will fees exceed 3% of assets under management. Additionally, fees are not collected for services to be performed more than six (6) months in advance.

Payments of fees may be made directly by the Client, or debited from the Client's account by the custodian holding the Client's funds and securities. However, two criteria must be met when the Client account is debited by the custodian: (1) the Client provides written authorization permitting the fees to be paid directly from the Client's account held by the independent custodian; and (2) the custodian agrees to send to the Client a statement, at least quarterly, indicating all amounts disbursed from the account including the amount of advisory fees paid directly to RAFS. Additionally, RAFS does not have physical custody of Clients' funds or securities.

RAFS' standard fee schedule is as follows:

*Clients will be charged 1.00% annually of the market value of the account.*

Note: The above-referenced fee schedule reflects the standard fees charged by RAFS, however, fees are negotiable.

Further, fees will be paid quarterly in advance based on prior end-of-period market values. For purposes of determining fees due to Rodgers, "market value" includes the value of all investments and any cash and cash equivalents.

Pro-rated fees will be applied to additions to the Client's custody account in the amount of \$25,000 or more in any single day. Pro-rated fees will be rebated for withdrawals from the

Client's custody account in the amount of \$25,000 or more in any single day. This policy however, does not apply to the establishment of a new account or the termination of an account, which results in pro-rated billing or rebating regardless of the amount contributed or withdrawn.

All fees paid to RAFS for investment management services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by ETFs and mutual funds to their shareholders. These fees and expenses are described in each fund's prospectus. These fees will generally include a management and/or administrative fee, other fund expenses, and a possible distribution fee. If the fund also imposes sales charges, a Client may also pay an initial or deferred sales charge. A Client could invest in a mutual fund or ETF directly, without the services of RAFS. In that case, the Client would not pay an investment advisory fee to RAFS. However, the Client also would not receive the services provided by RAFS which are designed, among other things, to assist the Client in determining which mutual funds or ETFs are most appropriate to each Client's financial condition and objectives. Accordingly, the Client should review both the fees charged by the funds, and the fees charged by RAFS, to fully understand the total amount of fees to be paid by the Client in order to evaluate the advisory services being received.

Clients will also incur brokerage and other transaction costs, as further described in *Brokerage Practices* below.

#### Financial Planning and Consultation Services

In consideration of financial planning and consultation services provided by RAFS, the Client will pay RAFS an hourly fee of \$250/hour. These hourly fees generally may be negotiable at the discretion of RAFS.

As described in *Review of Accounts* below, face-to-face client interaction with RAFS personnel will be limited to an initial in person review and one annual review. Discussions at these in person reviews will generally cover investment goals and strategy, tax projections, performance results, and financial planning matters. Additional in person reviews will be provided at a fee of \$250/hour, including preparation time.

Fees for financial planning and consultation services that are charged on an *hourly basis* may require fifty percent (50%) of total fee due in advance based on an estimated number of hours of services to be provided. The Client agrees that the remainder of the fee is due upon completion of the services. If it appears that the quoted fees will exceed the estimated amount of time as stated above, RAFS will contact the Client to obtain approval prior to continuing such services.

#### Termination

A Client's Investment Advisory Agreement may be cancelled at any time, by either party, for any reason upon receipt of written notice to the other party. Upon termination of any account, any prepaid, pro-rata unearned fees will be promptly refunded, and any unpaid pro-rata fees will be due and payable.

## **Performance Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management**

RAFS does not charge any performance fees. Some investment advisers experience conflicts of interest in connection with the side-by-side management of accounts with different fee structures. However, these conflicts of interest are not applicable to RAFS.

## **Types of Clients**

RAFS offers its investment management, financial planning, and consultation services to individuals, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, corporations, and estates.

The minimum assets under management for a Client receiving RAFS's investment management services is generally \$250,000. Accounts below this minimum may be negotiable and accepted on an individual basis at the firm's discretion.

## **Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss**

### Investment Strategy

RAFS employs a quantitative security selection strategy for Investment Management Services Clients. In furtherance of this strategy, RAFS combines its research and valuation analyses with a disciplined quantitative methodology to manage Client accounts. RAFS therefore does not take into account any qualitative factors during its research and security selection processes with respect to mutual funds and ETFs.

Clients receiving the alternative form of RAFS's investment management services, as discussed in the *Review of Accounts* section below, will generally be invested exclusively in ETFs or a balanced fund.

### Risk of Loss – General

All investing involves a risk of loss and the investment strategy offered by RAFS could lose money over short or even long periods. Performance could be negatively impacted by a number of different market risks including, but not limited to, that portfolio management techniques used by RAFS may not produce the desired results. This could cause accounts to decline in value. In addition, RAFS may rely on information that turns out to be wrong. RAFS selects investments based, in part, on information provided by issuers to regulators or made directly available to RAFS by the issuers or other sources. RAFS is not always able to confirm the completeness or accuracy of such information, and in some cases, complete and accurate information is not available. Incorrect or incomplete information increases risk and a result in losses.

### Potential Risks of Investing with Mutual Funds and ETFs that RAFS recommends:

*Stock Market Risk* - The mutual funds and ETFs that invest in equity securities are subject to stock market risk. Stock market risk is the possibility that stock prices overall will decline over short or extended periods. Markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and periods of falling prices.

Investing in small- and medium-sized companies involves greater risk than is customarily associated with more established companies. Stocks of such companies may be subject to more volatility in price than larger company securities.

*Foreign Securities Risk* - Foreign securities are subject to the same market risks as U.S. securities, such as general economic conditions and company and industry prospects. However, foreign securities involve the additional risk of loss due to political, economic, legal, regulatory, and operational uncertainties including, but not limited to, the impact of social or political unrest, war, economic sanctions, and trade-related policies; differing accounting and financial reporting standards; limited availability of information; currency conversion; and pricing factors affecting investment in the securities of foreign businesses or governments.

*Emerging Market Securities Risk* – Securities markets in emerging market countries may be smaller than those in more developed countries, making it more difficult to sell securities in order to take profits or avoid losses. Companies in these markets may have limited product lines, markets or resources, making it difficult to measure the value of the company. Potential political instability and corruption, as well as lower standards of regulation for business practices, increase the possibility of fraud and other legal problems. Public information may be limited with respect to emerging markets issuers and emerging markets issuers may not be subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial standards and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. Therefore, the value of strategies that invest in emerging markets may rise and fall substantially.

*REIT Securities Risk* - A Real Estate Investment Trust (“REIT”) is an entity, typically a trust or corporation that accepts investments from a number of investors, pools the money, and then uses that money to invest in real estate through either actual property purchases or mortgage loans. While there are some benefits to owning REITs, which include potential tax benefits, income and the relatively low barrier to invest in real estate as compared to directly investing in real estate, REITs also have some increased risks as compared to more traditional investments such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. First, real estate investing can be highly volatile. Second, the specific REIT chosen may have a focus such as commercial real estate or real estate in a given location. Such investment focus can be beneficial if the properties are successful, but lose significant principal if the properties are not successful. REITs may also employ significant leverage for the purpose of purchasing more investments with fewer investment dollars, which can enhance returns but also enhances the risk of loss. The success of a REIT is highly dependent upon the manager of the REIT.

*Interest Rate Risk* - Bonds also experience market risk as a result of changes in interest rates. The general rule is that if interest rates rise, bond prices will fall and so will the mutual fund’s and ETF’s share price. The reverse is also true: if interest rates fall, bond prices will generally rise.



A bond with a longer maturity (or a bond fund with a longer average maturity) will typically fluctuate more in price than a shorter term bond. Because of their very short-term nature, money market instruments carry less interest rate risk.

*Credit Risk* - Bond mutual funds and ETFs are also exposed to credit risk, which is the possibility that the issuer of a bond will default on its obligation to pay interest and/or principal. U.S. Treasury securities, which are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, have limited credit risk, while securities issued or guaranteed by U.S. Government agencies or government-sponsored enterprises that are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government may be subject to varying degrees of credit risk. Corporate bonds rated BBB or above by Standard & Poor's are generally considered to carry moderate credit risk. Corporate bonds rated lower than BBB are considered to have significant credit risk. Of course, bonds with lower credit ratings generally pay a higher level of income to investors.

*Liquidity Risk* - Liquidity risk exists when a particular security is difficult to trade. A mutual fund's or an ETF's investment in illiquid securities may reduce the returns of the mutual fund because the mutual fund or ETF may not be able to sell the assets at the time desired for an acceptable price, or might not be able to sell the assets at all.

*Call Risk* - Many fixed income securities have a provision allowing the issuer to repay the debt early, otherwise known as a "call feature." Issuers often exercise this right when interest rates are low. Accordingly, holders of such callable securities may not benefit fully from the increase in value that other fixed income securities experience when rates decline. Furthermore, after a callable security is repaid early, a mutual fund or ETF would reinvest the proceeds of the payoff at current interest rates, which would likely be lower than those paid on the security that was called.

*Objective/Style Risk* - All of the mutual funds and ETFs are subject, in varying degrees, to objective/style risk, which is the possibility that returns from a specific type of security in which a mutual fund invests will trail the returns of the overall market.

*U.S. Government Agency Securities Risk* - Securities issued by U.S. Government agencies or government-sponsored entities may not be guaranteed by the U.S. Treasury. If a government-sponsored entity is unable to meet its obligations, the securities of the entity will be adversely impacted.

*Cybersecurity Risk* - RAFS and its service providers are subject to risks associated with a breach in cybersecurity. Cybersecurity is a generic term used to describe the technology, processes and practices designed to protect networks, systems, computers, programs and data from both intentional cyber-attacks and hacking by other computer users as well as unintentional damage or interruption that, in either case, can result in damage or interruption from computer viruses, network failures, computer and telecommunications failures, infiltration by unauthorized persons and security breaches, usage errors by their respective professionals, power outages and catastrophic events such as fires, tornadoes, floods, hurricanes and earthquakes. A cybersecurity breach could expose RAFS to substantial costs (including, without limitation, those associated with forensic analysis of the origin and scope of the breach, increased and upgraded cybersecurity, identity theft, unauthorized use of proprietary information, litigation, the dissemination of

confidential and proprietary information and reputational damage), civil liability as well as regulatory inquiry and/or action. While RAFS has established a business continuity plan in the event of, and risk management strategies, systems, policies and procedures to seek to prevent, cybersecurity breaches, there are inherent limitations in such plans, strategies, systems, policies and procedures including the possibility that certain risks have not been identified.

## **Disciplinary Information**

RAFS and its employees have not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events in the past 10 years that would be material to a Client's evaluation of the company or its personnel.

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

RAFS and its employees do not have any relationships or arrangements with other financial services companies that pose material conflicts of interest.

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

On occasion, managers, members and/or associated persons of RAFS may own securities products that are also recommended to Clients, which may present a potential conflict of interest. However, as a preventative measure, all Client transactions will be executed before any such personal transactions for affiliated persons of RAFS. In addition to this measure, RAFS has adopted a Code of Ethics ("Code") in compliance with Rule 204A-1 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to establish standards and procedures to guard against impropriety and conflict in addition to reflecting RAFS's fiduciary obligations in accordance with the applicable federal securities laws. The Code covers General Principles, Definition of Access Persons, Standards of Conduct, General Restrictions, Reporting and Accountability, Administration and Construction of the Code, and Miscellaneous Provisions such as recordkeeping requirements. Clients and prospective Clients may obtain a copy of the Code of Ethics by contacting RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer, at 717-560-3800.

The Code includes, among other principles, the following:

- No person associated with RAFS may buy or sell securities for their personal portfolio(s) if the decision to do so is based in whole or in part on information obtained through the association with RAFS, unless the information is reasonably available to the investing public.
- RAFS maintains a list of all securities holdings for itself, and for all associated persons who have access to recommendations made to its Clients. A manager, or his/her designee, reviews the list of holdings on a regular basis.
- RAFS requires that all associated persons report their personal securities transactions

within thirty (30) days of the end of each calendar quarter. A manager, or his/her designee, reviews the transactions quarterly.

- RAFS requires that all associated persons act in accordance with all applicable federal and state regulations.
- Failure to comply with these points may result in the termination of the associated person.

In the normal course of business, managers, members and/or associated persons of RAFS may provide gifts and entertainment to various Clients and other persons. These gifts, entertainment are not premised upon any specific client referrals or any expectation of any other type of benefit to RAFS.

## **Brokerage Practices**

### General

RAFS has selected Charles Schwab & Co, Inc. as the custodian for RAFS Clients. As a registered broker-dealer and a member of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC), Schwab is subject to certain regulations intended to protect assets held in brokerage accounts maintained at Schwab. Schwab is unaffiliated with RAFS, and offers services to independent investment advisers that include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions. However, Schwab has no duty to supervise or monitor the activity of RAFS. In addition, Schwab does not make any determination as to the suitability of the investment activity undertaken by RAFS relative to its Client accounts. RAFS receives some benefits from Schwab through its participation in the program.

While there are several important factors in broker selection, RAFS may direct trades to brokers that charge commissions higher than those obtainable from other brokers. In selecting a broker for any transaction or series of transactions, RAFS may consider a number of factors in addition to commission rates, including, for example, reputation, financial strength and stability, efficiency of execution and error resolution, block trading and block position capabilities, order of call, on-line access to computerized data regarding Client accounts, custody, record keeping or other similar services, and matters involved in the receipt of general brokerage services.

Generally, in addition to a broker's ability to provide the "best execution," RAFS may also consider the value of ancillary services such as research a broker-dealer has provided or may be willing to provide. RAFS does not commit itself to providing any specified level of volume or commissions in order to obtain this research. In some cases, the commissions or other transaction fees charged by a particular broker-dealer for a particular transaction or set of transactions may be greater than the amounts another broker-dealer who did not provide research might charge. This research may not be used for the exclusive benefit of the Clients whose activity the broker considered when providing the research.

### Ancillary Economic Benefits

As noted above, RAFS participates in the Schwab Advisor Services customer program and RAFS recommends Schwab to Clients for custody and brokerage services. RAFS receives

economic benefits through its participation in the program that are typically not available to retail investors. These benefits include: receipt of duplicate Client statements and confirmations; research-related products and tools; consulting services; access to a trading desk; the ability to have advisory fees deducted directly from Client accounts; 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 RAFS by third party vendors. Some of the products and services made available by Schwab through the programs may benefit RAFS but may not benefit its Client accounts. These products or services may assist RAFS in managing and administering Client accounts. Other services made available by Schwab are intended to help RAFS manage and further develop its business enterprise. The benefits received by RAFS do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to Schwab. As part of its fiduciary duties to Clients, RAFS endeavors at all times to put the interests of its Clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by RAFS and/or its employees creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence RAFS's choice of Schwab as the broker- dealer and custodian.

Although RAFS believes that the products and services offered by Schwab are competitive in the marketplace for similar services offered by other broker-dealers and custodians, the arrangement with Schwab for use of their iRebal service may affect RAFS independent judgement in selecting or maintaining Schwab as the broker or custodian for client accounts.

As noted above in the *Advisory Business* section above, RAFS recommends Clients use the Schwab iRebal service. The iRebal service is used by RAFS to help improve efficiency and reduce the costs of rebalancing a Clients portfolio. For Clients set-up to use iRebal, their portfolios automatically rebalance based on criteria determined by RAFS and the IPS.

#### Trade Aggregation

Trade recommendations are typically limited to ETFs and mutual funds. Due to the unique tax situations of each client and the iRebal program, equity trades are generally not able to be aggregated.

#### Trade Errors

From time to time, RAFS may experience a trade error caused by RAFS or an executing broker. In an event that a trade error occurs, RAFS will ensure that a Client account is "made whole." Thus, trades are adjusted as needed in order to put the Client in such a position as if the error had never occurred and at no cost to the Client. RAFS also will not use future brokerage to compensate a broker either directly or indirectly for absorbing the cost of correcting an error in an earlier transaction.

For accounts custodied at Schwab, Rodgers corrects trade errors through a trade error account with Schwab. The account keeps a balance of trade errors, which nets the losses and gains each day. If the daily net is a gain or loss of under \$100, Schwab absorbs the gain or loss. If the loss is greater than \$100, Rodgers will absorb the loss. If Rodgers is unable to correct the trade in the trade error account due to Schwab's policies and procedures, the trade is corrected in the client's account. In that case, the gains are retained by the client and clients are made whole by Rodgers

for any losses.

RAFS attempts to minimize trade errors by promptly reconciling confirmations with order tickets and intended orders, and by reviewing past trade errors to understand the internal control breakdown that caused the errors.

## **Review of Accounts**

### Review

Client accounts of RAFS are generally managed and reviewed on a continuous basis. Overall investment management, market prospects and individual issue prospects are considered in the review process. Triggering factors that may affect an account review could be any material change in a Client's investment objectives and constraints, changes to RAFS's quantitative models, as well as general economic factors or other relevant situations that may alter a Client's account. All account reviews are conducted by the designated investment adviser professional primarily responsible for each account.

Face-to-face client interaction with RAFS personnel will be limited to an initial in person review and one annual review. Discussions at these in person reviews will generally cover investment goals and strategy, tax projections, performance results, and financial planning matters.

Clients are free to contact RAFS personnel by phone as needed. As noted above in the *Fees and Compensation* section above, additional in person reviews will be provided at a fee of \$250/hour, including preparation time.

### Reporting

As may be retained by Clients, reports are individualized, thereby, the nature and frequency are determined by Client need and the services offered. However, most of the Clients of RAFS will receive quarterly reports by mail summarizing the investment performance of their account(s), in addition to annual reports containing tax-related information.

### Financial Planning Services

Generally, the Client retaining financial planning services would not receive any scheduled reviews or on-going reports, unless specifically requested and retained to provide such services by the Client.

## **Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

RAFS does not directly or indirectly compensate any person or promoter for Client referrals.

## **Custody**

All Clients' accounts are held in custody by unaffiliated broker/dealers or banks, but RAFS can access many Clients' accounts through its ability to debit advisory fees. For this reason RAFS is considered to have custody of Client assets. Account custodians send statements directly to the account owners on at least a quarterly basis. Clients should carefully review these statements, and should compare these statements to any account information provided by RAFS.

## **Investment Discretion**

RAFS offers Clients investment management services as covered in the Investment Advisory Agreement where each Client's investment account and portfolio is managed on a regular and continuous basis. RAFS may assist Client in determining, among other things, suitability, investment objectives, goals, time horizons, and risk tolerances. The Client's personal investment policy will be developed from these goals and objectives, and RAFS will manage the Client's portfolio based on that policy. RAFS will manage advisory accounts on a discretionary basis.

## **Voting Client Securities**

RAFS will not exercise proxy voting authority over Client securities. The obligation to vote Client proxies shall rest with Clients. Clients shall in no way be precluded from contacting RAFS for advice or information about a particular proxy vote. However, RAFS shall not be deemed to have proxy voting authority solely as a result of providing such advice to Clients.

With regard to all matters for which shareholder action is required or solicited with respect to securities beneficially held by a Client's account, such as (i) all matters relating to class actions, including without limitation, matters relating to opting in or opting out of a class and approval of class settlements; and (ii) bankruptcies or reorganizations, RAFS affirmatively disclaims responsibility for voting (by proxies or otherwise) on such matters and will not take any action with regard to such matters.

RAFS may act on tender offers for securities held in Client accounts when deemed to be in the best interest of Clients.

## **Financial Information**

We do not require or solicit prepayment of fees six months in advance. We are not subject to any financial commitment that impairs our ability to meet contractual and fiduciary commitments to clients, nor have we been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.

# RA Financial Services Part 2B of Form ADV The Brochure Supplement

2025 Lititz Pike  
Lancaster, PA 17601  
[www.rodgers-associates.com](http://www.rodgers-associates.com)

July 2024

This brochure supplement provides information about Rick Rodgers, Lita Pelko, Erika Eckman, Patrick Carney, Jeremie Patrick, Christopher Hershey, Ashley Duff, Gabrielle Gioia, Adam Sclafani, Stephen Elliker, Jared Clarkin Wilcox, Michael Lenick, and Brittany Luttrell. It supplements RAFS's accompanying Form ADV brochure. Please contact RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer at 717-560-3800 if you have any questions about the Form ADV brochure or this supplement, or if you would like to request additional or updated copies of either document.

Additional information about Rick Rodgers, Lita Pelko, Erika Eckman, Patrick Carney, Jeremie Patrick, Christopher Hershey, Ashley Duff, Gabrielle Gioia, Adam Sclafani, Stephen Elliker, Jared Clarkin Wilcox, Michael Lenick, and Brittany Luttrell is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

## **Rick L. Rodgers' Biographical Information**

Year of Birth: 1958

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>, 03/99-Present
- Certified Financial Planner®, 06/99-Present
- Certified Retirement Counselor®, 03/00-12/17
- NAPFA Registered Financial Advisor 04/06-02/21

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, President (12/96-2021); Investment Adviser Representative (09/02-06/24)

Disciplinary Information:

Mr. Rodgers has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Mr. Rodgers or of RAFS.

Other Business Activities:

Mr. Rodgers is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of RAFS.

Additional Compensation:

Mr. Rodgers does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than RAFS in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Mr. Rodgers' investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer, supervises RAFS's supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with RAFS's Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. Either of these individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.



## **Lita “Lee” M. Pelko’s Biographical Information**

Year of Birth: 1961

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BSBA Finance – Shippensburg University, 1983
- NAPFA Registered Financial Advisor, 01/07-02/21
- Certified Financial Planner® 02/02-Present
- Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>, 06/05-Present
- Certified Financial Counselor<sup>TM</sup>, 02/23-Present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (09/04-06/24)

Disciplinary Information:

Ms. Pelko has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client’s evaluation of Ms. Pelko or of RAFS.

Other Business Activities:

Ms. Pelko is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of RAFS.

Additional Compensation:

Ms. Pelko does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than RAFS in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Ms. Pelko’s investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers’ Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, RAFS’s Chief Compliance Officer, supervises RAFS’s supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with RAFS’s Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. Either of these individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## **Erika L. Eckman's Biographical Information**

Year of Birth: 1980

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- AA in Business Management – Harrisburg Area Community College, 2008
- Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>, 06/15-present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (08/14-06/24)

Disciplinary Information:

Ms. Eckman has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Ms. Eckman or of RAFS.

Other Business Activities:

Ms. Eckman is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Ms. Eckman does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Ms. Eckman's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer, supervises RAFS's supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with RAFS's Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. Either of these individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## Patrick J. Carney's Biographical Information

Year of Birth: 1982

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BA Business – Arcadia University, 2004
- Certified Financial Planner®, 05/15-Present
- Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>, 11/17-Present
- NAPFA Registered Financial Advisor, 02/21-01/24

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd., dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (05/15-06/24)

Disciplinary Information:

Mr. Carney has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Mr. Carney or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

Mr. Carney is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Mr. Carney does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Mr. Carney's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' President, Sandra Skrodinsky. As RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer she also supervises RAFS's supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with RAFS's Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. The telephone number of Ms. Skrodinsky is 717-560-3800.

## **Jeremie L. Patrick's Biographical Information**

Year of Birth: 1993

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BS Finance – Shippensburg University, 2015
- Certified Financial Planner®, 05/17-Present
- Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>, 12/16-present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (01/18-06/24)

Disciplinary Information:

Mr. Patrick has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Mr. Patrick or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

Mr. Patrick is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Mr. Patrick does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Mr. Patrick's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, Rodgers' Chief Compliance Officer, supervises Rodgers' supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with Rodgers' Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. Either of these individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## Christopher M. Hershey's Biographical Information

Year of Birth: 1984

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BA History – West Chester University, 2008
- Certified Financial Planner®, 12/16-Present
- Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>, 04/20-present
- NAPFA Registered Financial Advisor, 02/21-present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd., dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (06/19-06/24)

Disciplinary Information:

Mr. Hershey has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Mr. Hershey or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

Mr. Hershey is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Mr. Hershey does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Mr. Hershey's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, Rodgers' Chief Compliance Officer, supervises Rodgers' supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with Rodgers' Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. These individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## Ashley R. Duff's Biographical Information

Year of Birth: 1995

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BBA Business– Temple University, 2018
- Certified Financial Planner®, 01/21-Present
- Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>, 09/22-present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (01/21-06/24)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Associate Adviser (06/18-01/21)

Disciplinary Information:

Ms. Duff has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Ms. Duff or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

Ms. Duff is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Ms. Duff does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Ms. Duff's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer, supervises RAFS's supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with RAFS's Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. These individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## **Gabrielle H. Gioia's Biographical Information**

Year of Birth: 1995

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BBA Business– Temple University, 2018
- Certified Financial Planner®, 05/21-Present
- Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>, 02/23-present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (05/21-06/24)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Associate Adviser (06/19-05/21)

Disciplinary Information:

Ms. Gioia has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Ms. Gioia or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

Ms. Gioia is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Ms. Gioia does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Ms. Gioia's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer, supervises RAFS's supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with RAFS's Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. These individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## **Adam J. Sclafani's Biographical Information**

Year of Birth: 1996

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BBA Business– Temple University, 2019
- Certified Financial Planner®, 05/21-Present
- Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>, 03/23-present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (05/21-06/24)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Associate Adviser (06/19-05/21)

Disciplinary Information:

Mr. Sclafani has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Mr. Sclafani or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

Mr. Sclafani is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Mr. Sclafani does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Mr. Sclafani's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer, supervises RAFS's supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with RAFS's Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. These individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.



## Stephen M. Elliker's Biographical Information

Year of Birth: 1981

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BA Economics and Philosophy – Millersville University, 2003
- Master of Business Administration with Finance Concentration – Drexel University, 2011
- Certified Financial Planner®, 10/20-Present
- NAPFA Registered Investment Adviser, 2/22-Present
- Retirement Income Certified Professional®, 10/22-Present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (7/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (6/21-06/24)
- Vanguard Group, Inc., Registered Representative (01/21-05/21)
- Compass ION Advisors, LLC., Associate Financial Advisor, (10/19-12/20)

Disciplinary Information:

Mr. Elliker has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Mr. Elliker or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

As co-owner of Elliker Cookie Company, Mr. Elliker devotes less than 1% of his time to his company. He receives approximately 10% of revenue annually from these activities. Mr. Elliker is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers and Elliker Cookie Company.

Additional Compensation:

Mr. Elliker does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Mr. Elliker's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, Rodgers' Chief Compliance Officer, supervises Rodgers' supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with Rodgers' Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. These individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## **Jared W. Clarkin Wilcox's Biographical Information**

Year of Birth: 1987

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BS Business Administration, Cairn University, 2011
- BS Bible, Cairn University, 2011
- Master of Business Administration, Liberty University, 2015
- Certified Financial Planner®, 12/20-Present
- NAPFA Registered Financial Advisor, 02/22-Present
- Retirement Income Certified Professional®, 10/22-Present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd., dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (08/21-06/24)
- Vanguard Group, Inc., Registered Representative (06/18-08/21)

Disciplinary Information:

Mr. Wilcox has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Mr. Wilcox or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

Mr. Wilcox is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Mr. Wilcox does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Mr. Wilcox's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, Rodgers' Chief Compliance Officer, supervises Rodgers' supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with Rodgers' Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. These individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## Michael A. Lenick's Biographical Information

Year of Birth: 1987

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BS Education– Kutztown University, 2009
- Chartered Financial Consultant®, 02/20-Present
- Retirement Income Certified Professional®, 04/22-Present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (04/23-06/24)
- Northwestern Mutual, Registered Representative (08/17-03/23)

Disciplinary Information:

Mr. Lenick not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Mr. Lenick or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

Mr. Lenick is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Mr. Lenick does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Mr. Lenick's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer, supervises RAFS's supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with RAFS's Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. These individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## **Brittany C. Luttrell's Biographical Information**

Year of Birth: 1990

Formal Education after High School and Industry Designations:

- BS Sociology – Millersville University, 2015
- Master of Science in Finance – Elizabethtown College, 2022
- Chartered Financial Consultant®, 03/24-Present

Please see the final section of this Brochure Supplement for more information on these designations.

Business Background for the Preceding Five Years:

- Rodgers & Associates, LLC dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (07/24-Present)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Investment Adviser Representative (03/24-06/24)
- Rodgers & Associates, Ltd. dba RA Financial Services, Associate Adviser (03/22-03/24)
- Community Services Group (6/18-3/22)

Disciplinary Information:

Ms. Luttrell has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a Client's evaluation of Ms. Luttrell or of Rodgers.

Other Business Activities:

Ms. Luttrell is not engaged in any other investment-related business and does not receive compensation in connection with any business activity outside of Rodgers.

Additional Compensation:

Ms. Luttrell does not receive economic benefits from any person or entity other than Rodgers in connection with the provision of investment advice to Clients.

Supervision:

Ms. Luttrell's investment recommendations are supervised by Rodgers' Manager of Adviser Services, Patrick Carney. Sandra Skrodinsky, RAFS's Chief Compliance Officer, supervises RAFS's supervised persons by monitoring their compliance with RAFS's Regulatory Compliance Manual, including its Code of Ethics. These individuals can be reached directly by calling 717-560-3800.

## Descriptions of Industry Designations

### Certified Financial Planner®

The CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER®, CFP® and federally registered CFP (with flame design) marks (collectively, the “CFP® marks”) are professional certification marks granted in the United States by the 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 87,000 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 professional conduct and regulation; insurance planning and risk management, general principals of financial planning, education planning, investment planning, tax planning, retirement savings and income planning, and estate planning;
- Examination – Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination is administered in two three-hour sessions over one day, which 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 either 6,000 hours of professional experience related to the financial planning process or 4,000 hours of apprenticeship experience; 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® 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:

- 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® 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.

CFP® 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® certification.

### **Chartered Financial Consultant®**

Chartered Financial Consultant®, ChFC® is a professional designation awarded by the American College of Financial Services, an accredited private educational institution. The curriculum covers the financial planning process, fundamentals of insurance planning, income taxation, planning for retirement needs, investments and estate planning as well as comprehensive financial planning and contemporary applications.

To receive the ChFC® designation, an individual must successfully complete the following requirements:

- Education – Complete a total of eight courses covering all facets of financial planning. Topics include income tax, retirement, risk management, estate planning, and investments;
- Examination – Pass a three-hour examination following completion of each of the eight courses.
- Experience – Complete three years full-time, relevant business experience and a high school diploma;
- Ethics – Agree to comply with The American College Code of Ethics and Procedures.

Individuals who receive this designation must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to maintain the designation:

- Continuing Education – Complete 30 hours of continuing education hours every two years, including one hour of Business Ethics and
- Ethics – Participate in the annual Professional Recertification Program (PRP). ChFC charterholders are held to a fiduciary standard, which means they are bound by law to consider the best financial interest of their clients when pursuing any investment decision.

### **NAPFA Registered Financial Adviser™**

NAPFA-Registered Financial Advisor® is the top level of membership in the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors (NAPFA). All NAPFA-Registered Financial Advisors® must possess three years of comprehensive financial planning experience, have a sample comprehensive financial plan pass a peer-review process. Since Jan. 1, 2009 all NAPFA-Registered Financial Advisors® must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. Since Jan. 1, 2010, new NAPFA-Registered Financial Advisors® must also possess either the Certified Financial Planner™ designation awarded by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc., or (since mid-2010) the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' Personal Financial Specialist (CPA/PFS) credential. All NAPFA Registered Financial Advisors® must also adhere to NAPFA's Fiduciary Oath, Standards of Membership and Affiliation, and Bylaws. NAPFA Registered Financial Advisors® must also comply with NAPFA's industry-leading strict continuing education requirements of sixty hours every two years. All NAPFA Registered Financial Advisors® provide investment and/or financial advice on a strictly Fee-Only basis as defined by NAPFA. NAPFA defines a Fee-Only financial advisor as one who is compensated solely by the client with neither the advisor nor any related party receiving compensation that is contingent on the purchase or sale of a financial product. No NAPFA Registered Financial Advisor® may receive commissions, rebates, awards, finder's fees, bonuses or other forms of compensation from others as a result of a client's implementation of the individual's planning recommendations. In addition, NAPFA Registered Financial Advisors® must continue to meet NAPFA's standards for strong character and adherence to the laws and regulations governing the profession.

### **Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor<sup>SM</sup>**

Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor is a professional designation awarded by the College of Financial Planning to persons who complete a course of studies focused on retirement, both pre-and post-retirement needs and planning, asset management, and estate planning. The course employs real client situations in its models. The candidate must pass a 3 hour end-of-course examination (with 70% or better) that tests the student's ability to use and apply the complex, theoretical concepts to real-life scenarios. The persons who attain the designation must also agree to comply with a "Standards of Professional Conduct" and are subject to renewing the designation every two years with 16 hours of continuing education and to a disciplinary process for any transgressions of ethical standards.

### **Certified Retirement Counselor<sup>®</sup>**

The CRC<sup>®</sup> program is administered by the International Foundation for Retirement Education (InFRE). To qualify for this designation, the candidate must have completed a bachelor's degree with two years relevant professional experience within the past five years or a high school diploma or equivalent with five years of relevant professional experience within the past seven years. Candidates must pass the certification exam. In addition, the candidate must complete 15 hours of continuing education per year.

### **Retirement Income Certified Professional<sup>®</sup>**

Retirement Income Certified Professional is a professional designation awarded by the American College of Financial Services to people that complete a three-course program including passing an exam at the end of each course and have 3 years of professional experience in financial planning or a related field. Additionally, the person must agree to comply with The American College Code of Ethics and Procedures as well as participate in the annual Professional Recertification Program (PRP) to maintain the designation. Holders who are considered client-facing are required to complete 30 credit hours of CE every two years, including one hour of ethics CE. The curriculum provides a deep knowledge on a range of styles and planning strategies. The program is designed for professionals seeking to specialize in retirement income planning.

### **Certified Financial Counselor<sup>TM</sup>**

The Certified Financial Counselor certification course prepares financial professionals with the knowledge to fulfill the role of financial counselor. Only those meeting the Financial Counselors Institute's standards for certification can call themselves a CFC<sup>TM</sup>. This certification requires successfully completing 12 classes and assessments. Two classes and assessments are required annually to maintain the designation.