# Financial Planning Strategies, LLC

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**Item 1: Cover Page** 

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and investment advisory business practices of Financial Planning Strategies, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact me at 719-266-5335. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about our investment advisory business is also available on the Internet at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>. You can view our information on this website by searching for "Financial Planning Strategies, LLC" You can also search using the firm's CRD numbers. The CRD number for the firm is 116228.

<sup>\*</sup>Registration as an investment advisor does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

## Item 2 – Material Changes

Pursuant to Colorado, Texas, and SEC rules, Financial Planning Strategies, LLC will ensure that clients receive a summary of any material changes to this and subsequent disclosure brochures within 120 days after the Firm's fiscal year end, December 31. This means that if there were any material changes over the past year, clients will receive a summary of those changes no later than April 30. At that time, Financial Planning Strategies will also offer a copy of its most current disclosure brochure and may also provide other ongoing disclosure information about material changes as necessary. If there are no material changes over the past year, no notices will be sent.

The following material changes have been made to this brochure since our last annual update dated March 2021:

- We have updated our assets under management. Please see Item 4 Advisory Business for additional information.
- We have updates our advice offered. Please see Item 4 Advisory Business for additional information.
- We have updated our fee range. Please see Item 5 Fees and Compensation for additional information.
- We have updated the types of clients we serve. Please see Item 7 Types of Clients for additional information.
- We have updated new trading practices. Please see Item 12 Brokerage Practice for additional information.
- We have updated our solicitation practices. Please see Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation for additional information.

Clients and prospective clients can always receive the most current disclosure brochure for Financial Planning Strategies, LLC at any time by contacting their investment advisor representative.

This is a new brochure as of 02/09/2022.

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#### Item 4 – Advisory Business

## A. FIRM DESCRIPTION

Financial Planning Strategies, LLC is currently an investment advisor registered with the States of Colorado and Texas and as of May 2019 a Limited Liability Company formed under the laws of the state of Colorado.

- Don C. Leander is the Managing Member and 99% owner of the firm. Chad M. Tipps is a 1% owner of the firm. Full details of his education and business background are provided at Item 19 of this Disclosure Brochure.
- Don C. Leander is also the Chief Compliance Office of FPS.

# B. TYPES OF ADVISORY SERVICES

The following are brief descriptions of our primary services. A detailed description of our services is provided in *Item 5 – Fees and Compensation* so that clients and prospective clients can review the services and description of fees in a side-by-side manner.

Financial Planning Strategies, LLC offer the following wealth management services:

- 1. Asset management services defined as giving continuous investment advice to a client based on the individual needs of the client;
- 2. Financial planning;
- 3. Insurance coverage analysis;
- 4. Income tax analysis; and
- 5. Estate planning;

**Asset Management Services** – We provide advisory services in the form of Asset Management Services. Asset Management Services involve providing clients with non-discretionary, continuous and on-going supervision over client accounts. This means that with the client's prior consent, we will continuously monitor a client's account and make trades in client accounts when necessary.

**Financial Planning Services** – We provide advisory services in the form of financial planning services. Financial planning services do not involve the active management of client accounts, but instead focuses on a client's overall financial situation. Financial planning can be described as helping individuals determine and set their long-term financial goals, through investments, tax planning, asset allocation, risk management, retirement planning, and other areas. The role of a financial planner is to find ways to help the client understand his/her overall financial situation and help the client set financial objectives.

**Outside Money Managers** – When circumstances are appropriate, we will advise clients about the option to invest with unaffiliated money managers that are registered or exempt from registration as investment advisors. Third-party money managers are responsible for continuously monitoring client accounts and

making trades in client accounts when necessary. We monitor any third-party money managers performance for clients and may recommend changes if the need arises.

# **Specialization**

The firm specializes in providing individualized investment advice through its asset management services.

- Financial planning focusing on: Retirement Planning and Estate Planning
- Investment Management specializing in selection of mutual fund portfolios
- Investment Management specializing in selection of equities and fixed income investments
- Investment Management specializing in a suitable asset mix of equities, fixed income, and other general securities and mutual funds
- Investment management services focusing on quantitative analysis, technical analysis, fundamental analysis, combined with overall asset allocation strategies
- Investment management focusing on long-term strategies and some short-term strategies as the need arises, as well as recommending dynamic rebalancing strategies between various types of assets

## Limits Advice to Certain Types of Investments

We provide investment advice on the following types of investments.

- Mutual fund shares
- Exchange-listed securities (i.e. stocks)
- Securities traded over-the-counter

We do not provide advice on certificates of deposit, variable life insurance, variable annuities, options contracts or securities or commodities, futures contracts on tangibles or intangibles, or interests in partnerships investing in real estate, oil and gas interests.

When providing Asset Management Services, the firm will typically construct each client's account holdings using mutual funds and equities to build diversified portfolios. It is not our typical investment strategy to attempt to time the market, but we may increase cash holdings modestly as deemed appropriate, based on a client's risk tolerance and our expectations of market behavior. We may modify its investment strategy to accommodate special situations like low basis stock, stock options, legacy holdings, inheritances, closely held businesses, collectibles, or special tax situations.

(Please refer to Item 8 – Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss for more information.)

#### C. SERVICES TAILORED TO CLIENTS' NEEDS

Our services are always provided based on the individual needs of each client. This means, for example, that the client is given the ability to impose restrictions on the accounts we manage for him/her, including specific investment selections and sectors. We work with each client on a one-on-one basis through interviews.

#### D. WRAP FEE PROGRAM VERSUS PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

FPS does not offer a Wrap Fee Program. A wrap fee program is defined as any Advisory program under which a specified fee or fees not based directly upon transactions in a client's account is charged for investment advisory services (which may include portfolio management or advice concerning the selection of other investment advisers) and the execution of client transactions. Whenever a fee charged to a client for services described in this brochure, we will receive all or a portion of the fee charged.

# E. ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

As of December 31, 2022, Adviser has the following under management:

Discretionary assets: \$0

Non-discretionary assets: \$71,660,438

Item 5 – Fees and Compensation

In addition to the information provided in the Advisory Business section, this section provides details regarding Firm services along with descriptions of each service's fees and compensation arrangements.

## A. FINANCIAL PLANNING & PORTFOLIO REVIEW SERVICES

We provide financial planning of a client's present situation in the form of written financial plans and consultations regarding portfolio reviews for accounts not managed or maintained by me in the form of written plans and consultations on a one-time basis. Financial planning and portfolio review services may be specific or modular in their preparation (unique to each individual client in the amount of time and effort required to complete the plan). Financial planning and portfolio review services may take into consideration each client's objectives, risks that they are willing to undertake, investment knowledge, net worth, income, age, projected retirement, unusual or material funding requirements, inheritance possibilities, pensions, social security, children/relative funding issues, estate issues, and living expenses expressed in today's dollars requested for retirement.

It will be client's responsibility to implement any of our recommendations offered as part of these services, and clients are not required to implement our recommendations through me. We will not have trading

authorization for any of client's accounts that contract with me only for financial planning and portfolio review services. At no time will the advisor ever have direct access to client funds and securities. The client's qualified custodian will maintain custody of all funds and securities.

Fees for financial planning and portfolio review services are billed on a fixed fee basis. The amount of the fee will depend upon the complexity of the client's situation and the actual services to be provided. The amount of any fixed fee will be specified in the financial advisory agreement signed by the client. The minimum fixed fee for financial planning services will be \$250. The fixed fee will be paid in advance; however, at no time will clients be required to pay more than \$500 six or more months in advance. Financial planning and/or portfolio review fees are earned upon our expending a certain number of hours (as specified in the financial advisory agreement signed by client) in research, analysis and consultation while providing client with financial planning and/or portfolio review services.

Fees for our services are billed quarterly in advance.

Financial Planning and Portfolio Review Fees are generally deducted directly from a client account selected by the client. Clients must provide the custodian with written authorization to have fees deducted from the account and paid to me. Prior to any fees being deducted from the account, we will provide clients with a fee notification. The fee notification will show the amount of fees for the billing period, the manner in which the fees were deducted, any adjustments to the fees, and explanations of any adjustments. Upon our discretion, clients may pay fees directly to me. For clients that pay directly, payment is due within thirty (30) days after receipt of the billing statement from the advisor. The custodian will send client statements, at least quarterly, showing all disbursements for the account including the amount of the advisory fee, if deducted directly from the account.

The fixed fees for financial planning and portfolio review services are in addition to any commissions that may be earned by me, if any, our capacity as an insurance agent as a result of the client implementing any insurance recommendations made by me.

Financial planning and portfolio review services terminate upon presentation of the written plan or completion of the consultation services One-time financial planning services automatically terminate upon presentation of the written plan or completion of the consultation services. However, either party may terminate the agreement sooner by providing written notice to the other party. Termination will be effective upon receipt of notification. If services are terminated within five (5) business days of executing the agreement, services will be terminated without penalty and no fees due. If services are terminated after the initial five-day period, any pre-paid fees will be pro-rated and any unearned fees refunded to the client.

Financial planning and portfolio review services are provided on a one-time basis; however, clients are encouraged to retain me for ongoing consultations.

#### B. WEALTH MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The specific wealth management services provided by Financial Planning Strategies, LLC will be specified in the financial advisory agreement executed by client.

We may provide asset management services through accounts maintained at a qualified custodian recommended by me or selected by the client. We typically recommend Charles Schwab and Co. a registered broker dealer and member of SIPC through their Schwab Institutional platform. Under this type of agreement, we will be granted trading authorization authority on the client's account. However, since we will not be given discretionary authority, the client will be required to approve each transaction prior to the trade being placed.

We may also provide asset review services on accounts in which trading authorization is not granted. Under this agreement, we will provide ongoing review services of the client's assets; however, the client must implement all trades in the account and the advisor will not have direct access to the account. Under this client directed program at no time will the advisor ever have direct access to client funds and securities. The client's qualified custodian will maintain custody of all funds and securities.

The fees for Wealth Management Services are dependent upon each individual client's particular situation and can range from .5% to 1.50% of the assets under management. No accounts will be charged more than 1.50% at any time.

Clients are charged a percentage of managed assets fee for our wealth management services. The actual fee charged to each client is negotiable, based on factors such as the client's financial situation and circumstances, the amount of assets under management or review, client's net worth, whether the advisor will have trading authorization over the client's account, and the overall complexity of the services provided. The exact services and fee will be agreed upon and disclosed in the financial advisory agreement that will be signed prior to services being provided.

Fees charged for our asset management services are charged based on a percentage of assets under management, billed in advance (at the start of the billing period) on a quarterly calendar basis and calculated based on the fair market value of your account as of the last business day of the current billing period. Fees are prorated (based on the number of days service is provided during the initial billing period) for your account opened at any time other than the beginning of the billing period. If asset management services are commenced in the middle of a billing period, the prorated fee for the initial billing period is billed in arrears at the same time as the next full billing period's fee is billed. At no time will clients be required to pay more than \$500 six or more months in advance.

Wealth Management Services Fees are generally deducted directly from the client's account. Clients must provide the custodian with written authorization to have fees deducted from the account and paid to the advisor. Prior to any fees being deducted from the account, Advisor will provide clients with a fee

notification. The fee notification will show the amount of fees, the manner in which the fees were deducted, any adjustments to the fees, and explanations of any adjustments. Upon our discretion, clients may pay fees directly to the advisor. For clients that pay directly, payment is due within thirty (30) days after receipt of the billing statement from the advisor. The custodian will send client statements, at least quarterly, showing all disbursements for the account including the amount of the advisory fee, if deducted directly from the account.

Brokerage commissions and/or transaction ticket fees charged by the custodian will be billed directly to the client. For accounts maintained by qualified custodian Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., we will not receive any portion of such commissions or fees from the custodian or client.

In addition, clients may incur certain charges imposed by third parties other than me in connection with investments made through the account, including but not limited to, mutual fund sales loads, 12(b)-1 fees and surrender charges, variable annuity fees and surrender charges, and IRA and qualified retirement plan fees. Management fees charged by me are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by investment company securities that may be recommended to clients. A description of these fees and expenses are available in each investment company security's prospectus. The fixed fees for wealth management services are in addition to any commissions that may be earned by me in our capacity as an independent insurance agent as a result of the client implementing any insurance recommendations made by me.

The duration of the agreement to provide wealth management service will last 90 days. Upon the 91st day, the following will occur as indicated in the financial advisory agreement: (a) the agreement to provide the specified wealth management services will automatically terminate; (b) the agreement to provide the specified wealth management services will renew for another 90 days (at one-fourth of the originally specified "annualized" fixed fee, which is one-fourth of the annual fee) unless either party cancels; or (c) the agreement to provide the specified wealth management services will renew for another 90 day period at a pre-determined fee specified in the financial advisory agreement.

Either party may terminate the agreement prior to the end 90-day period by providing written notice to the other party. Termination will be effective upon receipt of notification. If services are terminated within five (5) business days of executing the agreement, services will be terminated without penalty and all pre-paid fees will be refunded to the client. If services are terminated after the initial five-day period, any unearned fees will be pro-rated and refunded to the client upon request. There will be no penalty charge upon termination. Clients may not assign the agreement for services without our prior consent; nor will we make any assignment (as defined in the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended) of the agreement for services without prior notice and consent of the client.

#### C. THIRD PARTY/CUSTODIAN FEES

Financial Planning Strategies, LLC may refer clients to unaffiliated third-party investment advisors that offer asset management services to clients. Although Financial Planning Strategies, LLC will not be paid a portion of the fee charged and collected by the third-party investment advisor, we offer a portfolio review service of client accounts managed by third-party investment advisors.

We will assist the client with identifying the client's risk tolerance and investment objectives. Although we will recommend third-party investment advisors in relation to client's stated investment objectives and risk tolerance, we will not have the authority to hire or fire such third-party investment advisors. A client should select a recommended third-party investment advisor based upon the client's needs. Clients will enter into an agreement directly with the unaffiliated third-party investment advisor

We will be available to answer questions the client may have regarding their account and act as the communication conduit between the client and the third-party investment advisors. Third-party investment advisors may take discretionary authority to determine the securities to be purchased and sold for the client. Financial Planning Strategies, LLC will not have any trading authority with respect to client's managed account with the third-party investment advisor(s). Moreover, we will not provide recommendations regarding specific securities held within client's account(s) managed by third-party investment advisors. At no time will we ever have direct access to client funds and securities. The client's qualified custodian will maintain custody of all funds and securities. Any periodic reports provided to clients will depend upon the third-party investment advisor selected.

Clients are charged a fixed fee for our portfolio review of client's account(s) managed by third-party investment advisors. The actual fee charged to each client is negotiable based on factors such as the client's financial situation and circumstances, the amount of assets under review and the overall complexity of the services provided. The exact services and fixed fee will be agreed upon and disclosed in the financial advisory agreement prior to services being provided.

The fees for our Portfolio Review Services are dependent upon each individual client's particular situation and can range from .5% to 1.5% of the assets under management. No accounts will be charged more than 1.5% at any time.

Clients are charged a percentage of managed assets fee for our Portfolio Review Services. The actual fee charged to each client is negotiable, based on factors such as the client's financial situation and circumstances, the amount of assets under management or review, client's net worth, whether the advisor will have trading authorization over the client's account, and the overall complexity of the services provided. The exact services and fee will be agreed upon and disclosed in the financial advisory agreement that will be signed prior to services being provided.

Fees for our portfolio review services are billed quarterly in advance. Our minimum fee is \$250. At no time will clients be required to pay more than \$500 six or more months in advance. Fees are generally deducted directly from the client's account. Clients must provide the custodian with written authorization to have fees deducted from the account and paid to me. Prior to any fees being deducted from the account, we will provide clients with a fee notification. The fee notification will show the amount of fees, the manner in which the fees were deducted, any adjustments to the fees, and explanations of any adjustments. Upon our discretion, clients may pay fees directly to me. For clients that pay directly, payment is due within thirty (30) days after receipt of the billing statement from me. The custodian will send client statements, at least quarterly, showing all disbursements for the account including the amount of the advisory fee, if deducted directly from the account.

Under certain third-party investment advisor's program, brokerage commissions and/or transaction ticket fees charged by the custodian will be billed directly to the client. Additionally, the third-party investment advisors will charge clients a separate investment advisory fee, and clients may incur certain charges imposed by third- parties other than me or third-party investment advisor in connection with investments made through the account, including but not limited to, mutual fund sales loads, 12(b)-1 fees and surrender charges, variable annuity fees and surrender charges, and IRA and qualified retirement plan fees. Portfolio review fees charged by me are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by third-party investment advisors and Investment Company securities that may be recommended to clients by third-party investment advisors. A description of these fees and expenses are available in third-party investment advisor's ADV and each investment company security's prospectus. Moreover, the fixed fees for the portfolio review services of client's account(s) managed by third-party investment advisors are in addition to any commissions that may be earned by me in our capacity as an independent insurance agent as a result of the client implementing any insurance recommendations made by me.

The duration of the agreement to provide portfolio review services will last 90 days. Upon the 91st day, the following will occur as indicated in the financial advisory agreement: (a) the agreement to provide the specified portfolio review services will automatically terminate; (b) the agreement to provide the specified wealth management services will renew for another 90 days (at one-fourth of the originally specified "annualized" fixed fee, which is one-fourth of annual fee) unless either party cancels; or (c) the agreement to provide the specified portfolio review services will renew for another 90 day period at a pre-determined fee specified in the financial advisory agreement.

Either party may terminate the agreement prior to the end 90-day period by providing written notice to the other party. Termination will be effective upon receipt of notification. If services are terminated within five (5) business days of executing the agreement, services will be terminated without penalty and all pre-paid fees will be refunded to the client. If services are terminated after the initial five-day period, any unearned fees will be pro-rated and refunded to the client upon request. There will be no penalty charge upon termination. Clients may not assign the agreement for services without our prior consent; nor will we make any assignment (as defined in the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended) of the agreement for services without prior notice and consent of the client.

Clients are advised that we have a conflict of interest by only recommending those third-party investment advisors that have agreed to allow me to provide portfolio review services of client accounts managed by third-party advisor. Clients are advised that there may be other third-party managed programs that may be suitable to the client that may be more or less costly. No guarantees can be made that client's financial goals or objectives will be achieved. Further, no guarantees of performance can be offered. Investments involve risk, including the possible loss of principal.

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

FPS does not charge or accept performance-based fees.

## Item 7 – Types of Clients

FPS provides investment advice to many different types of clients. These clients generally include individuals, trusts, and estates.

## A. MINIMUM ACCOUNT SIZE

FPS does not require a minimum account size. Third-party managed programs generally have account minimum requirements, and these minimum requirements vary from manager to manager. Account minimums are generally higher on fixed income accounts than equity-based accounts.

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

## A. METHODS OF ANAYLSIS

The Firm may use the following methods when considering investment strategies and recommendations.

#### **FUNDAMENTAL REVIEW**

Financial Planning Strategies, LLC will primarily recommend mutual funds in the majority of situations and focusing on funds (or Exchange-Traded Funds) that use the Fundamental ('Value') approach to security selection is straightforward, since many publications and online mutual fund sources indicate the fund management's philosophy. We prefer the 'Value' style for most mutual funds recommended. For individual stocks, the Fundamental method of evaluating a security is done by attempting to measure its intrinsic value by examining related economic, financial and other qualitative and quantitative factors. Fundamental analysts attempt to study everything that can affect the security's value, including macroeconomic factors (like the overall economy and industry conditions) and individually specific factors (like the financial condition and management of companies). The end goal of performing fundamental analysis is to produce a value that an investor can compare with the security's current price in hopes of determining what, if any,

position to take with that security. This method of security analysis is considered to be the opposite of technical analysis, which focuses on reading price or volume charts, for example. Fundamental analysis is about using real data to evaluate a security's value. Although most analysts use fundamental analysis to value stocks, this method of valuation can be used for just about any type of security.

#### **B. INVESTMENT STRATEGIES SETS UNDER**

When implementing investment advice to clients, the Firm may employ a variety of strategies to best pursue the objects of clients. Depending on market trends and conditions, FPS will employee any technique or strategy herein described, at the Firm's discretion and in the best interests of the client. The Firm does not recommend any particular security or type of security. Instead, the Firm makes recommendations to meet a particular client's financial objectives. There is inherent risk to any investment and clients may suffer loss of ALL OR PART of a principal investment.

#### LONG-TERM PURCHASES

Long-term purchases are securities that are purchased with the expectation that the value of those securities will grow over a relatively long period, generally greater than one year. Long-term purchases may be affected by unforeseen changes in the company in which a client is invested or in the overall market. Long term trading is designed to capture market rates of both return and risk. Frequent trading can affect investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes. Due to its nature, the long-term strategy can expose clients to various other types of risk that will typically surface at various intervals during the time the client owns the investments. These risks include, but are not limited to, inflation (purchasing power) risk, interest rate risk, economic risk, and political/regulatory risk.

We primarily recommend the use of Mutual funds and Exchange Traded Funds. Some of the risks involved with only recommending this type of security are listed below.

## C. RISK OF LOSS

Clients must understand that past performance is not indicative of future results. Therefore, current and prospective clients (including you) should never assume that future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy will be profitable. Investing in securities (including stocks, mutual funds, and bonds) involves risk of loss. Further, depending on the different types of investments there may be varying degrees of risk. Clients and prospective clients should be prepared to bear investment loss including loss of original principal.

Because of the inherent risk of loss associated with investing, our firm is unable to represent, guarantee, or even imply that our services and methods of analysis can or will predict future results, successfully identify market tops or bottoms, or insulate you from losses due to market corrections or declines. There are certain additional risks associated when investing in securities through our investment management program.

**General Risks.** Investing in securities always 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 can or will be met. Past performance is in no way an indication of future performance. We also cannot assure that third parties will satisfy their obligations in a timely manner or perform as expected or marketed.

**General Market Risk.** Investment returns will fluctuate based upon changes in the value of the portfolio securities. Certain securities held may be worth less than the price originally paid for them, or less than they were worth at an earlier time.

**Common Stocks.** Investments in common stocks, both directly and indirectly through investment in shares of ETFs, may fluctuate in value in response to many factors, including, but not limited to, the activities of the individual companies, general market and economic conditions, interest rates, and specific industry changes. Such price fluctuations subject certain strategies to potential losses. During temporary or extended bear markets, the value of common stocks will decline, which could also result in losses for each strategy. If you held common stock, or common stock equivalents, of any given issuer, you would generally be exposed to greater risk than if you held preferred stocks and debt obligations of the issuer.

**Company Risk.** When investing in stock positions, there is always a certain level of company or industry specific risk that is inherent in each investment. This is also referred to as unsystematic risk and can be reduced through appropriate diversification. There is the risk that the company will perform poorly or have its value reduced based on factors specific to the company or its industry. For example, if a company's employees go on strike or the company receives unfavorable media attention for its actions, the value of the company may be reduced.

**Fixed Income Risk.** When investing in bonds, there is the risk that issuer will default on the bond and be unable to make payments. Further, individuals who depend on set amounts of periodically paid income face the risk that inflation will erode their spending power. Fixed-income investors receive set, regular payments that face the same inflation risk.

ETF Risks and Mutual Fund Risks, including Net Asset Valuations and Tracking Error. An ETF's performance may not exactly match the performance of the index or market benchmark that the ETF is designed to track because 1) the ETF will incur expenses and transaction costs not incurred by any applicable index or market benchmark; 2) certain securities comprising the index or market benchmark tracked by the ETF may, from time to time, temporarily be unavailable; and 3) supply and demand in the market for either the ETF and/or for the securities held by the ETF may cause the ETF shares to trade at a premium or discount to the actual net asset value of the securities owned by the ETF. Certain ETF strategies may from time to time include the purchase of fixed income, commodities, foreign securities, American Depository Receipts, or other securities for which expenses and commission rates could be higher than normally charged for exchange-traded equity securities, and for which market quotations or valuation may be limited or inaccurate. Clients should be aware that to the extent they invest in ETF securities they will pay two levels of advisory compensation – advisory fees charged by Adviser plus any advisory fees charged by the issuer of the ETF. This scenario may cause a higher advisory cost (and potentially lower investment returns) than if a Client purchased the ETF directly. An ETF typically includes embedded expenses that may reduce the ETF's net asset value, and therefore directly affect the ETF's performance and indirectly affect a Client's portfolio performance or an index benchmark comparison. Expenses of the ETF may include investment advisor

management fees, custodian fees, brokerage commissions, and legal and accounting fees. ETF expenses may change from time to time at the sole discretion of the ETF issuer. ETF tracking error and expenses may vary.

When we invest in an ETF or mutual fund for a client, the client will bear additional expenses based on it's pro rata share of the ETFs or mutual fund's operating expenses, including the potential duplication of management fees. The risk of owning an ETF or mutual fund generally reflects the risks of owning the underlying securities the ETF or mutual fund holds. Clients will also incur brokerage costs when purchasing ETFs.

**Management Risk**. Your investment with our firm varies with the success and failure of our investment strategies, research, analysis and determination of portfolio securities. If our investment strategies do not produce the expected returns, the value of the investment will decrease.

**Options Risk**. Options on securities may be subject to greater fluctuations in value than an investment in the underlying securities. Purchasing and writing put and call options are highly specialized activities and entail greater than ordinary investment risks.

**Portfolio Turnover Risk**. High rates of portfolio turnover could lower performance of an investment strategy due to increased costs and may result in the realization of capital gains. If an investment strategy realizes capital gains when it sells its portfolio investments, it will increase taxable distributions to you. High rates of portfolio turnover in a given year would likely result in short-term capital gains and under current tax law you would be taxed on short-term capital gains at ordinary income tax rates, if held in a taxable account.

**Non-Diversified Strategy Risk.** Some investment strategies may be non-diversified (e.g., investing a greater percentage of portfolio assets in a particular issuer and owning fewer securities than a diversified strategy). Accordingly, each such strategy is subject to the risk that a large loss in an individual issuer will cause a greater loss than it would if the strategy held a larger number of securities or smaller positions sizes.

**Model Risk.** Financial and economic data series are subject to regime shifts, meaning past information may lack value under future market conditions. Models are based upon assumptions that may prove invalid or incorrect under many market environments. We may use certain programs that produce risk modeling outputs (for example, "Riskalyze") to help identify market opportunities and/or to make certain asset allocation decisions. There is no guarantee any model will work under all market conditions. For this reason, we include model related results as part of our investment decision process but we often weigh professional judgment more heavily in making trades or asset allocations.

**Inflation, Currency, and Interest Rate Risks**. Security prices and portfolio returns will likely vary in response to changes in inflation and interest rates. Inflation causes the value of future dollars to be worth less and may reduce the purchasing power of an investor's future interest payments and principal. Inflation also generally leads to higher interest rates, which in turn may cause the value of many types of fixed income investments to decline. In addition, the relative value of the U.S. dollar-denominated assets primarily managed by Adviser may be affected by the risk that currency devaluations affect Client purchasing power.

**Liquidity Risk.** Liquidity is the ability to readily convert an investment into cash to prevent a loss, realize an anticipated profit, or otherwise transfer funds out of the particular investment. Generally, investments are more liquid if the investment has an established market of purchasers and sellers, such as a stock or bond listed on a national securities exchange. Conversely, investments that do not have an established market of purchasers and sellers may be considered illiquid. Your investment in illiquid investments may be for an indefinite time, because of the lack of purchasers willing to convert your investment to cash or other assets.

Legislative and Tax Risk. Performance may directly or indirectly be affected by government legislation or regulation, which may include, but is not limited to: changes in investment advisor or securities trading regulation; change in the U.S. government's guarantee of ultimate payment of principal and interest on certain government securities; and changes in the tax code that could affect interest income, income characterization and/or tax reporting obligations, particularly for options, swaps, master limited partnerships, Real Estate Investment Trust, Exchange Traded Products/Funds/ Securities. We do not engage in tax planning, and in certain circumstances a Client may incur taxable income on their investments without a cash distribution to pay the tax due. Clients and their personal tax advisors are responsible for how the transactions in their account are reported to the IRS or any other taxing authority.

**Information Security Risk**. We may be susceptible to risks to the confidentiality and security of its operations and proprietary and customer information. Information risks, including theft or corruption of electronically stored data, denial of service attacks on our website or websites of our third-party service providers, and the unauthorized release of confidential information are a few of the more common risks faced by us and other investment advisers. Data security breaches of our electronic data infrastructure could have the effect of disrupting our operations and compromising our customers' confidential and personally identifiable information. Such breaches could result in an inability of us to conduct business, potential losses, including identity theft and theft of investment funds from customers, and other adverse consequences to customers. We have taken and will continue to take steps to detect and limit the risks associated with these threats.

**Tax Risks**. Tax laws and regulations applicable to an account with Adviser may be subject to change and unanticipated tax liabilities may be incurred by an investor as a result of such changes. In addition, customers may experience adverse tax consequences from the early assignment of options purchased for a customer's account. Customers should consult their out tax advisers and counsel to determine the potential tax-related consequences of investing.

Advisory Risk. There is no guarantee that our judgment or investment decisions on behalf of particular any account will necessarily produce the intended results. Our judgment may prove to be incorrect, and an account might not achieve her investment objectives. In addition, it is possible that we may experience computer equipment failure, loss of internet access, viruses, or other events that may impair access to accounts' custodians' software. Adviser and its representatives are not responsible to any account for losses unless caused by Adviser breaching our fiduciary duty.

**Dependence on Key Employees.** An accounts success depends, in part, upon the ability of our key professionals to achieve the targeted investment goals. The loss of any of these key personnel could adversely impact the ability to achieve such investment goals and objectives of the account.

#### **Item 9 – Disciplinary Information**

Registered investment advisers are required to disclose any legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of the advisory business or integrity of the Firm's management.

FPS has no disciplinary disclosures. Don Leander, the owner and operator of FPS, has no disciplinary disclosures.

# Item 10 - Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

Financial Planning Strategies, LLC does not have a related company that is a (1) futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator or commodity trading adviser, (2) investment company or other pooled investment vehicle (including a mutual fund, closed-end investment company, unit investment trust, private investment company or "hedge fund," and offshore fund), (3) other investment adviser (4) financial planning firm, (5) banking or thrift institution, (6) accounting firm, (7) lawyer or law firm, (8) pension consultant, (9) real estate broker or dealer, or (9) sponsor or syndicator of limited partnerships.

We have arrangements that are material to our advisory business or clients in that we are licensed as an independent insurance agent and may utilize the services of one or more insurance agencies and/or be appointed with one or more insurance companies.

## A. THIRD-PARTY MONEY MANAGERS SETS

We may recommend clients work directly with third-party money managers. When we refer clients to a third-party money manager, you need to know that we will not be paid a portion of the fee charged by the third-party money manager. However, we do provide portfolio reviews services on those assets for a fee. Therefore, we have a conflict of interest in that we will only recommend third party money managers that clear through our primary Custodian, since it provides me online access to the account information, in order to review portfolio activity.

## B. **INSURANCE ACTIVITES**

While Financial Planning Strategies, LLC and our primary business involve providing financial planning and investment advice, we are licensed as an independent insurance agent through various insurance companies. You are never obligated or required to purchase insurance products through me or our firm in our separate insurance capacity. You may purchase insurance products through any insurance agent of your own choosing. When acting in these separate capacities, we can help you obtain insurance products and will receive separate compensation (i.e. insurance commissions) in addition to investment advisory and financial planning fees charged. When determining insurance recommendations, we consider the terms and conditions of the policy first and foremost and not the commission we will earn for selling the policy.

We will spend approximately 5% of our time offering insurance products.

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

#### A. FIDUCIARY STATUS

We have established a Code of Ethics that will apply to me and any Financial Planning Strategies, LLC associated persons that may join the firm at some time in the future. An investment adviser is considered a fiduciary. As a fiduciary, it is an investment adviser's responsibility to provide fair and full disclosure of all material facts and to act solely in the best interest of each of our clients at all times. We have a fiduciary duty to all clients. This fiduciary duty is considered the core underlying principle for our Code of Ethics which also covers its Insider Trading and Personal Securities Transactions Policies and Procedures. We are required to conduct business with the highest level of ethical standards and to comply with all federal and state securities laws at all times. In the future should Financial Planning Strategies, LLC add additional supervised persons upon employment or affiliation, when changes occur and at least annually thereafter, all supervised persons will sign an acknowledgement that they have read, understand and agree to comply with the firm's Code of Ethics. We have the responsibility to make sure that the interests of all clients are placed ahead of mine or any potential supervised person's own investment interest. Full disclosure of all material facts and conflicts of interest will be provided to clients prior to any services being conducted. We must conduct business in an honest, ethical and fair manner and avoid all circumstances that might negatively affect or appear to affect our duty of complete loyalty to all clients. This disclosure is provided to give all clients a summary of the firm's Code of Ethics. However, if a client or a potential client wishes to review the firm's Code of Ethics in its entirety, a copy will be provided promptly upon request.

#### B. AFFILIATE AND EMPLOYEE PERSONAL SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS DISCLOSURE

We may buy or sell securities that are also recommended to clients. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, securities we recommend are widely held and publicly traded. In addition, in accordance with our fiduciary duty to clients, we will place client interests ahead of our own interests.

In addition, the Code of Ethics governs personal trading by each employee of Adviser deemed to be an Access Person and is intended to ensure that securities transactions effected by Access Persons of Adviser are conducted in a manner that avoids any actual or potential conflict of interest between such persons and clients of the adviser or its affiliates.

Adviser collects and maintains records of securities holdings and securities transactions effected by Access Persons. These records are reviewed to identify and resolve potential conflicts of interest. Adviser's Code of Ethics is available upon request.

## Item 12 - Brokerage Practices

## A. SELECTION AND RECOMMENDATION

Clients are under no obligation to act on the financial planning recommendations of Financial Planning

Strategies, LLC. If the firm assists in the implementation of any recommendations, we are responsible to ensure that the client receives the best execution possible. Clients wishing to implement our advice are free to select any broker/dealer or investment advisor they wish and are so informed. For clients that wish to have me implement the advice, Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. may be used. The primary factor in suggesting a broker/dealer is that the services of the broker/dealer are provided in a cost-effective manner. Best execution of client transactions is an obligation we take seriously and is a catalyst in the decision of suggesting a broker/dealer. While quality of execution at the best price is an important determinant, best execution does not necessarily mean lowest price and it is not the sole consideration. The trading process of any broker/dealer suggested by the advisor must be efficient, seamless, and straight-forward. Overall custodial support services, trade correction services, and statement preparation are some of the other factors determined when suggesting a broker/dealer. Financial Planning Strategies, LLC does not have any soft dollar arrangements with any third party.

FPS typically does not participate in any directed brokerage practices. However, the client is under no obligation to act on our recommendations.

The standards and procedures governing best execution are set forth in several written policies. Generally, in achieving best execution through our selected broker, Charles Schwab, FPS considers the following factors, without limitation, in selecting brokers and intermediaries:

- 1. Execution capability;
- 2. Order size and market depth;
- 3. Availability of competing markets and liquidity;
- 4. Trading characteristics of the security;
- 5. Availability of accurate information comparing markets;
- 6. Quantity and quality of research received from the broker dealer;
- 7. Financial responsibility of the broker-dealer;
- 8. Confidentiality;
- 9. Reputation and integrity;
- 10. Responsiveness;
- 11. Recordkeeping;
- 12. Ability and willingness to commit capital;
- 13. Available technology; and
- 14. Ability to address current market conditions.

## B. ORDER AGGREGATION

We may elect to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time. This process is referred to as aggregating orders, batch trading, or block trading and may be used by the applicant when it believes such action may prove advantageous to clients. If and when we aggregate client orders, the allocation of securities among client accounts will be done on a fair and equitable basis.

Typically, the process of aggregating client orders is done in order to achieve better execution, to negotiate more favorable commission rates or to allocate orders among clients on a more equitable basis in order to avoid differences in prices and transaction fees or other transaction costs that might be obtained when orders are placed independently. Under this procedure, transactions will be averaged as to price and will be allocated among our clients in proportion to the purchase and sale orders placed for each client account on any given day. If and when we determine to aggregate client orders for the purchase or sale of securities, including securities in which we may invest, we will do so in accordance with the parameters set forth in the SEC No-Action Letter, SMC Capital, Inc. We will never receive any additional compensation or remuneration as a result of executing block trades.

In order to best effectuate re-balancing procedures, we will send out requests to clients to "opt in" prior to placing block trades. Client's that overlook this request may obtain portfolio rebalancing on an individualized basis.

## C. TRADE ERROR POLICY

We have implemented procedures designed to prevent trade errors; however, trade errors in client accounts cannot always be avoided. Consistent with its fiduciary duty, it is our policy to correct trade errors in a manner that is in the best interest of the client. In cases where the client causes the trade error, the client will be responsible for any loss resulting from the correction. Depending on the specific circumstances of the trade error, the client may not be able to receive any gains generated as a result of the error correction. In all situations where the client does not cause the trade error, the client will be made whole and any loss resulting from the trade error will be absorbed by me if the error was caused by the firm. If the error is caused by the broker-dealer, the broker-dealer will be responsible for covering all trade error costs. If an investment gain results from the correcting trade, the gain will remain in the client's account unless the same error involved other client account(s) that should also receive the gains and it is not permissible for all clients to retain the gain. We may also confer with clients to determine if the client should forego the gain (e.g., due to tax reasons).

Financial Planning Strategies, LLC will never benefit or profit from trade errors.

#### Item 13 – Review of Accounts

#### A. ACCOUNT REVIEWS

For clients retaining Advisor for its financial planning and portfolio review services, such services terminate upon presentation of the written plan or completion of the consultation services as specified in the financial advisory agreement. Therefore, no subsequent reviews are conducted for these accounts. If clients elect to have a review and update to an original financial plan, consultation or portfolio review, additional fees may be charged and clients may be required to sign a new client agreement.

For clients retaining Advisor under the Wealth Management Services program, the client's accounts subject to asset management services are reviewed on a quarterly basis by Don C. Leander. The calendar is the main triggering factor, although more frequent reviews may be also be triggered by changes in client circumstances, client request, or unusual market activity. FPS usually sends quarterly summary of all holdings in client accounts to show an end-of-quarter position snapshot.

#### B. STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Clients will receive statements at least quarterly from the custodian at which their accounts are maintained. In addition, clients may elect to receive quarterly or on-demand position and performance reports from Advisor.

Clients are strongly urged to compare all reports prepared by Financial Planning Strategies, LLC against the account statements received from the client's broker/dealer or qualified custodian.

#### Item 14 – Client Referrals and Other Compensation

Broker-dealers serving as custodians to our clients may make available at reduced or no cost to me, other products and services that benefit me but may not benefit our clients' accounts. Some of these other products and services assist me in managing and administering clients' accounts. These include software and other technology that provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements); facilitate trade execution (and allocation of aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts); provide research, pricing information and other market data; facilitate payment of fees to advisors from clients' accounts; and assists with back-office functions, record-keeping and client reporting. Such broker-dealers serving as a custodian to our clients may also offer other services intended to help me manage and further develop our business enterprise such as consulting, publications and conferences on practice management, information technology, business succession, regulatory compliance, and marketing.

While as a fiduciary, we endeavor to act in its clients' best interests, any recommendation that clients maintain their assets in accounts at certain broker-dealers may be based in part on the benefit to advisor of the availability of some of the foregoing products and services and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and brokerage services provided by such broker-dealers, which will create a conflict of interest.

In our separate capacity as an independent insurance agent, we may receive a commission for the sale of insurance products.

FPS has entered into an agreement with WiserAdvisor ("Solicitor") whereby Solicitor will receive compensation from FPS for both prospective clients it refers as well as for prospective clients it refers who enter into an advisory agreement with FPS for investment advisory services. Solicitor is not otherwise affiliated with FPS.

Solicitor will be paid \$999.00 by FPS for annual membership. Additionally, for every client referred by Solicitor that enters into an advisory agreement with FPS, the following fee schedule applies:

\$100- Portfolio Sizes \$250K-\$500K \$125- Portfolio Sizes \$500K - \$1Million \$150- Portfolio Sizes \$1M - \$3Million \$150- Portfolio Sizes \$3M+

This solicitation fee will be paid to Solicitor by FPS out of the normal business expense budget, no additional fees will be incurred by clients referred to FPS by Solicitor.

## Item 15 - Custody

#### A. <u>CUSTODIAN OF ASSETS</u>

Custody, as it applies to investment advisers, has been defined by regulators as having access or control over client funds and/or securities. In other words, custody is not limited to physically holding client funds and securities. If an investment adviser has the ability to access or control client funds or securities, the investment adviser is deemed to have custody and must ensure proper procedures are implemented.

Financial Planning Strategies, LLC is given the authority to have fees deducted directly from client accounts. When fees are deducted from an account, we are responsible for calculating the fee and delivering instructions to the custodian. At the same time, we instruct the custodian to deduct fees from the client's account; we will send the client an invoice itemizing the fee. Itemization will include the formula used to calculate the fee, the amount of assets under management the fee is based on, and the time period covered by the fee. However, this is the only form of custody Financial Planning Strategies, LLC will ever maintain. It should be noted that authorization to trade in client accounts is not deemed by regulators to be custody.

For accounts in which Financial Planning Strategies, LLC is deemed to have custody, Financial Planning Strategies, LLC has established procedures to ensure all client funds and securities are held at a qualified custodian in a separate account for each client under that client's name. Clients or an independent representative of the client will direct, in writing, the establishment of all accounts and therefore are aware of the qualified custodian's name, address and the manner in which the funds or securities are maintained. Finally, account statements are delivered directly from the qualified custodian to each client, or the client's independent representative, at least quarterly. Clients should carefully review those statements and are urged to compare the statements against reports received from Financial Planning Strategies, LLC. When clients have questions about their account statements, they should contact Financial Planning Strategies, LLC or the qualified custodian preparing the statement.

#### Item 16 – Investment Discretion

Through our asset management services and upon receiving written authorization from a client, we will maintain trading authorization over client accounts. Upon receiving written or verbal authorization from the client, we may implement trades on a non-discretionary basis. This means we will be required to contact you prior to implementing changes in your account. Therefore, you will be contacted and required to accept or reject our investment recommendations including:

- The security being recommended
- The number of shares or units
- Whether to buy or sell

Once the above factors are agreed upon, we will be responsible for making decisions regarding the timing of buying or selling an investment and the price at which the investment is bought or sold. If your accounts are managed on a non-discretionary basis, you need to know that if you are not able to be reached or are slow to respond to our request, it can have an adverse impact on the timing of trade implementations, and we may not achieve the optimal trading price.

## **Item 17 – Voting Client Securities**

The Firm does not perform proxy voting services on the client's behalf. Clients are encouraged to read through the information provided with the proxy voting documents and to make a determination based on the information provided. Upon the client's request, Firm representatives may provide limited clarifications of the issues presented in the proxy voting materials based on his or her understanding of issues presented in the proxy voting materials. However, clients have the ultimate responsibility for making all proxy voting decisions.

#### Item 18 – Financial Information

## A. BALANCE SHEET REQUIREMENT

FPS is not the qualified custodian for client funds or securities and does not require prepayment of fees of more than \$500 per client, six (6) months or more in advance.

#### B. FINANCIAL CONDITION

FPS does not have any financial impairment that would preclude the Firm from meeting contractual commitments to clients.

#### C. BANKRUPTCY PETITION

FPS has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the last 10 years.

#### Item 19 – Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

# Don C. Leander – Managing Member

Born: February 1954

#### Education Background:

North Central Texas College, Gainesville, TX, Attended, 1974-1976 College of Financial Planning, Denver, CO, Earned Certified Financial Planner, 1981-1983.

## Business Background:

Don C. Leander Doing Business as Financial Planning Strategies, LLC, 10/1982 – Present. Independent Insurance Agent, 1979 – Present. Multi-Financial Securities Corp. Registered Representative, 04/2000 – 05/2009.

#### Other Business Activities

As disclosed in Item 10 – Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations, I engage in other activities besides giving investment advice.

Don Leander serves in a separate and independent capacity as an insurance agent. As an insurance agent, he sells insurance products through various insurance companies. When acting in this capacity, he will receive commissions for selling these products that are separate and distinct from fees charged for advisory services provided by Advisor.

This role presents a conflict of interest since Don Leander could receive fees and insurance commissions if the client chooses to implement the advisory recommendations in Don Leander's other capacity as an insurance agent.

Clients are never obligated or required to purchase insurance products from or through me and may choose any independent insurance agent and insurance company to purchase insurance products. Regardless of the insurance agent selected, the insurance agent or agency will receive normal commissions from the sale.

Don Leander spends approximately 5% or less of his time in his capacity as an independent insurance agent.

#### No Performance Based Fees

As previously disclosed in Item 6, we do not charge performance-based fees.

#### No Arbitrations

I have not been the subject of any client arbitrations or similar legal disputes.

Don Leander is the sole Principal Executive Officer of FPS, he is also the Chief Compliance Officer. His individual CRD number is 1031780.

For additional information about Don Leander, please see Form ADV Part 2B.

#### Form ADV Part 2B - Don C. Leander

# **Item 1 Brochure Supplement**

This brochure supplement provides information about Don Leander that supplements the Financial Planning Services, LLC brochure. His individual CRD number is 1031780. Please contact Don Leander if the Firm brochure was not provided. Additional information about Don Leander is available on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>.

This Brochure Supplement is new as of February 9, 2022.

# <u>Item 2 Education Background and Business Experience</u>

Education Background:

North Central Texas College, Gainesville, TX, Attended, 1974-1976 College of Financial Planning, Denver, CO, Earned Certified Financial Planner, 1981-1983.

Business Background:

Multi-Financial Securities Corp. Registered Representative, 04/2000 – 05/2009. Financial Planning Strategies, LLC, Managing Member and Investment Advisor Representative 10/1982 – Present. Independent Insurance Agent, 1979 – Present

# **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Adviser has nothing to report under this section.

## **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

As disclosed in Item 10 – Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations, I engage in other activities besides giving investment advice.

Don Leander serves in a separate and independent capacity as an insurance agent. As an insurance agent, he sells insurance products through various insurance companies. When acting in this capacity, he will receive commissions for selling these products that are separate and distinct from fees charged for advisory services provided by Advisor.

This role presents a conflict of interest since Don Leander could receive fees and insurance commissions if the client chooses to implement the advisory recommendations in Don Leander's other capacity as an insurance agent.

Clients are never obligated or required to purchase insurance products from or through me and may choose any independent insurance agent and insurance company to purchase insurance products. Regardless of the insurance agent selected, the insurance agent or agency will receive normal commissions from the sale

Don Leander spends approximately 5% or less of his time in the capacity as an independent insurance agent.

## <u>Item 5 Additional Compensation</u>

Mr. Leander has no additional compensation to report.

## Item 6 Supervision

Don C. Leander is the Chief Compliance Officer of Financial Planning Strategies, LLC (DBA). He is responsible for overseeing and enforcing the firm's compliance programs that have been established to monitor and supervise the activities and services provided by the firm and its representatives. Don C. Leander can be contacted at 719-266-5335.

## Item 7

Don C. Leander has not been involved in an arbitration award and has not been found liable in an arbitration claim alleging any damages. He has not been involved in any award or found liable in any civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceeding. Additionally, he has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.

# Form ADV Part 2B - Chad M. Tipps

# <u>Item 1 Brochure Supplement</u>

This brochure supplement provides information about Chad M. Tipps that supplements the Financial Planning Services, LLC brochure. His individual CRD number is 7040444. Please contact Don Leander if the Firm brochure was not provided. Additional information about Don Leander is available on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>.

This Brochure Supplement is new as of February 9, 2022.

# <u>Item 2 Education Background and Business Experience</u>

Chad M. Tipps has no formal education after high school to disclose.

Business Background:

Financial Planning Strategies, LLC, Financial Advisor, 05/2019 to Present. Charis Christian Center, Director of Audio and Graphic Design, 07/2014 to 2/01/2020 Self Employed - Independent Video and Music Producer, Owner, 01/2006 to 07/2014

Professional Designations:

Financial Paraplanner Qualified Professional™ (FPQP™) – 2018

Individuals who hold the FPQP designation have completed a course of study encompassing the financial planning process, the five disciplines of financial planning and general financial planning concepts, terminology and product categories. Additionally, individuals must pass an end-of-course examination that tests their ability to synthesize complex concepts and apply theoretical concepts to real-life situations.

All designees have agreed to adhere to Standards of Professional Conduct and are subject to a disciplinary process. Designees renew their designation every two-years by completing 16 hours of continuing education, reaffirming adherence to the Standards of Professional Conduct and complying with self-disclosure requirements.

## **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Adviser has nothing to report under this section.

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

Mr. Tipps has no other business activity to report.

## **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Mr. Tipps has no additional compensation to report.

# **Item 6 Supervision**

Don C. Leander is the Chief Compliance Officer of Financial Planning Strategies, LLC (DBA). He is responsible for overseeing and enforcing the firm's compliance programs that have been established to monitor and supervise the activities and services provided by the firm and its representatives. Don C. Leander can be contacted at 719-266-5335.

## Item 7

Mr. Tipps has not been involved in an arbitration award and has not been found liable in an arbitration claim alleging any damages. He has not been involved in any award or found liable in any civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceeding. Additionally, he has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.