### Item 1 Cover Page

# DISCLOSURE BROCHURE

FORM ADV PART 2A



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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Ethos Strategic Investments, LLC. Being registered as an investment adviser does not imply a certain level of skill or training. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 757-942-8200. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, or by any state securities authority.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT ETHOS STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS, LLC (CRD #331831) IS AVAILABLE ON THE SEC'S WEBSITE AT <u>www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</u>

# **Item 2: Material Changes**

# **Annual Update**

The Material Changes section of this brochure will be updated annually or when material changes occur since the previous release of the Firm Brochure.

## **Material Changes since the Last Update**

Initial Filing.

# **Full Brochure Available**

This Firm Brochure being delivered is the complete brochure for the Firm.

# **Item 3: Table of Contents**

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## **Item 4: Advisory Business**

## **Firm Description**

Ethos Strategic Investments, LLC dba Ethos Strategic Investments ("Ethos") was founded as a Limited Liability Company in March 2024 and become registered to offer investment advisory services in the State of Virginia in July 2024. Cristin McGinnis is 100% owner.

# **Types of Advisory Services**

### **ASSET MANAGEMENT**

Ethos offers discretionary asset management services to advisory Clients. Ethos will offer Clients ongoing asset management services through determining individual investment goals, time horizons, objectives, and risk tolerance. Investment strategies, investment selection, asset allocation, portfolio monitoring and the overall investment program will be based on the above factors. The Client will authorize Ethos discretionary authority to execute selected investment program transactions as stated within the Investment Advisory Agreement.

### **ERISA PLAN SERVICES**

Ethos provides service to qualified retirement plans including 401(k) plans, 403(b) plans, pension and profit-sharing plans, cash balance plans, and deferred compensation plans as a 3(21) advisor:

**Limited Scope ERISA 3(21) Fiduciary.** Ethos may serve as a limited scope ERISA 3(21) fiduciary that can advise, help and assist plan sponsors with their investment decisions. As an investment advisor Ethos has a fiduciary duty to act in the best interest of the Client. The plan sponsor is still ultimately responsible for the decisions made in their plan, though using Ethos can help the plan sponsor delegate liability by following a diligent process.

### 1. Fiduciary Services are:

- Provide investment advice to the Client about asset classes and investment options available for the Plan in accordance with the Plan's investment policies and objectives. Client will make the final decision regarding the initial selection, retention, removal and addition of investment options. Ethos acknowledges that it is a fiduciary as defined in ERISA section 3 (21) (A) (ii).
- Assist the Client in the development of an investment policy statement ("IPS"). The IPS establishes the investment policies and objectives for the Plan. Client shall have the ultimate responsibility and authority to establish such policies and objectives and to adopt and amend the IPS.
- Provide investment advice to the Plan Sponsor with respect to the selection of a qualified default investment option for participants who are automatically enrolled in the Plan or who have otherwise failed to make investment elections. The Client retains the sole responsibility to provide all notices to the Plan participants required under ERISA Section 404(c) (5) and 404(a)-5.
- Assist in monitoring investment options by preparing periodic investment reports that document investment performance, consistency of fund management and conformance to the guidelines set forth in the IPS and make recommendations to maintain, remove or replace investment options.

• Meet with Client on a periodic basis to discuss the reports and the investment recommendations.

### 2. Non-fiduciary Services are:

- Assist in the education of Plan participants about general investment information and the investment options available to them under the Plan. Client understands Ethos' assistance in education of the Plan participants shall be consistent with and within the scope of the Department of Labor's definition of investment education (Department of Labor Interpretive Bulletin 96-1). As such, Ethos is not providing fiduciary advice as defined by ERISA 3(21)(A)(ii) to the Plan participants. Ethos will not provide investment advice concerning the prudence of any investment option or combination of investment options for a particular participant or beneficiary under the Plan.
- Assist in the group enrollment meetings designed to increase retirement plan participation among the employees and investment and financial understanding by the employees.

Ethos may provide these services or, alternatively, may arrange for the Plan's other providers to offer these services, as agreed upon between Ethos and Client.

- 3. Ethos has no responsibility to provide services related to the following types of assets ("Excluded Assets"):
  - Employer securities;
  - Real estate (except for real estate funds or publicly traded REITs);
  - Stock brokerage accounts or mutual fund windows;
  - Participant loans;
  - Non-publicly traded partnership interests;
  - Other non-publicly traded securities or property (other than collective trusts and similar vehicles); or
  - Other hard-to-value or illiquid securities or property.

Excluded Assets will **not** be included in calculation of Fees paid to Ethos on the ERISA Agreement. Specific services will be outlined in detail to each plan in the 408(b)2 disclosure.

### FINANCIAL PLANNING AND CONSULTING

Ethos offers the following financial planning and consulting services outlined below:

#### Full Financial Plan

Financial planning services include a complete evaluation of an investor's current and future financial state and will be provided by using currently known variables to predict future cash flows, asset values and withdrawal plans. Ethos will use current net worth, tax liabilities, asset allocation, and future retirement and estate plans in developing financial plans.

Typical topics reviewed in a financial plan may include but are not limited to:

• **Financial goals**: Based on an individual's or a family's clearly defined financial goals, including funding a college education for the children, buying a larger home, starting a business, retiring on time or leaving a legacy. Financial goals should be quantified and set to milestones for tracking.

- **Personal net worth statement**: A snapshot of assets and liabilities serves as a benchmark for measuring progress towards financial goals.
- **Cash flow analysis**: An income and spending plan determines how much can be set aside for debt repayment, savings and investing each month.
- **Retirement strategy**: A strategy for achieving retirement independent of other financial priorities. Including a strategy for accumulating the required retirement capital and its planned lifetime distribution.
- **Comprehensive risk management plan**: Identify all risk exposures and provide the necessary coverage to protect the family and its assets against financial loss.
- **Long-term investment plan**: Include a customized asset allocation strategy based on specific investment objectives and a risk profile. This investment plan sets guidelines for selecting, buying and selling investments and establishing benchmarks for performance review.
- **Tax reduction strategy**: Identify ways to minimize taxes on personal income to the extent permissible by the tax code. The strategy should include identification of tax-favored investment vehicles that can reduce taxation of investment income.
- **Estate preservation**: Help update accounts, review beneficiaries for retirement accounts and life insurance, provide a second look at your current estate planning documents, and prompt you to update your plan when the legal environment changes or you have major life events such as a marriage, death, or births.

#### Consultation Services

This service is appropriate for clients who need assistance with individual topics. This is not a detailed financial review and will not provide/result in a complete financial plan. Client may select individual topics above, or other topics as may be deemed appropriate. The individual topics that will be included in this service will be outlined and agreed upon on the financial planning and consulting agreement.

If a conflict of interest exists between the interests of Ethos and the interests of the Client, the Client is under no obligation to act upon Ethos' recommendation. If the Client elects to act on any of the recommendations, the Client is under no obligation to effect the transaction through Ethos. Financial plans/recommendations will be completed and delivered inside of sixty (60) days contingent upon timely delivery of all required documentation.

### **Client Tailored Services and Client Imposed Restrictions**

The goals and objectives for each Client are documented in our Client files. Investment strategies are created that reflect the stated goals and objectives. Clients may impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities.

Agreements may not be assigned without written Client consent.

### **Wrap Fee Programs**

Ethos does not participate in any wrap fee programs.

### **Client Assets Under Management**

Ethos has the following Client assets under management:

Discretionary Amounts:	Non-discretionary Amounts:	Date Calculated:
\$0	\$0	June 19, 2024

## **Item 5: Fees and Compensation**

# **Method of Compensation and Fee Schedule**

### ASSET MANAGEMENT

Ethos offers discretionary direct asset management services to advisory Clients. Ethos charges an annual investment advisory fee based on the total assets under management as follows:

Assets Under Management	Annual Fee	Quarterly Fee
Up to \$500,000	1.50%	.3750%
\$500,001 to \$1,000,000	1.25%	.3125%
\$1,000,001 to \$5,000,000	1.00%	.2500%
\$5,000,001 to \$10,000,000	0.75%	.1875%
Over \$10,000,000	0.50%	.1250%

This is a flat rate/breakpoint fee schedule, the entire portfolio is charged the same asset management fee. For example, a Client with \$750,000 under management would pay \$9.375 on an annual basis.  $$750,000 \times 1.25\% = $9,375$ .

The annual fee is negotiable based upon certain criteria (e.g., historical relationship, type of assets, anticipated future earning capacity, anticipated future additional assets, dollar amounts of assets to be managed, related accounts, account composition, negotiations with Clients, etc.). Ethos considers cash to be an asset class, and as such is included in fee calculations. Also, to be noted, at times fees will exceed the money market yield. Fees are billed quarterly in advance based on the amount of assets managed as of the close of business on the last business day of the previous quarter. If margin is utilized, the fees will be billed based on the net asset value of the account. If the Account does not contain sufficient funds to pay advisory fees, Ethos has authority to sell or redeem securities in sufficient amounts to pay advisory fees.

Lower fees for comparable services may be available from other sources. Clients may terminate their account within five (5) business days of signing the Investment Advisory Agreement with no obligation and without penalty. After the initial five (5) business days, the agreement may be terminated by Ethos with thirty (30) days written notice to Client and by the Client at any time with written notice to Ethos. If cash and/or securities are deposited into or withdrawn from an existing account mid billing period a prorated fee will be charged for that portion of the account for additional charges or credits of \$25 or more. For accounts opened or closed mid-billing period, fees will be prorated based on the days services are provided during the given period. All unearned fees will be refunded to the Client. Client shall be given thirty (30) days prior written notice of any increase in fees. Any increase in fees will be acknowledged in writing by both parties before any increase in said fees occurs.

### **ERISA PLAN SERVICES**

The annual fees are based on the market value of the Included Assets and will range from 0 - 1%. The annual fee is negotiable and will be charged as a percentage of the Included Assets or as a flat fee. Fees may be charged quarterly or monthly in arrears or in advance based on the assets as calculated by the custodian or record keeper of the Included Assets (without adjustments for anticipated withdrawals by Plan participants or other anticipated or scheduled transfers or distribution of assets). If the services to be provided start any time other than the first day of a quarter or month, the fee will be prorated based on the number of days remaining in the quarter or month. If this Agreement is terminated prior to the end of the billing cycle, Ethos shall be entitled to a prorated fee based on the number of days during the fee period services were provided or Client will be due a prorated refund of fees for days services were not provided in the billing cycle.

The fee schedule, which includes compensation of Ethos for the services is described in detail in Schedule A of the ERISA Plan Agreement. The Plan is obligated to pay the fees, however the Plan Sponsor may elect to pay the fees. Client may elect to be billed directly or have fees deducted from Plan Assets. Ethos does not reasonably expect to receive any additional compensation, directly or indirectly, for its services under this Agreement. If additional compensation is received, Ethos will disclose this compensation, the services rendered, and the payer of compensation. Ethos will offset the compensation against the fees agreed upon under the Agreement.

### FINANCIAL PLANNING AND CONSULTING

Ethos charges either an hourly fee or fixed fee based on complexity and unique Client needs for financial planning/consultation services. Prior to the planning process the Client will be provided an estimated plan fee.

*Full Financial Plan* - Fees for a full financial plan are based on a flat fee ranging from \$3,500 to \$7,000.

*Consultation Services -* Fees for consultation services are based on an hourly rate of \$350 per hour.

Fees for financial plans/consultation services are billed 50% in advance with the balance due upon plan delivery.

Fees for financial planning and consulting services are negotiable. In addition, Clients can negotiate the percentage of the fee paid in advance. Services are completed and delivered inside of sixty (60) days contingent upon timely delivery of all required documentation. Client may cancel within five (5) business days of signing Agreement with no obligation and without penalty. If the Client cancels after five (5) business days, any unearned fees will be refunded to the Client, or any unpaid earned fees will be due to Ethos. All refunds will be calculated based on the number of hours spent at the hourly rate disclosed above. Ethos reserves the right to waive the fee should the Client implement the plan through Ethos.

#### **Client Payment of Fees**

Fees for asset management services are:

• Deducted from a designated Client account. The Client must consent in advance to direct debiting of their investment account.

- Check to be remitted by Client to Ethos
- Electronic Payment via ACH, Debit Card, or Credit Card (fees will be paid via a third party payment processor in which the client will securely input payment information and pay the advisory fee through a secure portal. Ethos will not have continuous access to the Client's banking information.)

Fees for ERISA services will either be deducted from Plan assets or paid directly to Ethos. The Client must consent in advance to direct debiting of their investment account.

Fees for financial plans will be billed:

- Check to be remitted by Client to Ethos
- Deducted from a non-qualified account managed by Ethos
- Electronic Payment via ACH, Debit Card, or Credit Card (fees will be paid via a third party payment processor in which the client will securely input payment information and pay the advisory fee through a secure portal. Ethos will not have continuous access to the Client's banking information.)

### **Additional Client Fees Charged**

Custodians may charge transaction fees and other related costs on the purchases or sales of mutual funds, equities, bonds, options and exchange-traded funds. Mutual funds, money market funds and exchange-traded funds also charge internal management fees, which are disclosed in the fund's prospectus. Margin interest may also apply for Client electing to utilize margin on their account(s). Ethos does not receive any compensation from these fees. All of these fees are in addition to the management fee you pay to Ethos. For more details on the brokerage practices, see Item 12 of this brochure.

### **Prepayment of Client Fees**

Ethos does not require any prepayment of fees of more than \$500 per Client and six months or more in advance.

Investment management fees are billed quarterly in advance.

Fees for ERISA 3(21) services may be billed in advance.

Fees for financial plans are billed 50% in advance with the balance due upon plan delivery.

If the Client cancels after five (5) business days, any unearned fees will be refunded to the Client, or any unpaid earned fees will be due to Ethos. Refunds will be either refunded to the account where fees were deducted, if available, or a check will be issued from Ethos to the Client.

### **External Compensation for the Sale of Securities to Clients**

Ethos does not receive any external compensation for the sale of securities to Clients, nor do any of the investment advisor representatives of Ethos.

# Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management

## **Sharing of Capital Gains**

Fees are <u>not</u> based on a share of the capital gains or capital appreciation of managed securities.

Ethos does not use a performance-based fee structure because of the conflict of interest. Performance based compensation may create an incentive for Ethos to recommend an investment that may carry a higher degree of risk to the Client.

Ethos does not engage in side-by-side management.

# **Item 7: Types of Clients**

## Description

Ethos generally provides investment advice to individuals, high net worth individuals, corporations or business entities. Client relationships vary in scope and length of service.

#### **Account Minimums**

Ethos requires a minimum of \$100,000 to open and maintain an account. In certain instances, the minimum account size may be lowered or waived.

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

## **Methods of Analysis**

Security analysis methods may include fundamental analysis, technical analysis, charting, cyclical analysis, quantitative analysis, and qualitative analysis. Investing in securities involves risk of loss that Clients should be prepared to bear. Past performance is not a guarantee of future returns.

Fundamental analysis concentrates on factors that determine a company's value and expected future earnings. This strategy would normally encourage equity purchases in stocks that are undervalued or priced below their perceived value. The risk assumed is that the market will fail to reach expectations of perceived value.

Technical analysis attempts to predict a future stock price or direction based on market trends. The assumption is that the market follows discernible patterns and if these patterns can be identified then a prediction can be made. The risk is that markets do not always follow patterns and relying solely on this method may not take into account new patterns that emerge over time.

Charting analysis strategy involves using and comparing various charts to predict long and short term performance or market trends. The risk involved in using this method is that only past performance data is considered without using other methods to crosscheck data. Using charting analysis without other methods of analysis would be making the assumption that past performance will be indicative of future performance. This may not be the case.

Cyclical analysis assumes that the markets react in cyclical patterns which, once identified, can be leveraged to provide performance. The risks with this strategy are twofold: 1) the markets do not always repeat cyclical patterns; and 2) if too many investors begin to implement this strategy, then it changes the very cycles these investors are trying to exploit.

Quantitative analysis (QA) is a technique that seeks to understand behavior by using mathematical and statistical modeling, measurement, and research. Quantitative analysts aim to represent a given reality in terms of a numerical value.

QA is employed for several reasons, including measurement, performance evaluation or valuation of a financial instrument, and predicting real-world events, such as changes in a country's gross domestic product (GDP). QA is a technique that seeks to understand behavior by using mathematical and statistical modeling, measurement, and research.

QA is used to analyze investment opportunities, such as when to purchase or sell securities. Investors perform quantitative analysis when using key financial ratios, such as the price-earnings ratio (P/E) or earnings per share (EPS), in their investment decision-making process (e.g., whether to purchasing shares of a company's stock). Quantitative analysis ranges from the examination of simple statistical data (e.g., revenue) to complex calculations (e.g., discounted cash flow or option pricing).

Qualitative analysis asks open-ended questions whose answers are not easily put into numbers, such as 'how' and why' and giving a deeper understanding of people's experiences and emotions. Qualitative analysis dives into the stories hidden in non-numerical data such as interviews, open-ended survey answers, or notes from observations. One of the strengths of qualitative analysis is the ability to explain processed and patterns of human behavior that can be difficult to quantify. Qualitative analysis can help expand and deepen the understanding of data or results obtained from quantitative analysis.

### **Investment Strategy**

The investment strategy for a specific Client is based upon the objectives stated by the Client during consultations. The Client may change these objectives at any time by providing written notice to Ethos. Each Client executes a Client profile form or similar form that documents their objectives and their desired investment strategy.

Other strategies may include long-term purchases, trading, and margin trading.

### **Security Specific Material Risks**

All investment programs have certain risks that are borne by the investor. Our investment approach constantly keeps the risk of loss in mind. Investors face the following investment risks and should discuss these risks with Ethos:

- *Market Risk*: The prices of securities in which clients invest may decline in response to certain events taking place around the world, including those directly involving the companies whose securities are owned by a fund; conditions affecting the general economy; overall market changes; local, regional or global political, social or economic instability; and currency, interest rate and commodity price fluctuations. Investors should have a long-term perspective and be able to tolerate potentially sharp declines in market value.
- *Interest-rate Risk*: Fluctuations in interest rates may cause investment prices to fluctuate. For example, when interest rates rise, yields on existing bonds become less attractive, causing their market values to decline.
- *Inflation Risk*: When any type of inflation is present, a dollar today will buy more than a dollar next year, because purchasing power is eroding at the rate of inflation.
- Currency Risk: Overseas investments are subject to fluctuations in the value of the dollar
  against the currency of the investment's originating country. This is also referred to as
  exchange rate risk.

- *Reinvestment Risk*: This is the risk that future proceeds from investments may have to be reinvested at a potentially lower rate of return (i.e. interest rate). This primarily relates to fixed income securities.
- Liquidity Risk: Liquidity is the ability to readily convert an investment into cash. Generally, assets are more liquid if many traders are interested in a standardized product. For example, Treasury Bills are highly liquid, while real estate properties are not.
- Management Risk: The advisor's investment approach may fail to produce the intended results. If the advisor's assumptions regarding the performance of a specific asset class or fund are not realized in the expected time frame, the overall performance of the client's portfolio may suffer.
- Equity Risk: Equity securities tend to be more volatile than other investment choices. The value of an individual mutual fund or ETF can be more volatile than the market as a whole. This volatility affects the value of the client's overall portfolio. Small- and midcap companies are subject to additional risks. Smaller companies may experience greater volatility, higher failure rates, more limited markets, product lines, financial resources, and less management experience than larger companies. Smaller companies may also have a lower trading volume, which may disproportionately affect their market price, tending to make them fall more in response to selling pressure than is the case with larger companies.
- *Fixed Income Risk:* The issuer of a fixed income security may not be able to make interest and principal payments when due. Generally, the lower the credit rating of a security, the greater the risk that the issuer will default on its obligation. If a rating agency gives a debt security a lower rating, the value of the debt security will decline because investors will demand a higher rate of return. As nominal interest rates rise, the value of fixed income securities held by a fund is likely to decrease. A nominal interest rate is the sum of a real interest rate and an expected inflation rate.
- Investment Companies Risk: When a client invests in open end mutual funds or ETFs, the client indirectly bears their proportionate share of any fees and expenses payable directly by those funds. Therefore, the client will incur higher expenses, which may be duplicative. In addition, the client's overall portfolio may be affected by losses of an underlying fund and the level of risk arising from the investment practices of an underlying fund (such as the use of derivatives). ETFs are also subject to the following risks: (i) an ETF's shares may trade at a market price that is above or below their net asset value or (ii) trading of an ETF's shares may be halted if the listing exchange's officials deem such action appropriate, the shares are de-listed from the exchange, or the activation of market-wide "circuit breakers" (which are tied to large decreases in stock prices) halts stock trading generally. Adviser has no control over the risks taken by the underlying funds in which client invests.
- *Derivatives Risk:* Funds in a client's portfolio may use derivative instruments. The value of these derivative instruments derives from the value of an underlying asset, currency or index. Investments by a fund in such underlying funds may involve the risk that the value of the underlying fund's derivatives may rise or fall more rapidly than other investments, and the risk that an underlying fund may lose more than the amount that it invested in the derivative instrument in the first place. Derivative instruments also

involve the risk that other parties to the derivative contract may fail to meet their obligations, which could cause losses.

- Foreign Securities Risk: Funds in which clients invest may invest in foreign securities. Foreign securities are subject to additional risks not typically associated with investments in domestic securities. These risks may include, among others, currency risk, country risks (political, diplomatic, regional conflicts, terrorism, war, social and economic instability, currency devaluations and policies that have the effect of limiting or restricting foreign investment or the movement of assets), different trading practices, less government supervision, less publicly available information, limited trading markets and greater volatility. To the extent that underlying funds invest in issuers located in emerging markets, the risk may be heightened by political changes, changes in taxation, or currency controls that could adversely affect the values of these investments. Emerging markets have been more volatile than the markets of developed countries with more mature economies.
- Long-term purchases: Long-term investments are those vehicles purchased with the intention of being held for more than one year. Typically the expectation of the investment is to increase in value so that it can eventually be sold for a profit. In addition, there may be an expectation for the investment to provide income. One of the biggest risks associated with long-term investments is volatility, the fluctuations in the financial markets that can cause investments to lose value.
- *Trading risk*: Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal. There is no assurance that the investment objective of any fund or investment will be achieved.
- Trading on Margin: In a cash account, the risk is limited to the amount of money that has been invested. In a margin account, risk includes the amount of money invested plus the amount that has been loaned. As market conditions fluctuate, the value of marginable securities will also fluctuate, causing a change in the overall account balance and debt ratio. As a result, if the value of the securities held in a margin account depreciates, the client will be required to deposit additional cash or make full payment of the margin loan to bring account back up to maintenance levels. Clients who cannot comply with such a margin call may be sold out or bought in by the brokerage firm.
- Foreign Investment Risk: Investments in foreign securities may be riskier than U.S. investments because of factors such as, unstable international, political and economic conditions, currency fluctuations, foreign controls on investment and currency exchange, foreign governmental control of some issuers, potential confiscatory taxation or nationalization of companies by foreign governments, withholding taxes, a lack of adequate company information, less liquid and more volatile exchanges and/or markets, ineffective or detrimental government regulation, varying accounting standards, political or economic factors that may severely limit business activities, and legal systems or market practices that may permit inequitable treatment of minority and/or non-domestic investors. Investments in emerging markets may involve these and other significant risks such as less mature economic structures and less developed and more thinly-traded securities markets.

## **Item 9: Disciplinary Information**

### **Criminal or Civil Actions**

Ethos and its management have not been involved in any criminal or civil action.

## **Administrative Enforcement Proceedings**

Ethos and its management have not been involved in administrative enforcement proceedings.

### **Self- Regulatory Organization Enforcement Proceedings**

Ethos and its management have not been involved in any self-regulatory organizational enforcement proceedings that are material to a Client's or prospective Client's evaluation of Ethos or the integrity of its management.

## Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

### **Broker-Dealer or Representative Registration**

Ethos is not registered as a broker-dealer and no affiliated representatives of Ethos are registered representatives of a broker-dealer.

## **Futures or Commodity Registration**

Neither Ethos nor its affiliated representatives are registered or have an application pending to register as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, or a commodity trading advisor.

# Material Relationships Maintained by this Advisory Business and Conflicts of Interest

Ethos and Cristin McGinnis have no financial affiliated activities, relationships, or arrangements that are material to the advisory business to disclose.

# Recommendations or Selections of Other Investment Advisors and Conflicts of Interest

Ethos does not select or recommend other investment advisors.

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

### **Code of Ethics Description**

The affiliated persons (affiliated persons include employees and/or independent contractors) of Ethos have committed to a Code of Ethics ("Code"). The purpose of our Code is to set forth standards of conduct expected of Ethos affiliated persons and addresses conflicts that may arise. The Code defines acceptable behavior for affiliated persons of Ethos. The Code reflects Ethos and its supervised persons' responsibility to act in the best interest of their Client.

One area which the Code addresses is when affiliated persons buy or sell securities for their personal accounts and how to mitigate any conflict of interest with our Clients. We do not allow any affiliated persons to use non-public material information for their personal profit or to use internal research for their personal benefit in conflict with the benefit to our Clients.

Ethos' policy prohibits any person from acting upon or otherwise misusing non-public or inside information. No advisory representative or other affiliated person, officer or director of Ethos may recommend any transaction in a security or its derivative to advisory Clients

or engage in personal securities transactions for a security or its derivatives if the advisory representative possesses material, non-public information regarding the security.

Ethos' Code is based on the guiding principle that the interests of the Client are our top priority. Ethos' officers, directors, advisors, and other affiliated persons have a fiduciary duty to our Clients and must diligently perform that duty to maintain the complete trust and confidence of our Clients. When a conflict arises, it is our obligation to put the Client's interests over the interests of either affiliated persons or the company.

The Code applies to "access" persons. "Access" persons are affiliated persons who have access to non-public information regarding any Clients' purchase or sale of securities, or non-public information regarding the portfolio holdings of any reportable fund, who are involved in making securities recommendations to Clients, or who have access to such recommendations that are non-public.

Ethos will provide a copy of the Code of Ethics to any Client or prospective Client upon request.

# Investment Recommendations Involving a Material Financial Interest and Conflict of Interest

Ethos and its affiliated persons do not recommend to Clients securities in which we have a material financial interest.

# Advisory Firm Purchase of Same Securities Recommended to Clients and Conflicts of Interest

Ethos and its affiliated persons may buy or sell securities that are also held by Clients. In order to mitigate conflicts of interest such as trading ahead of Client transactions, affiliated persons are required to disclose all reportable securities transactions as well as provide Ethos with copies of their brokerage statements.

The Chief Compliance Officer of Ethos is Cristin McGinnis. She reviews all trades of the affiliated persons each quarter. The personal trading reviews ensure that the personal trading of affiliated persons does not affect the markets and that Clients of the firm receive preferential treatment over associated persons' transactions.

# Client Securities Recommendations or Trades and Concurrent Advisory Firm Securities Transactions and Conflicts of Interest

Ethos does not have a material financial interest in any securities being recommended. However, affiliated persons may buy or sell securities at the same time they buy or sell securities for Clients. In order to mitigate conflicts of interest such as front running, affiliated persons are required to disclose all reportable securities transactions as well as provide Ethos with copies of their brokerage statements.

The Chief Compliance Officer of Ethos is Cristin McGinnis. She reviews all trades of the affiliated persons each quarter. The personal trading reviews ensure that the personal trading of affiliated persons does not affect the markets and that Clients of the firm receive preferential treatment over associated persons' transactions.

## **Item 12: Brokerage Practices**

## **Factors Used to Select Broker-Dealers for Client Transactions**

Ethos will recommend the use of a particular broker-dealer based on their duty to seek best execution for the client, meaning they have an obligation to obtain the most favorable terms for a client under the circumstances. The determination of what may constitute best execution and price in the execution of a securities transaction by a broker involves a number of considerations and is subjective. Factors affecting brokerage selection include the overall direct net economic result to the portfolios, the efficiency with which the transaction is affected, the ability to effect the transaction where a large block is involved, the operational facilities of the broker-dealer, the value of an ongoing relationship with such broker and the financial strength and stability of the broker. Ethos will select appropriate brokers based on a number of factors including but not limited to their relatively low transaction fees and reporting ability. Ethos relies on its broker to provide its execution services at the best prices available. Lower fees for comparable services may be available from other sources. Clients pay for any and all custodial fees in addition to the advisory fee charged by Ethos. Ethos does not receive any portion of the trading fees.

Ethos will recommend the use of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.

### • Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits

The Securities and Exchange Commission defines soft dollar practices as arrangement under which products or services other than execution services are obtained by Ethos from or through a broker-dealer in exchange for directing Client transactions to the broker-dealer. Although Ethos has no formal soft dollar arrangements, Ethos may receive products, research and/or other services from custodians or broker-dealers connected to client transactions or "soft dollar benefits". As permitted by Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Ethos receives economic benefits as a result of commissions generated from securities transactions by the custodian or broker-dealer from the accounts of Ethos. Ethos cannot ensure that a particular client will benefit from soft dollars or the client's transactions paid for the soft dollar benefits. Ethos does not seek to proportionately allocate benefits to client accounts to any soft dollar benefits generated by the accounts.

A conflict of interest exists when Ethos receives soft dollars which could result in higher commissions charged to Clients. This conflict is mitigated by the fact that Ethos has a fiduciary responsibility to act in the best interest of its Clients and the services received are beneficial to all Clients.

# • Brokerage for Client Referrals

Ethos does not receive client referrals from any custodian or third party in exchange for using that broker-dealer or third party.

### • Directed Brokerage

Clients who direct brokerage outside our recommendation may be unable to achieve the most favorable execution of client transactions as client directed brokerage may cost clients more money. For example, in a directed brokerage account, you may pay higher brokerage commissions because we may not be able to aggregate orders to reduce transaction costs, or you may receive less favorable prices. Not all advisors require their clients to direct brokerage.

## **Aggregating Securities Transactions for Client Accounts**

Ethos is authorized in its discretion to aggregate purchases and sales and other transactions made for the account with purchases and sales and transactions in the same securities for other Clients of Ethos. Ethos will always aggregate when the opportunity to do so exists. All Clients participating in the aggregated order shall receive an average share price with all other transaction costs shared on a pro-rated basis. If aggregation is not allowed or infeasible and individual transactions occur (e.g., withdrawal or liquidation requests, odd-lot trades, etc.) an account may potentially be assessed higher costs or less favorable prices than those where aggregation has occurred.

### Item 13: Review of Accounts

# Schedule for Periodic Review of Client Accounts or Financial Plans and Advisory Persons Involved

Account reviews are performed quarterly by the Chief Compliance Officer of Ethos, Cristin McGinnis. Account reviews are performed more frequently when market conditions dictate. Reviews of Client accounts include, but are not limited to, a review of Client documented risk tolerance, adherence to account objectives, investment time horizon, and suitability criteria, reviewing target allocations of each asset class to identify if there is an opportunity for rebalancing, and reviewing accounts for tax loss harvesting opportunities.

Financial plans generated are updated as requested by the Client and pursuant to a new or amended agreement, Ethos suggests updating at least annually.

### Review of Client Accounts on Non-Periodic Basis

Other conditions that may trigger a review of Clients' accounts are changes in the tax laws, new investment information, and changes in a Client's own situation.

### **Content of Client Provided Reports and Frequency**

Clients receive written account statements no less than quarterly for managed accounts. Account statements are issued by Ethos' custodian. Client receives confirmations of each transaction in account from custodian and an additional statement during any month in which a transaction occurs. Ethos does not provide additional reports to Clients.

# **Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

# **Economic Benefits Provided to the Advisory Firm from External Sources and Conflicts of Interest**

Ethos receives additional economic benefits from external sources as described above in Item 12.

### **Advisory Firm Payments for Client Referrals**

Ethos does not compensate for Client referrals.

# **Item 15: Custody**

### **Account Statements**

All assets are held at qualified custodians, which means the custodians provide account statements directly to Clients at their address of record at least quarterly. Clients are urged

to carefully compare the account statements received directly from their custodians to any documentation or reports prepared by Ethos.

Ethos is deemed to have limited custody solely because advisory fees are directly deducted from Client's accounts by the custodian on behalf of Ethos.

If Ethos is authorized or permitted to deduct fees directly from the account by the custodian:

- Ethos will provide the Client with an invoice concurrent to instructing the custodian to deduct the fee stating the amount of the fee, 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;
- Ethos will obtain written authorization signed by the Client allowing the fees to be deducted; and
- The Client will receive quarterly statements directly from the custodian which disclose the fees deducted.

### **Item 16: Investment Discretion**

## **Discretionary Authority for Trading**

Ethos requires discretionary authority to manage securities accounts on behalf of Clients. Ethos has the authority to determine, without obtaining specific Client consent, the securities to be bought or sold, and the amount of the securities to be bought or sold. Client will authorize Ethos discretionary authority as stated within the Investment Advisory Agreement.

Ethos allows Clients to place certain restrictions, as outlined in the Client's Investment Policy Statement or similar document. These restrictions must be provided to Ethos in writing.

The Client approves the custodian to be used and the commission rates paid to the custodian. Ethos does not receive any portion of the transaction fees or commissions paid by the Client to the custodian.

# **Item 17: Voting Client Securities**

### **Proxy Votes**

Ethos does not vote proxies on securities. Clients are expected to vote their own proxies. The Client will receive their proxies directly from the custodian of their account or from a transfer agent.

When assistance on voting proxies is requested, Ethos will provide recommendations to the Client. If a conflict of interest exists, it will be disclosed to the Client. If the Client requires assistance or has questions, they can reach out to the investment advisor representatives of the firm at the contact information on the cover page of this document.

### **Item 18: Financial Information**

#### **Balance Sheet**

A balance sheet is not required to be provided to Clients because Ethos does not serve as a custodian for Client funds or securities and Ethos does not require prepayment of fees of more than \$500 per Client and six months or more in advance.

# Financial Conditions Reasonably Likely to Impair Advisory Firm's Ability to Meet Commitments to Clients

Ethos has no condition that is reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to our Clients.

### **Bankruptcy Petitions during the Past Ten Years**

Ethos has not had any bankruptcy petitions in the last ten years.

# **Item 19: Requirements for State Registered Advisors**

# **Principal Executive Officers and Management Persons**

The education and business background for all executive officers and management persons can be found in the Part 2B of this Brochure.

#### **Outside Business Activities**

The outside business activities for all executive officers and management persons can be found in the Part 2B of this Brochure.

### **Performance Based Fee Description**

Neither Ethos nor its management receive performance based fees. Please see Item 6 of the ADV 2A for more information.

# Disclosure of Material Facts Related to Arbitration or Disciplinary Actions Involving Management Persons

The disclosure of material facts related to arbitration or disciplinary actions for all executive officers and management persons can be found in the Part 2B of this Brochure.

# Material Relationship Maintained by this Advisory Business or Management persons with Issuers of Securities

There are no material relationships with issuers of securities to disclose.

#### Item 1 Cover Page

# SUPERVISED PERSON BROCHURE

FORM ADV PART 2B

# Cristin McGinnis



# **Office Address:**

415 Hariton Ct. Norfolk, VA 23505

**Tel:** 757-942-8200

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Email: <a href="mailto:cmcginnis@ethos-investments.com">cmcginnis@ethos-investments.com</a>

Website: www.ethos-investments.com

July 9, 2024

This brochure supplement provides information about Cristin McGinnis and supplements the Ethos Strategic Investments, LLC brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Cristin McGinnis if you did not receive the brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT CRISTIN MCGINNIS (CRD #6622885) IS AVAILABLE ON THE SEC'S WEBSITE AT <u>WWW.ADVISERINFO.SEC.GOV</u>.

# **Brochure Supplement (Part 2B of Form ADV)**

**Supervised Person Brochure** 

## **Principal Executive Officer - Cristin McGinnis**

• Year of birth: 1979

## Item 2 - Educational Background and Business Experience

### **Educational Background:**

- Old Dominion University; Master of Business Administration Business; 2023
- Old Dominion University; Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Finance;
   2011

### **Business Experience:**

- Ethos Strategic Investments, LLC.; Chief Compliance Officer/ Investment Advisor Representative; 06/2024-Present
- Ethos Strategic Investments, LLC.; Managing Member; 03/2024-Present
- Meraki Maisons, LLC; Managing Member; 05/2022-Present
- Old Point Wealth Management; SVP/Portfolio Manager; 11/2022-02/2024
- Spectrum Financial, LLC; Assistant Portfolio Manager; 06/2016-11/2022
- Capital Group; Global Securities Operation Contractor; 03/2016-06/2016
- Stay at Home Parent; 06/2014-03/2016
- Spectrum Financial, LLC; Investment Analyst; 03/2012-06/2014

# Item 3 - Disciplinary Information

- A. Ms. McGinnis has never been involved in a criminal or civil action in a domestic, foreign or military court of competent jurisdiction for which she:
  - a. Was convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contender ("no contest") to (a) any felony; (b) misdemeanor that involved investments or an investment-related business, fraud, false statement or omissions, wrongful taking of property, bribery, perjury, counterfeiting, or extortion; or (c) a conspiracy to commit any of these offenses;
  - b. Is the named subject of a pending criminal proceeding that involves an investment-related business, fraud, false statements or omissions, wrongful taking of property, bribery, perjury, forgery, counterfeiting, extortion, or a conspiracy to commit any of these offenses;
  - c. Was found to have been involved in a violation of an investment-related statute or regulation; or
  - d. Was the subject of any order, judgement or decree permanently or temporarily enjoining, or otherwise limiting, him from engaging in any investment related activity, or from violating any investment-related statute, rule, or order.
- B. Ms. McGinnis never had an administrative proceeding before the SEC, any other federal regulatory agency, any state regulatory agency, or any foreign financial regulatory authority in which she:
  - a. Was found to have caused an investment-related business to lose its authorization to do business; or the subject of an order by the agency or authority;

- b. Was found to have been involved in a violation of an investment-related statute or regulation or was the subject of an order by the agency or authority
  - a. (a)denying, suspending or revoking the authorization of the supervised person to act in an investment-related business; (b) barring or suspending his association with an investment-related business; (c) otherwise significantly limiting his investment-related activities; or (d) imposing a civil money penalty of more than \$2,500 on him.
- C. Ms. McGinnis has never been the subject of a self-regulatory organization (SRO) proceeding in which she:
  - a. Was found to have caused an investment-related business to lose its authorization to do business; or
  - b. Was found to have been involved in a violation of the SRO's rules and was: (a) barred or suspended from membership or from association with other members, or was expelled from membership; (b) otherwise significantly limited from investment-related activities; or (c) fined more than \$2,500.
- D. Ms. McGinnis has not been involved in any other hearing or formal adjudication in which a professional attainment, designation, or license of the supervised person was revoked or suspended because of a violation of rules relating to professional conduct.

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

Ms. McGinnis has an outside business activity as a treasurer and board of director for Norfolk Silver Dolphins. Ms. McGinnis also has an outside business activity as owner of Meraki Maisons, LLC. These are not conflicts of interest as there will be no crossover clients.

### **Item 5 - Additional Compensation**

Ms. McGinnis does not receive any additional compensation for performing advisory services.

### **Item 6 - Supervision**

Since Ms. McGinnis is the sole owner and investment adviser representative of Ethos and is solely responsible for all supervision and formulation and monitoring of investment advice offered to Clients. She will adhere to the policies and procedures as described in the firm's Compliance Manual. She can be reached at <a href="mailto:cmcginnis@ethos-investments.com">cmcginnis@ethos-investments.com</a> or 757-942-8200.

# Item 7 - Requirements for State-Registered Advisors

- A. Ms. McGinnis has not been involved in any of the following:
  - 1. An award or otherwise been found liable in an arbitration claim alleging damages in excess of \$2,500 involving any of the following:
    - i. An investment or an investment-related business or activity;
    - ii. Fraud, false statement(s) or omissions;
    - iii. Theft, embezzlement or other wrongful taking of property:
    - iv. Bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion;
    - v. Dishonest, unfair or unethical practices.
  - 2. An award or otherwise been found liable in a civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceeding involving any of the following:

- i. An investment or an investment-related business or activity;
- ii. Fraud, false statement(s) or omissions;
- iii. Theft, embezzlement or other wrongful taking of property;
- iv. Bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion;
- v. Dishonest, unfair or unethical practices.
- B. Ms. McGinnis has never been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.