## Item 1: Cover Page

#### **Peak Financial Planning**

21201 Victory Blvd Suite 152, Canoga Park California 91303

#### Form ADV Part 2A - Firm Brochure

818-600-6099

Dated January 4, 2024

This Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Peak Financial Planning, "PFP". If you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure, please contact us at 818-600-6099 or by email at eric@thepeakfp.com. 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.

Peak Financial Planning is registered as an Investment Adviser with the State of California. Registration of an Investment Adviser does not imply any level of skill or training.

Additional information about PFP is available on the SEC's website at <a href="www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>, which can be found using the firm's identification number, 317288.

### Item 2: Material Changes

The last annual update of this Brochure was filed on January 4, 2023, Since this filing, the following material changes were made to the brochure:

- The fee schedule for our on-going financial planning services has been updated in Part 2A Item 5.
- Additional investment strategy language and risk disclosures were added to Part 2A Item 8.
- Eric Amzalag insurance agent disclosure was removed in Part 2A Item 10 to reflect that Eric Amzalag is no longer licensed to sell insurance.
- Eric Amzalag outside business activities disclosure have been removed in Eric Amzalag Part 2B Item 4.
- The disclosure language was updated in Item 12 to reflect that PFP engages in block trading.

In the future, any material changes made during the year will be reported here.

From time to time, we may amend this Brochure to reflect changes in our business practices, changes in regulations, and routine annual updates as required by securities regulators. Either this complete Brochure or a Summary of Material Changes shall be provided to each Client annually and if a material change occurs in the business practices of Peak Financial Planning.

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## Item 4: Advisory Business

#### **Description of Advisory Firm**

Peak Financial Planning (hereinafter referred to as "PFP", "we", "firm", and "us") is registered as an Investment Adviser with the State of California. We were founded in October 2021. Eric Amzalag is the principal owner of PFP.

#### **Types of Advisory Services**

#### **Investment Management Services**

We are in the business of managing individually tailored investment portfolios. Our firm provides continuous advice to a Client regarding the investment of Client funds based on the individual needs of the Client. Through personal discussions in which goals and objectives based on a Client's particular circumstances are established, we develop a Client's personal investment policy or an investment plan with an asset allocation target and create and manage a portfolio based on that policy and allocation targets. We will also review and discuss a Client's prior investment history, as well as family composition and background.

Account supervision is guided by the stated objectives of the Client (e.g., maximum capital appreciation, growth, income, or growth and income), as well as tax considerations. Clients may impose reasonable restrictions on investing in certain securities, types of securities, or industry sectors.

#### **Financial Planning Services**

Financial planning involves an evaluation of a Client's current and future financial state by using currently known variables to predict future cash flows, asset values, and withdrawal plans. The key defining aspect of financial planning is that through the financial planning process, all questions, information, and analysis will be considered as they affect and are affected by the entire financial and life situation of the Client. Clients purchasing this service will receive a written or an electronic report, providing the Client with a detailed financial plan designed to achieve his or her stated financial goals and objectives.

In general, the financial plan will address some or all of the following areas of concern. The Client and PFP will work together to select specific areas to cover. These areas may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Business Planning:** We provide consulting services for Clients who currently operate their own business, are considering starting a business, or are planning for an exit from their current business. Under this type of engagement, we work with you to assess your current situation, identify your objectives, and develop a plan aimed at achieving your goals.
- **Cash Flow and Debt Management**: We will conduct a review of your income and expenses to determine your current surplus or deficit along with advice on prioritizing how any surplus should be used or how to reduce expenses if they exceed your income. Advice may also be provided on which debts to pay off first based on factors such as the interest rate of the debt and any income tax ramifications. We may also recommend what we believe to be an appropriate cash reserve that should be considered for emergencies and other financial goals, along with a review of accounts (such

as money market funds) for such reserves, plus strategies to save desired amounts.

- College Savings: Includes projecting the amount that will be needed to achieve college or other postsecondary education funding goals, along with advice on ways for you to save the desired amount. Recommendations as to savings strategies are included, and, if needed, we will review your financial picture as it relates to eligibility for financial aid or the best way to contribute to grandchildren (if appropriate).
- Employee Benefits Optimization: We will provide review and analysis as to whether you, as an
  employee, are taking the maximum advantage possible of your employee benefits. If you are a
  business owner, we will consider and/or recommend the various benefit programs that can be
  structured to meet both business and personal retirement goals.
- **Estate Planning**: This usually includes an analysis of your exposure to estate taxes and your current estate plan, which may include whether you have a will, powers of attorney, trusts, and other related documents. Our advice also typically includes ways for you to minimize or avoid future estate taxes by implementing appropriate estate planning strategies such as the use of applicable trusts. We always recommend that you consult with a qualified attorney when you initiate, update, or complete estate planning activities. We may provide you with contact information for attorneys who specialize in estate planning when you wish to hire an attorney for such purposes. From time-to-time, we will participate in meetings or phone calls between you and your attorney with your approval or request.
- **Financial Goals**: We will help Clients identify financial goals and develop a plan to reach them. We will identify what you plan to accomplish, what resources you will need to make it happen, how much time you will need to reach the goal, and how much you should budget for your goal.
- **Insurance**: Review of existing policies to ensure proper coverage for life, health, disability, long-term care, liability, home, and automobile.
- **Investment Analysis**: This may involve developing an asset allocation strategy to meet Clients' financial goals and risk tolerance, providing information on investment vehicles and strategies, reviewing employee stock options, as well as assisting you in establishing your own investment account at a selected broker/dealer or custodian. The strategies and types of investments we may recommend are further discussed in Item 8 of this brochure.
- **Retirement Planning**: Our retirement planning services typically include projections of your likelihood of achieving your financial goals, typically focusing on financial independence as the primary objective. For situations where projections show less than the desired results, we may make recommendations, including those that may impact the original projections by adjusting certain variables (e.g., working longer, saving more, spending less, taking more risk with investments).

If you are near retirement or already retired, advice may be given on appropriate distribution strategies to minimize the likelihood of running out of money or having to adversely alter spending during your retirement years.

Risk Management: A risk management review includes an analysis of your exposure to major risks
that could have a significant adverse impact on your financial picture, such as premature death,
disability, property and casualty losses, or the need for long-term care planning. Advice may be
provided on ways to minimize such risks and about weighing the costs of purchasing insurance
versus the benefits of doing so and, likewise, the potential cost of not purchasing insurance ("self-

insuring").

Tax Planning Strategies: Advice may include ways to minimize current and future income taxes as
a part of your overall financial planning picture. For example, we may make recommendations on
which type of account(s) or specific investments should be owned based in part on their "tax
efficiency," with the consideration that there is always a possibility of future changes to federal, state
or local tax laws and rates that may impact your situation.

We recommend that you consult with a qualified tax professional before initiating any tax planning strategy, and we may provide you with contact information for accountants or attorneys who specialize in this area if you wish to hire someone for such purposes. We will participate in meetings or phone calls between you and your tax professional with your approval.

Financial Planning Services are offered on an hourly basis and/or via an Ongoing Comprehensive engagement.

**Ongoing Comprehensive Financial Planning** This service involves working one-on-one with a planner over an extended period of time. By paying a fixed monthly fee, Clients get to work with a planner who will work with them to develop and implement their plan. The planner will monitor the plan, recommend any changes and ensure the plan is up to date.

Upon engaging us for ongoing financial planning, a Client will be taken through establishing their goals and values around money. They will be required to provide information to help complete the following areas of analysis: net worth, cash flow, insurance, credit scores/reports, employee benefit, retirement planning, insurance, investments, college planning, and estate planning. Once the Client's information is reviewed, their plan will be built and analyzed, and then the findings, analysis and potential changes to their current situation will be reviewed with the Client. Clients subscribing to this service will receive a written or an electronic report, providing the Client with a detailed financial plan designed to achieve his or her stated financial goals and objectives. If a follow-up meeting is required, we will meet at the Client's convenience. The plan and the Client's financial situation and goals will be monitored throughout the year and follow-up phone calls and emails will be made to the Client to confirm that any agreed upon action steps have been carried out. On an annual basis, there will be a full review of this plan to ensure its accuracy and ongoing appropriateness. Any needed updates will be implemented at that time.

**Hourly Financial Planning** We provide limited-scope financial planning services via an hourly engagement. Limited Scope Financial Planning is available for Clients looking to address specific questions or issues. The Client may choose from one or more of the above topics to cover or other areas as requested and agreed to by PFP. For Limited Scope Financial Planning, the Client will be ultimately responsible for the implementation of the financial plan.

#### **Educational Seminars / Speaking Engagements**

Eric Amzalag has extensive public speaking and educational experience, having delivered over 100 webinars to individuals, classes, and companies. Seminars and speaking engagements can be delivered in person or virtually. Seminars range from 30 to 60 minutes with an additional 30 minutes available for Q&A. Longer seminars or multi-seminar series may be available upon request. Topics include retirement planning, employee benefits optimization, budgeting, debt management, stock compensation including ESPP and RSUs, HSA and FSA optimization, and tax strategies. For a full list of topics inquire at eric@thepeakfp.com. We may provide seminars for groups seeking general advice on investments and other areas of personal finance. These seminars are purely educational in nature and do not involve the sale of any investment products.

Information presented will not be based on any individual's need, nor does PFP provide individualized investment advice to attendees during these seminars

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

We consult with clients initially and on an ongoing basis, through the duration of their engagement with us, to determine risk tolerance, time horizon and other factors that may impact the clients' investment and/or planning needs. We ensure that clients' investment and planning recommendations are suitable for their needs, goals, objectives, and risk tolerance.

Clients are able to specify, within reason, any limitations they would like to place on discretionary authority as it pertains to individual securities and/or sectors that will be traded in their account. All such requests must be provided to PFP in writing. PFP will notify Clients if they are unable to accommodate any requests.

#### **Wrap Fee Programs**

We do not participate in wrap fee programs.

#### **Assets under Management**

PFP currently reports \$2,560,000 in discretionary and \$0 in non-discretionary Assets Under Management. Assets Under Management were calculated as of December 2022.

#### CCR Section 260.235.2 Disclosure

For Clients who receive our Financial Planning services, we must state when a conflict exists between the interests of our firm and the interests of our Client. The Client is under no obligation to act upon our recommendation. If the Client elects to act on any of the recommendations, the Client is under no obligation to effect the transaction through our firm.

## Item 5: Fees and Compensation

Please note, unless a Client has received this brochure at least 48 hours prior to signing an investment advisory and/or a Financial Planning Agreement (collectively, "Client Contract"), the Client Contract may be terminated by the Client within five (5) business days of signing the Client Contract without incurring any fees. How we are paid depends on the type of advisory services we perform. Below is a brief description of our fees, however, you should review your executed Client Contract for more detailed information regarding the exact fees you will be paying.

#### **Investment Management Services**

Our standard advisory fee is based on the market value of the assets under management and is calculated as follows:

Account Value	Annual Advisory Fee
\$0 - \$10,000,000	1.00%
\$10,000,000 and above	0.50%

The annual fees are negotiable and are prorated and paid in arrears on a monthly basis. The advisory fee is a tiered fee and is calculated by assessing the percentage rates using the predefined levels of assets as shown in the above chart and applying the fee to the account value as of the last day of the previous quarter. No increase in the annual fee shall be effective without agreement from the Client by signing a new agreement or amendment to their current advisory agreement.

Advisory fees are directly debited from Client accounts, or the Client may choose to pay by check. Accounts initiated or terminated during a calendar quarter will be charged a prorated fee based on the amount of time remaining in the billing period. An account may be terminated with written notice at least 30 calendar days in advance. Since fees are paid in arrears, no refund will be needed upon termination of the account.

#### **Financial Planning Services**

- Ongoing Comprehensive Financial Planning Ongoing Financial Planning consists of an upfront charge of \$750-\$3000 and an ongoing fee that is paid monthly, in arrears, at the rate of \$149-\$399 per month. The fee may be negotiable in certain cases. Fees for this service may be paid by electronic funds transfer or check. This service may be terminated with 30 days' notice. Since fees are paid in arrears, no refund will be needed upon termination of the account.

  The initial Comprehensive Financial Planning fee is for the development and delivery of the financial plan. This work will commence immediately after the fee is paid, and the length of time required to complete and deliver the plan is dependent on several factors including the needs of the client, the client's ability to provide any necessary information and documentation, as well as the complexity of their financial situation. At no time do we require prepayment of fees 6 or more months in advance of delivering the requested services.
- <u>Financial Planning Hourly Fee</u> We also provide financial planning through an hourly fee structure. Our hourly rate is \$300 per hour and may be negotiable in certain cases and is due at the completion of the engagement. In the event of early termination by the Client, any fees for the hours already worked will be due. Fees for this service may be paid by electronic funds transfer (EFT) or check.

#### Other Types of Fees and Expenses

Our fees are exclusive of brokerage commissions, transaction fees, and other related costs and expenses which may be incurred by the Client. Clients may incur certain charges imposed by custodians, brokers, and other third parties such as custodial fees, deferred sales charges, odd-lot differentials, transfer taxes, wire transfer, and electronic fund fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. Mutual fund and exchange-traded funds also charge internal management fees, which are disclosed in a fund's prospectus. Such charges, fees, and commissions are exclusive of and in addition to our fee, and we shall not receive any portion of these commissions, fees, and costs.

Item 12 further describes the factors that we consider in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for Client's transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (e.g., commissions).

We do not accept compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products including assetbased sales charges or service fees from the sale of mutual funds.

#### **Educational Seminars/Speaking Engagements**

Fees range from free to \$10,000 per engagement. The fee range is based on the content, amount of research conducted, the number of hours of preparation needed, and the number of attendees. Fees are due no later than the day after the engagement. Fees for this service may be paid by electronic funds transfer or check. In the event the Client decides to cancel or change the date of the event for any reason besides weather or similar unforeseen causes, the Client will be responsible for reimbursement of any non-refundable travel expenses already incurred and will provide payment for 50% of the Speaker's fee if the cancellation occurs within 30 days of the event. In the event that the Speaker must cancel due to health or similar unforeseen circumstances, the Speaker will make all attempts to find a reasonable alternative engagement date and will absorb any incremental additional costs for obtaining alternative travel arrangements. If an alternative date cannot be obtained, the Client will not be responsible for any travel costs already incurred by the Speaker or any portion of the Speaker's fee. In the event of inclement weather or flight cancellation, the Speaker shall make all reasonable attempts to make alternative travel arrangements to arrive in time for the presentation. If travel proves impossible, or the event is otherwise canceled, the Speaker's fee is waived, but the Client will still be responsible for reimbursement of any non-refundable travel expenses already incurred. In the event that the Client decides to cancel or change the date of the event for any reason besides weather or similar unforeseen causes, the Client will still be responsible for reimbursement of any non-refundable travel expenses already incurred and will provide payment for 50% of the Speaker's fee if the cancellation occurs within 30 days of the event. Educational Seminars and Speaking Engagements may be provided pro-bono at PFP's discretion.

#### CCR Section 260.238(j) Disclosure

Please note, lower fees for comparable services may be available from other sources.

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

We do not offer performance-based fees and do not engage in side-by-side management.

## Item 7: Types of Clients

We provide financial planning and portfolio management services to individuals, high net-worth individuals and corporations or other businesses.

We do not have a minimum account size requirement.

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

#### **Modern Portfolio Theory**

The underlying principles of MPT are:

- Investors are risk averse. The only acceptable risk is that which is adequately compensated by an expected return. Risk and investment return are related and an increase in risk requires an increased expected return.
- Markets are efficient. The same market information is available to all investors at the same time. The market prices every security fairly based upon this equal availability of information.
- The design of the portfolio as a whole is more important than the selection of any particular security. The appropriate allocation of capital among asset classes will have far more influence on long-term portfolio performance than the selection of individual securities.
- Investing for the long-term (preferably longer than ten years) becomes critical to investment success because it allows the long-term characteristics of the asset classes to surface.
- Increasing diversification of the portfolio with lower correlated asset class positions can decrease portfolio risk. Correlation is the statistical term for the extent to which two asset classes move in tandem or opposition to one another.

#### **Strategic Asset Allocation**

In addition to MPT, Strategic Asset Allocation is a focus of our investment strategy. In the portfolio construction process, we focus not only on asset classes such as equities, fixed income, and cash, but also on investment strategy styles such as fundamental, quantitative, active, and passive. We believe that diversification across both asset classes and investment strategies is critical for achieving an attractive reward-to-risk ratio in the portfolio. We employ both strategic and tactical asset allocation approaches. Through strategic asset allocation, we construct our long-term target weights for asset classes and strategies based on the client's time horizon, risk tolerance, and required rate of return to meet his or her financial goals. Through tactical asset allocation approaches, we may deviate from target long-term weights established according to our strategic asset allocation approach within tolerance ranges based on our return expectations for asset classes and investment strategies at a given point in the market cycle.

#### **Short-Term Strategy**

A short-term strategy involves the purchase of securities with the idea of selling them within a relatively short time, typically a year or less. This strategy is done in an attempt to take advantage of conditions that result in market fluctuations in the securities purchased.

#### **Hedging Strategy**

A hedging strategy uses certain instruments such as options and certain ETFs to limit or reduce investment risk; however, this strategy can also be expected to limit or reduce the potential for profit or result in losses. Certain hedging transactions can involve the use of leverage, which could result in losses exceeding the amount committed in the transaction.

#### Material Risks Involved

All investing strategies involve risk and may result in a loss of your original investment which you should be prepared to bear. Investing in any securities involves risk and may result in a loss of your original investment which you should be prepared to bear. Many of these risks apply equally to stocks, bonds, commodities, and any other investment or security. Material risks associated with our investment strategies are listed below.

**Market Risk:** Market risk involves the possibility that an investment's current market value will fall because of a general market decline, reducing the value of the investment regardless of the operational success of the issuer's operations or its financial condition.

**Strategy Risk:** The Adviser's investment strategies and/or investment techniques may not work as intended.

**Small and Medium Cap Company Risk:** Securities of companies with small and medium market capitalizations are often more volatile and less liquid than investments in larger companies. Small and medium cap companies may face a greater risk of business failure, which could increase the volatility of the Client's portfolio.

**Turnover Risk:** At times, the strategy may have a portfolio turnover rate that is higher than other strategies. A high portfolio turnover would result in correspondingly greater brokerage commission expenses and may result in the distribution of additional capital gains for tax purposes. These factors may negatively affect the account's performance.

**Interest Rate Risk:** Bond (fixed income) prices generally fall when interest rates rise, and the value may fall below par value or the principal investment. The opposite is also generally true: bond prices generally rise when interest rates fall. In general, fixed income securities with longer maturities are more sensitive to these price changes. Most other investments are also sensitive to the level and direction of interest rates.

**Legal or Legislative Risk**: Legislative changes or Court rulings may impact the value of investments, or the securities' claim on the issuer's assets and finances.

**Inflation**: Inflation may erode the buying power of your investment portfolio, even if the dollar value of your investments remains the same.

**Short-Term Purchases:** Short-term purchases can incur more trading and brokerage costs in the form of increased commissions and transaction costs and increased tax obligations on the gains of a security's value. A short-term strategy runs the risk that certain anticipated market movements do not occur, resulting in the client holding a security for longer than intended.

#### **Risks Associated with Securities**

Apart from the general risks outlined above which apply to all types of investments, specific securities may have other risks.

**Common stocks** may go up and down in price quite dramatically, and in the event of an issuer's bankruptcy or restructuring could lose all value. A slower-growth or recessionary economic environment could have an adverse effect on the price of all stocks.

**Exchange Traded Funds** prices may vary significantly from the Net Asset Value due to market conditions. Certain Exchange Traded Funds may not track underlying benchmarks as expected. 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; (ii) the ETF may employ an investment strategy that utilizes high leverage ratios; or (iii) 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. The Adviser has no control over the risks taken by the underlying funds in which the Clients invest.

**Mutual Funds**: When a Client invests in open-end mutual funds or ETFs, the Client indirectly bears its proportionate share of any fees and expenses payable directly by those funds. Therefore, the Client will incur higher expenses, many of 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).

**Options:** Before engaging in options trading, it is essential to understand and acknowledge the inherent risks associated with this type of investment. Options are complex financial instruments and trading them involves substantial risk. The following risk disclosure statement is intended to provide you with an overview of the potential risks involved in options trading:

- 1. Market Risk: Options derive their value from underlying assets such as stocks, indices, or commodities. The prices of these underlying assets can fluctuate significantly due to various factors, including economic events, geopolitical developments, and market sentiment. As a result, the value of your options contract can rise or fall rapidly, leading to potential losses.
- **2. Limited Duration:** Most options have a finite expiration date. If the option expires worthless or out of the money, you may lose your entire investment, including any premiums paid for the option contract.
- **3. Leverage and Magnified Losses:** Options trading allows you to control a larger position with a relatively small investment. While leverage can amplify profits, it also magnifies losses. It is crucial to understand that you can lose more than your initial investment when trading options, particularly when using leverage.
- **4. Volatility Risk:** Options are sensitive to changes in volatility. An increase in market volatility can lead to higher option premiums but may also increase the likelihood of significant price swings, potentially causing losses if the market moves against your position.
- **5. Intrinsic Value vs. Time Value:** Options have two components: intrinsic value (the difference between the option's strike price and the current market price of the underlying asset) and time value (the additional premium attributed to the option's time until expiration). As an option approaches its expiration date, time value diminishes, potentially affecting the option's profitability.
- **6. Complex Strategies:** Advanced options strategies, such as spreads and combinations, can be intricate and challenging to understand fully. It is crucial to have a comprehensive understanding of these strategies before using them, as they may involve multiple options contracts and complex risk profiles.
- 7. **Assignment Risk:** If you sell options (e.g., writing covered calls or naked puts), you may be subject to assignment, which means you are obligated to fulfill the terms of the contract. Assignment can occur at any time before the option's expiration, potentially leading to unexpected obligations.
- **8. Liquidity Risk:** Some options may have limited trading volume and liquidity, making it challenging to execute orders at desired prices. This lack of liquidity can result in wider bid-ask spreads and potentially higher transaction costs.
- **9. Regulatory Risks:** Options trading is subject to regulatory oversight, and changes in regulations can impact trading rules and margin requirements. It is essential to stay informed about regulatory changes that may affect your options trading activities.

10. **Risk Tolerance and Investment Goals:** It is imperative to assess your risk tolerance and align your options trading strategies with your investment goals. Diversification and risk management techniques should be integral parts of your trading plan.

## Item 9: Disciplinary Information

#### **Criminal or Civil Actions**

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

#### **Administrative Enforcement Proceedings**

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

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

PFP and its management have not been involved in legal or disciplinary events that are material to a Client's or prospective Client's evaluation of PFP or the integrity of its management, nor have any management persons been subject to any self-regulatory organization (SRO) proceedings.

## Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

Neither Peak Financial Planning nor any PFP employee are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer.

Neither Peak Financial Planning nor any PFP employee are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator or a commodity trading advisor.

Peak Financial Planning does not have any related parties. As a result, we do not have a relationship with any related parties.

Peak Financial Planning only receives compensation directly from Clients. We do not receive compensation from any outside source. We do not have any conflicts of interest with any outside party.

#### Recommendations or Selections of Other Investment Advisers

PFP does not recommend Clients to Turnkey Asset Management Programs to manage their accounts.

#### **Disclosure of Material Conflicts**

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

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

As a fiduciary, our firm and its associates have a duty of utmost good faith to act solely in the best interests of each Client. Our Clients entrust us with their funds and personal information, which in turn places a high standard on our conduct and integrity. Our fiduciary duty is a core aspect of our Code of Ethics and represents the expected basis of all of our dealings. The firm also accepts the obligation not only to comply with the mandates and requirements of all applicable laws and regulations but also to take responsibility to act in an ethical and professionally responsible manner in all professional services and activities.

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

This code does not attempt to identify all possible conflicts of interest, and literal compliance with each of its specific provisions will not shield associated persons from liability for personal trading or other conduct that violates a fiduciary duty to advisory Clients. A summary of the Code of Ethics' Principles is outlined below.

- Integrity Associated persons shall offer and provide professional services with integrity.
- Objectivity Associated persons shall be objective in providing professional services to Clients.
- Competence Associated persons shall provide services to Clients competently and maintain the necessary knowledge and skill to continue to do so in those areas in which they are engaged.
- Fairness Associated persons shall perform professional services in a manner that is fair and reasonable to Clients, principals, partners, and employers, and shall disclose conflict(s) of interest in providing such services.
- Confidentiality Associated persons shall not disclose confidential Client information without the specific consent of the Client unless in response to proper legal process, or as required by law.
- Professionalism Associated persons' conduct in all matters shall reflect the credit of the profession.
- Diligence Associated persons shall act diligently in providing professional services.

We periodically review and amend our Code of Ethics to ensure that it remains current, and we require all firm access persons to attest to their understanding of and adherence to the Code of Ethics at least annually. Our firm will provide a copy of its Code of Ethics to any Client or prospective Client upon request.

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

Neither our firm, its associates or any related person is authorized to recommend to a Client or effect a transaction for a Client, involving any security in which our firm or a related person has a material financial interest, such as in the capacity as an underwriter, adviser to the issuer, etc.

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

Our firm and its "related persons" do not invest in the same securities, or related securities, e.g., warrants, options or futures, which we recommend to Clients.

#### Trading Securities At/Around the Same Time as Client's Securities

Because our firm and its "related persons" do not invest in the same securities, or related securities, e.g., warrants, options or futures, which we recommend to Clients, we do not trade in securities at or around the same time as Clients.

## Item 12: Brokerage Practices

#### Factors Used to Select Custodians and/or Broker-Dealers

Peak Financial Planning does not have any affiliation with Broker-Dealers. Specific custodian recommendations are made to the Client based on their need for such services. We recommend custodians based on the reputation and services provided by the firm.

In recommending broker-dealers, we have an obligation to seek the "best execution" of transactions in Client accounts. The determinative factor in the analysis of best execution is not the lowest possible commission cost, but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of the broker-dealer's services. The factors we consider when evaluating a broker-dealer for best execution include, without limitation, the broker-dealer's:

- Execution capability;
- Commission rate;
- Financial responsibility;
- Responsiveness and customer service;
- Custodian capabilities;
- Research services/ancillary brokerage services provided; and
- Any other factors that we consider relevant.

With this in consideration, our firm recommends Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("Schwab") or Altruist Financial LLC ("Altruist"), independent and unaffiliated SEC registered broker-dealer firms and members of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC"). Although clients may request us to use a broker-dealer of their choosing, we generally recommend that clients open brokerage accounts with Schwab or Altruist. We are not affiliated with Schwab or Altruist. The Client will ultimately make the final decision of the Custodian to be used to hold the Client's investments by signing the selected broker-dealer's account opening documentation.

#### 1. Research and Other Soft-Dollar Benefits

Our qualified custodian(s) used for investment management may provide us with certain brokerage and research products and services that qualify as "brokerage or research services" under Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"). This is commonly referred to as a "soft dollar" arrangement. These research products and/or services will assist us in our investment decision making process. Such research generally will be used to service all of our client accounts, but brokerage charges paid by the client may be used to pay for research that is not used in managing that specific client's account.

#### 2. Brokerage for Client Referrals

We receive no referrals from a broker-dealer or third party in exchange for using that broker-dealer or third party.

#### 3. Clients Directing Which Broker/Dealer/Custodian to Use

We do recommend a specific custodian for Clients to use, however, Clients may custody their assets at a custodian of their choice. Clients may also direct us to use a specific broker-dealer to execute transactions.

By allowing Clients to choose a specific custodian, we may be unable to achieve the most favorable execution of Client transaction, and this may cost Clients money over using a lower-cost custodian.

#### The Custodian and Brokers We Use (Charles Schwab)

The custodian and brokers we use maintain custody of your assets that we manage, although we may be deemed to have limited custody of your assets due to our ability to withdraw fees from your account (see Item 15 – Custody, below).

**Your brokerage and custody costs**: For our clients' accounts that Schwab maintains, Schwab generally does not charge you separately for custody services but is compensated by charging you commissions or other fees on trades that it executes or that settle into your Schwab account. Certain trades (for example, many mutual funds and ETFs) may not incur Schwab commissions or transaction fees. Schwab is also compensated by earning interest on the uninvested cash in your account in Schwab's Cash Features Program.

**Products and services available to us from Schwab**: Schwab Advisor Services is Schwab's business serving independent investment advisory firms like us. They provide our clients and us with access to their institutional brokerage services (trading, custody, reporting and related services), many of which are not typically available to Schwab retail customers. Schwab also makes available various support services. Some of those services help us manage or administer our clients' accounts, while others help us manage and grow our business. Schwab's support services are generally available on an unsolicited basis (we don't have to request them) and at no charge to us. Following is a more detailed description of Schwab's support services:

**Services that benefit you**: Schwab's institutional brokerage services include access to a broad range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of client assets. The investment products available through Schwab include some to which we might not otherwise have access or that would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment by our clients. Schwab's services described in this paragraph generally benefit you and your account.

**Services that may not directly benefit you**: Schwab also makes available to us other products and services that benefit us but may not directly benefit you or your account. These products and services assist us in managing and administering our clients' accounts. They include investment research, both Schwab's own and that of third parties. We may use this research to service all or a substantial number of our clients' accounts, including accounts not maintained at Schwab. In addition to investment research, Schwab also makes available software and other technology that:

- provide access to client account data (such as duplicate trade confirmations and account statements)
- facilitate trade execution and allocate aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts
- provide pricing and other market data
- facilitate payment of our fees from our clients' accounts
- assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and client reporting

**Services that generally benefit only us:** Schwab also offers other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. These services include:

- Educational conferences and events
- Consulting on technology, compliance, legal, and business needs
- Publications and conferences on practice management and business succession

We do not require that you maintain your account with Schwab, based on our interest in receiving Schwab's services that benefit our business and Schwab's payment for services for which we would otherwise have to pay rather than based on your interest in receiving the best value in custody services and the most favorable execution of your transactions. This is a potential conflict of interest. We believe, however, that our selection of Schwab as custodian and broker is in the best interests of our clients. Our selection is primarily supported by the scope, quality, and price of Schwab's services (see "How we select brokers/ custodians") and not Schwab's services that benefit only us.

#### The Custodian and Brokers We Use (Altruist)

For the benefit of no commissions or transaction fees, fully digital account opening, a large variety of security options and complete integration with software tools, PFP may recommend Altruist Financial LLC, an unaffiliated SEC-registered broker dealer and FINRA/SIPC member, as the introducing broker to Apex Clearing Corporation, an unaffiliated SEC-registered broker dealer and FINRA/SIPC member, as the clients' custodian. PFP does not receive any research or other soft-dollar benefit by nature from its relationship with Altruist Financial LLC, nor does PFP receive any referrals in exchange for using Altruist Financial LLC as a broker dealer.

#### **Aggregating (Block) Trading for Multiple Client Accounts**

We attempt to allocate trade executions in the most equitable manner possible, taking into consideration current asset allocation and availability of funds using price averaging, proration, and consistently non-arbitrary methods of allocation. We can aggregate orders in order to obtain best execution, to negotiate more favorable commission rates, or to allocate equitably among our clients' differences in prices and commission or other transaction costs. In aggregated orders, transactions will be price-averaged and allocated among our clients in proportion to the purchase and sale orders placed for each client account on any given day.

### Item 13: Review of Accounts

Eric Amzalag, Owner and CCO of PFP, will work with Clients to obtain current information regarding their assets and investment holdings and will review this information as part of our financial planning services. PFP does not provide specific reports to financial planning Clients, other than financial plans.

Client accounts with the Investment Advisory Service will be reviewed regularly on an annual basis by Eric Amzalag, Owner and CCO. The account is reviewed with regards to the Client's investment policies and risk tolerance levels. Events that may trigger a special review would be unusual performance, addition or deletions of Client imposed restrictions, excessive draw-down, volatility in performance, or buy and sell decisions from the firm or per Client's needs.

Clients will receive trade confirmations from the broker(s) for each transaction in their accounts as well as monthly or quarterly statements and annual tax reporting statements from their custodian showing all activity in the accounts, such as receipt of dividends and interest.

PFP will not provide written reports to Investment Management Clients.

## Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation

Outside of those listed above, we do not receive any economic benefit, directly or indirectly, from any third party for advice rendered to our Clients. Nor do we, directly or indirectly, compensate any person who is not advisory personnel for Client referrals.

## Item 15: Custody

PFP does not accept custody of Client funds except in the instance of withdrawing Client fees.

For Client accounts in which PFP directly debits their advisory fee:

- i. PFP will send a copy of its invoice to the custodian at the same time that it sends the Client a copy.
- ii. The custodian will send at least quarterly statements to the Client showing all disbursements for the account, including the amount of the advisory fee.
- iii. The Client will provide written authorization to PFP, permitting them to be paid directly for their accounts held by the custodian.

Clients should receive at least quarterly statements from the broker-dealer, bank or other qualified custodian that holds and maintains Client's investment assets. We urge you to carefully review such statements and compare such official custodial records to the account statements or reports that we may provide to you. Our statements or reports may vary from custodial statements based on accounting procedures, reporting dates, or valuation methodologies of certain securities.

### Item 16: Investment Discretion

For those Client accounts where we provide Investment Management Services, we maintain discretion over Client accounts with respect to securities to be bought and sold and the amount of securities to be bought and sold. Investment discretion is explained to Clients in detail when an advisory relationship has commenced. At the start of the advisory relationship, the Client will execute a Limited Power of Attorney, which will grant our firm discretion over the account(s). Additionally, the discretionary relationship will be outlined in the advisory contract and signed by the Client. Clients may limit our discretion by requesting certain restrictions on investments. However, approval of such requests are at the firm's sole discretion.

## Item 17: Voting Client Securities

We do not vote Client proxies. Therefore, Clients maintain exclusive responsibility for: (1) voting proxies, and (2) acting on corporate actions pertaining to the Client's investment assets. The Client shall instruct the Client's qualified custodian to forward to the Client copies of all proxies and shareholder communications relating to the Client's investment assets. If the Client would like our opinion on a particular proxy vote, they may contact us at the number listed on the cover of this brochure.

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

### Item 18: Financial Information

Registered Investment Advisers are required in this Item to provide you with certain financial information or disclosures about our financial condition. We have no financial commitment that impairs our ability to meet contractual and fiduciary commitments to Clients, and we have not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.

We do not have custody of Client funds or securities or require or solicit prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per Client six months in advance.

## Item 19: Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

#### **Principal Officers**

Eric Amzalag serves as Peak Financial Planning's sole principal. Information about Eric Amzalag's education, business background, and outside business activities can be found on his ADV Part 2B, Brochure Supplement attached to this Brochure.

#### **Outside Business**

All outside business information, if applicable, of Peak Financial Planning is disclosed in Item 10 of this Brochure.

#### **Performance-Based Fees**

Neither Peak Financial Planning nor Eric Amzalag is compensated by performance-based fees. Please refer to Item 6 of this brochure.

#### **Material Disciplinary Disclosures**

Neither Peak Financial Planning or any management person at Peak Financial Planning has ever been involved in an award or found liable in an arbitration claim alleging damages in excess of \$2,500 or found liable in any civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceedings.

## Material Relationships That Management Persons Have With Issuers of Securities

Peak Financial Planning, nor Eric Amzalag, have any relationship or arrangement with issuers of securities, in addition to what is described in Item 10.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations Section 260.238 (k) any material conflicts of interest regarding the investment adviser, its representatives or any of its employees are disclosed to the Client prior to entering into any Advisory or Financial Planning Agreement.

#### **Business Continuity Plan**

PFP Financial maintains a written Business Continuity Plan that identifies procedures related to an emergency or significant business disruptions, including the death of the investment adviser or any of its representatives.

#### Peak Financial Planning

21201 Victory Blvd suite 152, Canoga Park, CA 91303 818-600-6099

Dated January 4, 2024

Form ADV Part 2B - Brochure Supplement

For

#### Eric Amzalag 7317053

Owner, and Chief Compliance Officer

This brochure supplement provides information about Eric Amzalag that supplements Peak Financial Planning ("PFP") brochure. A copy of that brochure precedes this supplement. Please contact Eric Amzalag if the PFP brochure is not included with this supplement or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Eric Amzalag is available on the SEC's website at <a href="www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a> which can be found using the identification number 7317053.

## Item 2: Educational Background and Business Experience

#### **Eric Amzalag**

Born: 1989

#### **Educational Background**

• 2011 – BA, Economics and Accounting, University of California - Santa Barbara

#### **Business Experience**

- 10/2021 Present, Peak Financial Planning, Owner and CCO
- 12/2020 11/2021, Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC, Registered Representative
- 06/2014 Present, CrossFit Encino-Lift Off Strength, Owner

#### **CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional**

I am certified for financial planning services in the United States by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. ("CFP Board"). Therefore, I may refer to myself as a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional or a CFP® professional, and I may use these and CFP Board's other certification marks (the "CFP Board Certification Marks"). The CFP® certification is voluntary. No federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold the CFP® certification. You may find more information about the CFP® certification at www.CFP.net.

CFP® professionals have met CFP Board's high standards for education, examination, experience, and ethics. To become a CFP® professional, an individual must fulfill the following requirements:

• Education – Earn a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university and complete CFP Board-approved coursework at a college or university through a CFP Board Registered Program. The coursework covers the financial planning subject areas CFP Board has determined are necessary for the competent and professional delivery of financial planning services, as well as a comprehensive financial plan development capstone course. A candidate may satisfy some of the coursework requirement through other qualifying credentials. CFP Board implemented the bachelor's degree or higher requirement in 2007 and the financial planning development capstone course requirement in March 2012. Therefore, a CFP® professional who first became certified before those dates may not have earned a bachelor's or higher degree or completed a financial planning development capstone course.

- **Examination** Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination is designed to assess an individual's ability to integrate and apply a broad base of financial planning knowledge in the context of real-life financial planning situations.
- **Experience** Complete 6,000 hours of professional experience related to the personal financial planning process, or 4,000 hours of apprenticeship experience that meets additional requirements.
- **Ethics** Satisfy the Fitness Standards for Candidates for CFP® Certification and Former CFP® Professionals Seeking Reinstatement and agree to be bound by CFP Board's Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct ("Code and Standards"), which sets forth the ethical and practice standards for CFP® professionals.

Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements to remain certified and maintain the right to continue to use the CFP Board Certification Marks:

- Ethics Commit to complying with CFP Board's Code and Standards. This includes a commitment to CFP Board, as part of the certification, to act as a fiduciary, and therefore, act in the best interests of the client, at all times when providing financial advice and financial planning. CFP Board may sanction a CFP® professional who does not abide by this commitment, but CFP Board does not guarantee a CFP® professional's services. A client who seeks a similar commitment should obtain a written engagement that includes a fiduciary obligation to the client.
- **Continuing Education** Complete 30 hours of continuing education every two years to maintain competence, demonstrate specified levels of knowledge, skills, and abilities, and keep up with developments in financial planning. Two of the hours must address the Code and Standards.

## Item 3: Disciplinary Information

Mr. Eric Amzalag has not been subject to any criminal or civil actions, administrative proceedings, self-regulatory organization (SRO) proceedings, revocations, or suspensions. PFP and its management have not been involved in legal or disciplinary events that are material to a Client's or prospective Client's evaluation of PFP or the integrity of its management, nor have any management persons been subject to any self-regulatory organization (SRO) proceedings.

### Item 4: Other Business Activities

Eric Amzalag does not engage in any other business activities.

## **Item 5: Additional Compensation**

Eric Amzalag does not receive any economic benefit from any person, company, or organization, in exchange for providing Clients advisory services through PFP.

## Item 6: Supervision

Eric Amzalag, as Owner and Chief Compliance Officer of PFP, is responsible for supervision. He may be contacted at the phone number on this brochure supplement.

## Item 7: Requirements for State Registered Advisers

Eric Amzalag has NOT been involved in an arbitration, civil proceeding, self-regulatory proceeding, administrative proceeding, or a bankruptcy petition.