

PART 3 of FORM ADV: FORM CRS - CLIENT RELATIONSHIP SUMMARY

March 28, 2024

Item 1 Introduction

Cerity Partners LLC is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an Investment Advisor with offices throughout the United States. Registration of an Investment Advisor does not imply any level of skill or training.

Brokerage and investment advisory services and fees differ, and it is important as a retail investor to understand the difference. Free and simple tools are available to research firms and financial professionals at Investor.gov/CRS, which also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisers, and investing.

Item 2 Relationship and Services

What investment services and advice can you provide me?

Cerity Partners offers the following services to high net worth and retail investors: Investment Advisory, Financial Planning, and Tax and Tax Planning. We customize all services to our clients' individual needs by determining your specific goals, objectives, risk tolerance, time horizon, investment restrictions and other factors that affect the financial advice you receive. We have developed investment risk profiles used in our investment advisory, wealth planning, and retirement and financial planning services to help you understand the potential risks and rewards associated with your investments and provide our advisors with a guide to managing your investments. We continuously monitor investment accounts to ensure compliance with your stated goals and objectives.

- **Given my financial situation, should I choose an investment advisory service? Why or why not?**
- **How will you choose investments to recommend to me?**

Cerity Partners typically receives discretionary authority from the client to select third-party investment managers and/or select the identity and amount of securities to be bought or sold during an advisory relationship. We only exercise our investment discretion consistent with the stated investment risk profile for the particular client account. Cerity Partners also offers non-discretionary services where we seek prior authorization from the client prior to implementing our recommendations.

As a condition for starting and maintaining an investment advisory relationship, Cerity Partners generally requires a minimum portfolio size of \$2,000,000 and a minimum investment advisory annual fee of \$20,000. These minimums may have the effect of making our services impractical for certain individuals or entities. We, in our sole discretion, may waive our stated account minimums.

For a more detailed description of our services and account conditions, please refer to [Item 4](#) and [Item 5 of Cerity Partners ADV Part 2A Disclosure Brochure](#) or at <https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/151559>

- **What is your relevant experience, including your licenses, education and other qualifications? What do these qualifications mean?**

Item 3

Fees, Cost, Conflicts and Standard of Conduct

What fees will I pay and how do your financial professionals make money?

Cerity Partners charges asset-based, fixed, and hourly fees. Our fee for wealth management services, including investment advisory, is up to 1.50% per year of assets under management, and the fee is negotiable based on certain criteria. While our standard agreement is inclusive of all services, we may from time to time quote a fixed annual retainer for services based on the scope of the engagement. We may enter into performance fee arrangements with qualified clients. You will pay fees and costs whether you make or lose money on your investments. Fees and costs will reduce any amount of money you make on your investments over time. Please make sure you understand what other fees and costs you are paying, such as custodian fees and underlying investment fees. For more information on our fees and how we calculate fees, please refer to [Item 5 of Cerity Partners ADV Part 2A Disclosure Brochure](#) or at <https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/151559>. Our advisors are compensated based on the amount of assets under management that they personally manage.

- **Help me understand how these fees and costs might affect my investments. If I give you \$1,000,000 to invest, how much will go to fees and costs, and how much will be invested for me?**

What are your legal obligations to me when acting as my investment adviser? How else does your firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?

When we act as your investment adviser, we are required to act in your best interest and not put our own interest ahead of your interests. At the same time, the way Cerity Partners is compensated creates some conflicts with your interests. You should understand and ask us about these conflicts because they can affect the investment advice we provide you. Here are some examples to help you understand what this means:

- Cerity Partners' affiliate, Sage Advisors ("Sage") manages proprietary and unaffiliated private investment funds and creates a conflict of interest if we recommend Sage over other unaffiliated funds invested in a similar fashion.
 - The more assets in a client's account(s) will result in more fees, so Cerity Partners may have an incentive to recommend the client increase the assets in their accounts.
 - Performance-based fee arrangements create a conflict of interest and an incentive to recommend certain investments over an investment with a different fee arrangement.
 - Cerity Partners may accept sponsorship of client and prospect events from certain third-party managers creating a conflict of interest if we recommend certain managers from whom we accept sponsorships over others that do not provide sponsorships. For further information on Sage, performance-based fees, sponsorships and our conflicts of interest, please refer to [Item 10](#), [Item 6](#), [Item 12](#) of [Cerity Partners ADV Part 2A Disclosure Brochure](#) or at <https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/151559>
- **How might your conflicts of interest affect me, and how will you address them?**

Item 4

Disciplinary History

Do you or your financial professionals have legal or disciplinary history?

Yes, Certain financial professionals of Cerity Partners have disclosable events. To view these events, you can use the simple and free tools available at Investor.gov/CRS to research our firm and our financial professionals. This site also provides educational materials about investment advisers and investing. You should also review your financial professional's ADV Part 2B, provided to you for important details and disclosures about your financial professional.

- **As a financial professional, do you have any disciplinary history? For what type of conduct?**

Item 5

Additional Information

Please visit ceritypartners.com or call (212) 850-4260 for more information about our services or to obtain a copy of this Form CRS.

- **Who is my primary contact person? Is he or she a representative of an investment adviser or a broker-dealer? Who can I talk to if I have concerns about how this person is treating me?**