



ADVISOR NAME: Karyn Pistone, CFP®

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Item 1 - Cover Page

Part 2B of Form ADV: Brochure Supplement

Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC

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This brochure supplement provides information about Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC, that supplements the Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC, brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC, at 440-519-2500 if you did not receive Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC's brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Karyn Pistone also is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

Karyn Pistone

Wealth Advisor

Item 2 - Educational Background and Business Experience

Year of Birth: 1952

Education:

Cleveland State University: 1978 attended

Miami University: 1970, attended

Business Background:

Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC: 12/2023 – present, Financial Advisor

Beacon Financial Advisory, LLC: 05/2012 – 12/2023, Financial Advisor

Capital Analysts, Inc.: 06/2012 – 06/2012, Financial Advisor

Lincoln Investment Planning, Inc.: 06/2012 – 08/2017, Registered Representative

Capital Analysts, Inc.: 2010 – 2012, Registered Representative

Sanders Morris Harris, Inc.: 2007 – 2010, Registered Representative

Lincoln Financial Advisers: 2002 - 2007, Registered Representative

Professional Designations

Karyn Pistone holds the following designations:

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ (CFP®)

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”). CFP® certification is voluntary. No federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP® certification. You may find more information about 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.

- **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 hours 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*.

Chartered Life Underwriter® - CLU®. Issuing Organization: The American College.

The Chartered Life Underwriter™ CLU® designation is one of the oldest and most respected credentials in financial services, dating back to the late 1920’s. It represents a thorough understanding of a broad array of personal risk management and life insurance planning issues and stresses ethics, professionalism, and in-depth knowledge in the delivery of financial advice. Prerequisites/Experience Required: 3 years of full-time business experience within the five years preceding the awarding of the designation. Educational Requirements: 5 core and 3 elective courses. Continuing Education: 30 hours every 2 years.

Item 3 - Disciplinary Information

There are no disciplinary actions to report on this individual.

Item 4 - Other Business Activities

Karyn Pistone may also be an insurance agent. In such capacity, she may offer and service through various carriers, fixed life insurance products, term insurance, universal insurance, whole life insurance, long term care

insurance, disability insurance, health and dental insurance and receive normal and customary commissions as a result of any purchases made by clients. The client is under no obligation to purchase fixed life insurance, term insurance, universal insurance, whole life insurance, long term care insurance, disability insurance, health and dental insurance through Karyn Pistone on a commissionable basis. In addition, she may receive other compensation such as fixed trails. The potential for receipt of commissions and other compensation gives Karyn Pistone an incentive to recommend insurance products based on the compensation received, rather than on the client's needs. To address this, disclosure is made to the client at the time the purchase is made, identifying the nature of the transaction or relationship, the role to be played by Karyn Pistone and any compensation (e.g., commissions, trails) to be paid by the client and/or received by the insurance agent.

Item 5 - Additional Compensation

Karyn Pistone may also have received compensation as an incentive to join Stratos in the form of upfront forgivable loans, stipends, recruiting bonuses, profit interest units in Stratos, and/or other transition assistance. These forms of compensation are oftentimes provided as a means to aid an advisor during a time of transition when there is no income being generated, and may be paid by Stratos. If Karyn Pistone received any of these types of compensation, the relative economic value of these incentives is enumerated below.

None.

Receipt of these forms of compensation may present a conflict of interest in that Karyn Pistone may have undertaken to change firms and join Stratos based on her desire to obtain such economic benefit to themselves rather than on the client's needs and/or best interest.

Karyn Pistone may receive non-cash compensation from product sponsors. Such compensation may not be tied to the sales of any products. Compensation may include such items as gifts valued at less than \$100 annually, an occasional dinner or ticket to a sporting event, or reimbursement in connection with educational meetings or marketing or advertising initiatives. Product sponsors may also pay for education or training events that she may attend. This practice gives Karyn Pistone an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received, rather than on the client's needs. To address this, Karyn Pistone is required to disclose to her supervisor all compensation received from product sponsors.

Karyn Pistone may receive referral compensation for acting as a solicitor in referring clients to third-party investment advisors for account management. The potential for receipt of compensation gives Karyn Pistone an incentive to recommend a third-party investment advisor based on the compensation received, rather than on the client's needs. To address this, disclosure is made to the client at the time an advisory relationship is established, identifying the nature of the relationship, the role to be played by the third-party investment advisor, Karyn Pistone, and any compensation to be paid by the client and/or received by Karyn Pistone.

Item 6 - Supervision

On behalf of Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC, Jeffrey A. Concepcion, President and Chief Executive Officer, 440-505-5600 is the person responsible for supervision of Karyn Pistone.

Supervision of Karyn Pistone is conducted as follows:

The Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC manner of supervision is a multi-tiered process. Stratos maintains a Code of Ethics to which all advisors must subscribe. The Code of Ethics provides for Stratos and its Advisor Representatives to exercise its fiduciary duty to clients to act in the best interest of the client and always place the client's interests first and foremost. Stratos takes seriously its compliance and regulatory obligations and requires all Advisors and staff to comply with all federal and state rules and regulations, as well as Stratos' policies and procedures.

Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC maintains supervisors in both the home office and in field offices. These supervisors are familiar with the firm's Code of Ethics and its supervisory policies and procedures, and their responsibilities as supervisors as they relate to the policies of the firm.

Further, all transactions entered into by the advisors are supervised through the systems of Stratos Wealth Advisors. These systems monitor for unusual activity and inform supervisors of such.

Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC monitors the advice given by Karyn Pistone in the following manner:

In addition to the processes noted above, Stratos Wealth Advisors, LLC monitors the activity of its advisors by reviewing trading activity, requiring approval of advisor advertising and approval of any discretion that advisors may have over accounts. The advisors' offices are subject to a review process and the advisors are required, no less than annually, to attest to their compliance with the firm's compliance policies and to their understanding of the firm's Code of Ethics.