

Heartwood Financial Services

- Rooted in Trust -

Firm Brochure - Form ADV Part 2A

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Heartwood Financial Services LLC d/b/a Heartwood Financial Services. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (407) 878-7275 or by email at: demel@heartwoodfinancialservices.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.

Additional information about Heartwood Financial Services LLC is also available on the SEC's website at <u>www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</u>. Heartwood Financial Services LLC's CRD number is: 161998

Sanford, Florida, 32771 (407) 878-7275 demel@myheartwood.com Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

Version Date: 9/22/2023

Item 2: Material Changes

Heartwood Financial Services LLC has a material change for Form ADV Part 2A as of 09/22/2023.

- HFS has changed Custodian from Td Ameritrade to Charles Schwab.
- HFS updated Item 4 to disclose its use of third-party platform, Pontera, to manage held away 401k accounts.

We will ensure that you receive a summary of any material changes to this and subsequent Brochures Within 90 days of the close of our business' fiscal year end which is December 31. We will provide other ongoing disclosure information about material changes as they occur. We will also provide you with information on how to obtain the complete brochure. Currently, our Brochure may be requested at any time, without charge, by contacting Heartwood Financial Services at 407-878-7275

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Item 4: Advisory Business

A. Description of the Advisory Firm

Heartwood Financial Services LLC is a Limited Liability Company organized in the state of Florida. This firm has been in business since February of 2012, and the principal owner is Demel Gonzalez.

B. Types of Advisory Services

Heartwood Financial Services LLC (hereinafter "HFS") offers the following services to advisory clients:

Investment Supervisory Services

HFS offers ongoing portfolio management services based on the individual goals, objectives, time horizon, and risk tolerance of each client. HFS creates an Investment Policy Statement for each client, which outlines the client's current situation (income, tax levels, and risk tolerance levels) and then constructs a plan (the Investment Policy Statement) to aid in the selection of a portfolio that matches each client's specific situation. Investment Supervisory Services include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Investment strategy
 Personal investment policy
- Asset allocation
- Asset selection
- Risk tolerance Regular portfolio monitoring

HFS evaluates the current investments of each client with respect to their risk tolerance levels and time horizon. HFS will request discretionary authority from clients in order to select securities and execute transactions without permission from the client prior to each transaction. Risk tolerance levels are documented in the Investment Policy Statement, which is given to each client.

Eligible Qualified Retirement Plans (Discretionary Investment Management) -

We provide an additional service for accounts by using a third party platform to facilitate management of held away assets such as defined contribution plan participant accounts, with discretion. The platform allows us to avoid being considered to have custody of Client funds since we do not have direct access to Client log-in credentials to affect trades. We are not affiliated with the platform in any way and receive no compensation from them for using their platform. A link will be provided to the Client allowing them to connect an account(s) to the platform. We regularly review the

available investment options in these accounts, monitor them, and rebalance and implement our strategies in the same way we do other accounts, though using different tools as necessary.

Written Acknowledgement of Fiduciary Status

When we provide investment advice to you regarding your retirement plan account or individual retirement account, we are fiduciaries within the meaning of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and/or the Internal Revenue Code, as applicable, which are laws governing retirement accounts. The way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests, so we operate under a special rule that requires us to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours. Under this special rule's provisions, we must:

• Meet a professional standard of care when making investment recommendations give prudent advice);

• Never put our financial interests ahead of yours when making recommendations give loyal advice;

• Avoid misleading statements about conflicts of interest, fees, and investments;

• Follow policies and procedures designed to ensure that we give advice that is in your best interest;

- Charge no more than is reasonable for our services; and
- Give you basic information about conflicts of interest.

Financial Planning

Financial plans and financial planning may include, but are not limited to: investment planning, life insurance; tax concerns; retirement planning; college planning; and debt/credit planning. These services are based on hourly fees and the final fee structure is documented in Exhibit II of the Financial Planning Agreement.

Services Limited to Specific Types of Investments

HFS generally limits its investment advice and/or money management to mutual funds, equities, bonds, fixed income, ETFs, REITs, digital assets, and government securities. HFS may use other securities as well to help diversify a portfolio when applicable.

C. Client Tailored Services and Client Imposed Restrictions

HFS offers the same suite of services to all of its clients. However, specific client financial plans and their implementation are dependent upon the client Investment Policy Statement which outlines each client's current situation (income, tax levels, and risk tolerance levels) and is used to construct a client specific plan to aid in the selection of a portfolio that matches restrictions, needs, and targets.

Clients may impose restrictions in investing in certain securities or types of securities in accordance with their values or beliefs. However, if the restrictions prevent HFS from properly servicing the client account, or if the restrictions would require HFS to deviate from its standard suite of services, HFS reserves the right to end the relationship.

D. Wrap Fee Programs

A wrap fee program is an investment program where the investor pays one stated fee that includes management fees, transaction costs, fund expenses, and any other administrative fees. HFS DOES NOT participate in any wrap fee programs.

E. Amounts Under Management

HFS has assets under management of \$58,644,572 with 217 accounts as of 01/25/2023.

Item 5: Fees and Compensation

A. Fee Schedule

Investment Supervisory Services Fees

Total Assets Under Management	Annual Fee
Up to \$300,000	1.25%
\$300,0001 - \$700,000	1.00%
\$700,001 - \$1,300,000	0.85%
\$1,300,001 - \$2,000,000	0.65%
Above \$2,000,000	Negotiable

These fees are negotiable depending upon the needs of the client and complexity of the situation and the final fee schedule is attached as Exhibit II of the Investment Advisory Contract. Fees are paid quarterly in arrears, and clients may terminate their contracts with ten days' written notice. Because fees are charged in arrears, no refund policy is

necessary. Clients may terminate their accounts without penalty within 5 business days of signing the advisory contract. Advisory fees are withdrawn directly from the client's accounts with client written authorization.

Financial Planning Fees

Hourly Fees

The hourly fee for these services is \$200. The fees are negotiable and the final fee schedule will be attached as Exhibit II of the Financial Planning Agreement. Fees are paid in arrears upon completion. Because fees are charged in arrears, no refund is necessary. Clients may terminate their contracts without penalty within five business days of signing the advisory contract.

Fixed Fees

In the case of a client situation where the same consulting services are provided on a regular basis a fixed fee can be charged determined by the amount of time to perform the tasks. These fees will be disclosed in advance and charged in arears upon completion. Because fees are charged in arrears, no refund is necessary. Clients may terminate their contracts without penalty within five business days of signing the advisory contract.

B. Payment of Fees

Payment of Investment Supervisory Fees

Advisory fees are withdrawn directly from the client's accounts with client written authorization. Fees are paid quarterly in arrears. Advisory fees may also be invoiced and billed directly to the client with payments due within twenty days after the end of the quarter. Clients may select the method in which they are billed.

In the case of advisory services leveraging Pontera Technology for Qualified retirement accounts, fees cannot be deducted directly from accounts, therefore, the client can elect to have fees deducted from a taxable brokerage account held with HFS chosen custodian. Outside assets held at retirement plans will be aggregated in order to calculate the advisory fees. Advisory fees may also be invoiced and billed directly to the client with payments due within twenty days after the end of the quarter. Clients may select the method in which they are billed.

Payment of Financial Planning Fees

Hourly and Fixed Financial Planning fees are paid via check in arrears upon completion. Because fees are charged in arrears, no refund is necessary.

C. Clients Are Responsible for Third Party Fees

Clients are responsible for the payment of all third-party fees (i.e., custodian fees, brokerage fees, mutual fund fees, transaction fees, etc.). Those fees are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by HFS. Please see Item 12 of this brochure regarding broker/custodian.

D. Prepayment of Fees

HFS collects its fees in arrears. It does not collect fees in advance.

E. Outside Compensation for the Sale of Securities to Clients

Neither HFS nor its supervised persons accept any compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products, including asset-based sales charges or services fees from the sale of mutual funds.

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

HFS does not accept performance-based fees or other fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a client.

Item 7: Types of Clients

HFS generally provides investment advice and/or management supervisory services to the following types of clients:

- Individuals
- High-Net-Worth Individuals

Minimum Account Size

There is an account minimum, \$300,000, which may be waived by the investment advisor, based on the needs of the client and the complexity of the situation.

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

A. Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies

Methods of Analysis

HFS's methods of analysis include fundamental analysis and technical analysis.

Fundamental analysis involves the analysis of financial statements, the general financial health of companies, and/or the analysis of management or competitive advantages.

Technical analysis involves the analysis of past market data; primarily price and volume.

Investment Strategies

HFS uses long term trading and short-term trading strategies.

Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.

B. Material Risks Involved

Methods of Analysis

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 work long term.

Investment Strategies

Long term trading is designed to capture market rates of both return and risk. Frequent trading, when done, can affect investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes.

Short term trading generally holds greater risk and clients should be aware that there is a material risk of loss using any of those strategies.

Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.

C. Risks of Specific Securities Utilized

HFS generally seeks investment strategies that do not involve significant or unusual risk beyond that of the general domestic and/or international equity markets.

Mutual Funds: Investing in mutual funds carries the risk of capital loss. Mutual funds are not guaranteed or insured by the FDIC or any other government agency. You can lose money investing in mutual funds. All mutual funds have costs that lower investment returns. They can be of bond "fixed income" nature (lower risk) or stock "equity" nature (mentioned above).

Equity investment generally refers to buying shares of stocks by an individual or firms in return for receiving a future payment of dividends and capital gains if the value of the stock increases. There is an innate risk involved when purchasing a stock that it may decrease in value and the investment may incur a loss.

Treasury Inflation Protected/Inflation Linked Bonds: The Risk of default on these bonds is dependent upon the U.S. Treasury defaulting (extremely unlikely); however, they carry a potential risk of losing share price value, albeit rather minimal.

Fixed Income is an investment that guarantees fixed periodic payments in the future that may involve economic risks such as inflationary risk, interest rate risk, default risk, repayment of principal risk, etc.

Debt securities carry risks such as the possibility of default on the principal, fluctuation in interest rates, and counterparties being unable to meet obligations.

Stocks & Exchange Traded Funds (ETF): Investing in stocks & ETF's carries the risk of capital loss (sometimes up to a 100% loss in the case of a stock holding bankruptcy). Investments in these securities are not guaranteed or insured by the FDIC or any other government agency.

REITs have specific risks including valuation due to cash flows, dividends paid in stock rather than cash, and the payment of debt resulting in dilution of shares.

Precious Metal ETFs (Gold, Silver, Palladium Bullion backed "electronic shares" not physical metal): Investing in precious metal ETFs carries the risk of capital loss.

Digital asset: The term "Digital Asset" refers to an asset that is issued and/or transferred using distributed ledger or block chain technology, including, but not limited to, so-called "Virtual currencies", "coins", and "tokens".

Investing in Digital Assets involves a high degree of risk and potential loss of your entire investment. Heartwood Financial Services does not guarantee the future performance of the Digital Assets or any specific level of performance, the success of any investment decision or strategy that we may use, or the success of our firm's overall management of the Digital Assets.

Given the complexity of the products and technology that Digital Assets pose, investment decisions made with respect to the allocation of any portfolio to Digital Assets are subject to various potential risks including technical, legal, market, and operational risks, price volatility, illiquidity, valuation methodology, related-party transactions, and conflicts of interest, and that those investment decisions will not always be profitable.

Long term trading is designed to capture market rates of both return and risk. Due to its nature, the long-term investment strategy can expose clients to various other types of risk that will typically surface at various intervals during the time the client owns the investments. These risks include but are not limited to inflation (purchasing power) risk, interest rate risk, economic risk, market risk, and political/regulatory risk.

Short term trading risks include liquidity, economic stability and inflation.

Past performance is not a guarantee of future returns. Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.

Item 9: Disciplinary Information

A. Criminal or Civil Actions

There are no criminal or civil actions to report.

B. Administrative Proceedings

There are no administrative proceedings to report.

C. Self-regulatory Organization (SRO) Proceedings

There are no self-regulatory organization proceedings to report.

Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

A. Registration as a Broker/Dealer or Broker/Dealer Representative

Neither HFS nor its representatives are registered as or have pending applications to become a broker/dealer or as representatives of a broker/dealer.

B. Registration as a Futures Commission Merchant, Commodity Pool Operator, or a Commodity Trading Advisor

Neither HFS nor its representatives are registered as or have pending applications to become a Futures Commission Merchant, Commodity Pool Operator, or a Commodity Trading Advisor.

C. Registration Relationships Material to this Advisory Business and Possible Conflicts of Interests

Neither HFS nor its representatives have any material relationships to this advisory business that would present a possible conflict of interest.

D. Selection of Other Advisers or Managers and How This Adviser is Compensated for Those Selections

HFS does not utilize nor select other advisers or third-party managers. All assets are managed by HFS management.

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

A. Code of Ethics

We have a written Code of Ethics that covers the following areas: Prohibited Purchases and Sales, Insider Trading, Personal Securities Transactions, Exempted Transactions, Prohibited Activities, Conflicts of Interest, Gifts and Entertainment, Confidentiality, Service on a Board of Directors, Compliance Procedures, Compliance with Laws and Regulations, Procedures and Reporting, Certification of Compliance, Reporting Violations, Compliance Officer Duties, Training and Education, Recordkeeping, Annual Review, and Sanctions. Our Code of Ethics is available free upon request to any client or prospective client.

B. Recommendations Involving Material Financial Interests

HFS does not recommend that clients buy or sell any security in which a related person to HFS or HFS has a material financial interest.

C. Investing Personal Money in the Same Securities as Clients

From time to time, representatives of HFS may buy or sell securities for themselves that they also recommend to clients. This may provide an opportunity for representatives of HFS to buy or sell the same securities before or after recommending the same securities to clients resulting in representatives profiting off the recommendations they provide to clients. Such transactions may create a conflict of interest. HFS will always document any transactions that could be construed as conflicts of interest and will always transact client business before their own when similar securities are being bought or sold.

D. Trading Securities At/Around the Same Time as Clients' Securities

From time to time, representatives of HFS may buy or sell securities for themselves at or around the same time as clients. This may provide an opportunity for representatives of HFS to buy or sell securities before or after recommending securities to clients resulting in representatives profiting off the recommendations they provide to clients. Such transactions may create a conflict of interest. HFS will always transact client's transactions before its own when similar securities are being bought or sold.

Item 12: Brokerage Practices

A. Factors Used to Select Custodians

HFS does not have any affiliation with any custodian we recommend. 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 custodians, 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 custodian's services. The factors we consider when evaluating a custodian for best execution include, without limitation, the custodian's:

- Combination of transaction execution services and asset custody services (generally without a separate fee for custody);
- Capability to execute, clear, and settle trades (buy and sell securities for your account);
- Capability to facilitate transfers and payments to and from accounts (wire transfers, check requests, bill payment, etc.);
- Breadth of available investment products (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), etc.);
- Availability of investment research and tools that assist us in making investment decisions
- Quality of services;
- Competitiveness of the price of those services (commission rates, margin interest rates, other fees, etc.) and willingness to negotiate the prices;
- Reputation, financial strength, security and stability;

• Prior service to us and our clients.

With this in consideration, our firm recommends Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., a registered broker-dealer, member FINRA and SIPC ("Schwab"). We are not affiliated with Schwab.

1. Research and Other Soft-Dollar Benefits

HFS receives research, products, or other services from its broker/dealer or another third-party in connection with client securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits"). There is no minimum client number or dollar number that HFS must meet in order to receive free research from the custodian or broker/dealer. There is no incentive for HFS to direct clients to this particular broker-dealer over other broker-dealers who offer the same services. However, because this firm does not have to produce or pay for services or products it has an incentive to choose a custodian that provides those services based on its interests rather than the clients' interests. The first consideration when recommending broker/dealers to clients is best execution. HFS always acts in the best interest of the client.

2. Brokerage for Client Referrals

HFS receives 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

HFS will not allow clients to direct HFS to use a specific broker-dealer to execute transactions. Clients must use HFS recommended custodian (broker-dealer).

B. Aggregating (Block) Trading for Multiple Client Accounts

HFS maintains the ability to block trade purchases across accounts. Block trading may benefit a large group of clients by providing HFS the ability to purchase larger blocks resulting in smaller transaction costs to the client. Declining to block trade can cause more expensive trades for clients. No advisory account, including a proprietary account, is favored over any other account in the allocation of block trades, and each client who participates in an aggregated order does so at the average share price, with all other transaction costs shared on a pro rata basis.

Item 13: Reviews of Accounts

A. Frequency and Nature of Periodic Reviews and Who Makes Those Reviews

Client accounts are reviewed at least monthly by Demel Gonzalez, Managing Member. Demel Gonzalez is the chief advisor and is instructed to review clients' accounts with regards to their investment policies and risk tolerance levels. All accounts at HFS are assigned to this reviewer.

All financial planning accounts are reviewed upon financial plan creation and plan delivery by Demel Gonzalez, Managing Member. There is only one level of review and that is the total review conducted to create the financial plan.

B. Factors That Will Trigger a Non-Periodic Review of Client Accounts

Reviews may be triggered by material market, economic or political events, or by changes in client's financial situations (such as retirement, termination of employment, physical move, or inheritance).

C. Content and Frequency of Regular Reports Provided to Clients

Each client will receive at least monthly from the custodian, a written report that details the client's account including assets held and asset value which will come from the custodian.

HFS will perform free financial plans for all clients who utilize investment supervisory services. HFS will offer reviews of their plans on an ongoing basis for free. For clients who wish to only participate in financial planning services, clients will be provided a one-time financial plan for an hourly fee.

Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation

A. Economic Benefits Provided by Third Parties for Advice Rendered to Clients (Includes Sales Awards or Other Prizes)

HFS does not receive any economic benefit, directly or indirectly from any third party for advice rendered to HFS clients.

B. Compensation to Non – Advisory Personnel for Client Referrals

The Advisor does not engage independent solicitors to provide client referrals. If a client is referred to us by a solicitor, this practice is disclosed to the client in writing by the solicitor and the Advisor pays the solicitor out of its own funds – specifically, the Advisor generally pays the solicitor a portion of the advisory fees earned for managing the capital of the client or investor that was referred. The use of solicitors is strictly regulated under applicable federal and state law. The Advisor's policy is to fully comply with the requirements of Rule 206(4)-3, under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended and similar state rules, as applicable.

Item 15: Custody

HFS, with client written authority, has limited custody of client's assets through direct fee deduction of HFS's Fees only. If the client chooses to be billed directly by Charles Schwab, member FINRA/SIPC/NFA., HFS would have constructive custody over that account and must have written authorization from the client to do so. Clients will receive all required account statements and billing invoices that are required in each jurisdiction, and they should carefully review those statements for accuracy.

HFS can establish standing letter of instructions or other similar asset transfer authorization arrangements ("SLOA") with qualified custodians in order for us to disburse funds to accounts as specifically designated by the client. With a SLOA a client can typically authorize first-party and/or third-party transfers. If transfers are third-party, HFS complies with each of the requirements and conditions enumerated below: 1. The client provides an instruction to the qualified custodian, in writing, that includes the client's signature, the third party's name, and either the third party's address or the third party's account number at a custodian to which the transfer should be directed. 2. The client authorizes HFS, in writing, either on the qualified custodian's form or separately, to direct transfers to the third party either on a specified schedule or from time to time. 3. The client's qualified custodian performs appropriate verification of the instruction, such as a signature review or other method to verify the client's authorization, and provides a transfer of funds notice to the client promptly after each transfer. 4. The client has the ability to terminate or change the instruction to the client's qualified custodian. 5.HFS has no authority or ability to designate or change the identity of the third party, the address, or any other information about the third party contained in the client's instruction.6.HFS maintains records showing that the third party is not a related party of HFS or located at the same address as HFS. 7. The client's qualified custodian sends the client, in writing, an initial notice confirming the instruction and an annual notice reconfirming the instruction.

Item 16: Investment Discretion

For those client accounts where HFS provides ongoing supervision, the client has given HFS written discretionary authority over the client's accounts with respect to securities to be bought or sold and the amount of securities to be bought or sold. Details of this relationship are fully disclosed to the client before any advisory relationship has commenced. The client provides

HFS discretionary authority via a limited power of attorney in the Investment Advisory Contract and in the contract between the client and the custodian.

Item 17: Voting Client Securities (Proxy Voting)

HFS will not ask for, nor accept voting authority for client securities. Clients will receive proxies directly from the issuer of the security or the custodian. Clients should direct all proxy questions to the issuer of the security.

Item 18: Financial Information

A. Balance Sheet

HFS does not require nor solicit prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per client, six months or more in advance and therefore does not need to include a balance sheet with this brochure.

B. Financial Conditions Reasonably Likely to Impair Ability to Meet Contractual Commitments to Clients

Neither HFS nor its management have any financial conditions that are likely to reasonably impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to clients.

C. Bankruptcy Petitions in Previous Ten Years

HFS has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition in the last ten years.

Item 19: Requirements for State Registered Advisers

A. Principal Executive Officers and Management Persons; Their Formal Education and Business Background

HFS currently has only one management person/executive officer; Demel Gonzalez. Demel Gonzalez's education and business background can be found on the Supplemental ADV Part 2B form.

B. Other Businesses in Which This Advisory Firm or its Personnel are Engaged and Time Spent on Those (If Any)

Demel Gonzalez's other business activities can be found on the Supplemental ADV Part 2B form.

C. How Performance Based Fees are Calculated and Degree of Risk to Clients

HFS does not accept performance-based fees or other fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a client.

D. Material Disciplinary Disclosures for Management Persons of this Firm

No management person at HFS or HFS has been involved in an arbitration claim or been found liable in a civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceeding that is material to the client's evaluation of the firm or its management.

E. Material Relationships That Management Persons Have with Issuers of Securities (If Any)

Neither HFS, nor its management persons, has any relationship or arrangement with issuers of securities.