MSEC, LLC

Form CRS Relationship Summary (February 2025)

MSEC, LLC ("MSEC") is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as a broker-dealer and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC). Brokerage and investment advisory services and fees differ and it is important for you to understand the differences. 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.

What investment services and advice can you provide me?

MSEC (a.k.a Mariner) offers brokerage services to retail investors, including mutual funds, 529 Savings Plans and variable insurance products that are purchased, sold and held directly with custodians. MSEC does not offer proprietary products. We may recommend investments, but you make the ultimate decision regarding the purchase or sale of investments. We do not provide account monitoring services or require account minimums although certain investment and insurance companies may require a minimum investment as described in the prospectus provided to you at the time of your initial purchase, if applicable.

A limited number of registered representatives have been approved to offer you brokerage accounts if you direct your own trading. You may purchase, sell and hold securities such as equities, mutual funds, options, treasury bonds and exchange traded funds through a relationship with MSEC's carrying firm. There is no account minimum. Approved registered representatives may offer Prime Brokerage Services if you are a sophisticated client who directs your own trading. You may purchase, sell or hold all securities available for brokerage accounts and utilize margin. Account minimums are described in your Prime Brokerage Account Agreement and Margin Agreement. You will not receive recommendations or account monitoring services for these accounts.

For additional information, go to www.marinerwealthadvisors.com/msec-llc-disclosures and read our *Regulation Best Interest Broker-Dealer Disclosure* for accounts for which we provide recommendations. You may also request this information from your registered representative.

Conversation Starters. Ask your financial professional –

- *Given my financial situation, should I choose a brokerage service? Why or why not?*
- *How will you choose investments to recommend to me?*
- *What is your relevant experience, including licenses, education and other qualifications? What do these qualifications mean?*

What fees will I pay?

MSEC receives compensation in the form of transaction-based commissions when you buy or sell an investment. Commission amounts vary based upon the size of the transaction, type of investment and whether the trade is a buy, sell or exchange. Certain investments such as 529 Savings Plans, mutual funds, and variable annuities refer to the fee as a "load" and have ongoing fees and expenses. MSEC's carrying firm also has fees which are detailed in your account opening documents (e.g., wire fees). The recommendation to purchase commission products from individuals registered with MSEC presents a conflict of interest, as the receipt of commissions provides an incentive to recommend investment products based on commissions to be received. For more detailed information regarding fees and costs of your account go to www.marinerwealthadvisors.com/msec-llc-disclosures and read our *Regulation Best Interest Broker-Dealer Disclosure.*

You will be charged more for investments with transaction-based fees when there are more trades in your account and, therefore, MSEC has an incentive to encourage you to trade often.

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 fees and costs you are paying.

Conversation Starters. Ask your financial professional –

- *Help me understand how these fees and costs might affect my investments. If I give you $10,000 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 providing recommendations as my broker-dealer? How else does your firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?

When we provide you with a recommendation, *we have to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours.* ***At the same time, the way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests.*** *You should understand and ask us about these conflicts because they can affect the recommendations we provide you. Here are some examples to help you understand what this means.*

In addition to the compensation previously discussed, MSEC has entered into certain revenue sharing agreements with third parties that incentivize advisors registered with MSEC to recommend such accounts or products. For instance, MSEC has entered into a revenue sharing agreement related to certain money market products with our carrying firm whereby MSEC receives revenue associated with the amount of assets it invests in each money market fund. Our carrying firm also shares some of the fees and revenues it earns on assets in your brokerage accounts.

For more detailed information on conflicts, go to www.marinerwealthadvisors.com/msec-llc-disclosures and read our *Regulation Best Interest Broker-Dealer Disclosure.*

Conversation Starters. Ask your financial professional –

- *How might your conflicts of interest affect me, and how will you address them?*

How do your financial professionals make money?

Registered representatives who are also investment adviser representatives of our affiliate, Mariner, LLC ("Mariner"), an investment advisory firm, receive a salary, or a salary and a bonus based primarily on overall firm performance. Certain registered representatives, typically Senior Wealth Advisors/Senior Wealth Consultants, may also receive variable compensation equal to a percentage of the transaction-based compensation, trail commission fees, margin and revenue sharing from third parties. Registered representatives who recently onboarded after working for another financial services firm may also for a period of time receive incentives from Mariner for advisory service revenue in lieu of variable transaction-based compensation. Certain of our registered representatives are licensed insurance agents and are compensated for the sale of insurance-related products. From time to time, we may receive indirect compensation from service providers or other third parties in the form of gifts, entertainment, training sessions, tokens of appreciation, meals and/or gratis attendance at industry conferences, meeting sponsorship and other similar educational events.

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

Yes. Please refer to Investor.gov/CRS for a free and simple search tool to research our firm and our financial professionals.

Conversation Starters. Ask your financial professional –

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

For additional information about the services offered by MSEC, please go to www.marinerwealthadvisors.com/msec-llc-disclosures and read our *Regulation Best Interest Broker-Dealer Disclosure* for accounts for which we provide recommendations. If you would like up-to-date information or a copy of Form CRS, please contact us at (913) 904-5700. Most financial professionals also provide investment advisory services on behalf of Mariner. *Mariner's Form CRS* https://www.marinerwealthadvisors.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/MWA-Form-CRS-FINAL.pdf found here.

Conversation Starters. Ask your financial professional –

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

EXHIBIT

Summary of Material Changes to MSEC, LLC Form CRS

Our Form CRS dated as of February 2025, has been updated as follows:

- Form CRS reflects branding changes for its affiliate Mariner, LLC. ("Mariner"), an investment adviser firm.
- In the "What investment services and advice can you provide me?" section on page 1, added clarification that MSEC does not offer proprietary products.
- In the "How do your financial professionals make money?" section on page 2, added details on compensation for recently onboarded registered representatives who previously worked for another financial services firms.
- In the "How do your financial professionals make money?" section on page 2, added in meeting sponsorship as an example of indirect compensation from third parties.
- In the "How do your financial professionals make money?" section on page 2, removed reference to our affiliate Mariner Platform Solutions LLC as no MSEC RR is also an IAR of Mariner Platform Solutions. Additionally, removed URL links to Mariner Platform Solutions, LLC's Form CRS.