

FORM ADV PART 2B  
BROCHURE SUPPLEMENT

**Debra A. Gardi**

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This brochure supplement provides information about Debra Ann Gardi that supplements the Forum Financial Management, LP brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Contact us at 630-873-8520 if you did not receive Forum Financial Management, LP's brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Debra A. Gardi is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

## Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience

**Full Legal Name:** Debra Ann Gardi

**Born:** 1958

### **Education Background:**

- University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, BS Retail Management, 1981.

### **Business Experience:**

- Forum Financial Management, LP, Investment Adviser Representative, 1/2019 to Present.
- Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments, Registered Representative, 1/2019 - Present
- Gardi & Gardi CPA's PA, CPA/Owner, 01/1994 to Present.
- Cetera Investment Advisers LLC, Investment Adviser Representative, 09/2003 - 01/2019
- Cetera Financial Specialists LLC, Registered Representative, 07/1998 - 01/2019

### **Designations/Certifications:**

Debra A. Gardi has earned the following designation(s)/certification(s) and is in good standing with the granting authority:

- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)

Please refer to Part 2B Appendix 1 of the Firm Brochure for definitions of the above designations.

## Item 3 Disciplinary Information

Debra Ann Gardi has no reportable disciplinary history.

## Item 4 Other Business Activities

Debra A. Gardi is a Registered Representative with Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments. Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments is a diversified financial services company engaged in the sale of specialized investment products. In this capacity, Ms. Gardi may recommend securities or insurance products offered by Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments as part of your investment portfolio. If you purchase these products through Ms. Gardi, she will receive the customary commissions in her separate capacity as a Registered Representative of Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments.

Additionally, Ms. Gardi could be eligible to receive incentive awards such as Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments may offer. She will also receive 12b-1 fees from mutual funds that pay such fees. The receipt of additional compensation will give Ms. Gardi an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received, rather than on your investment needs.

As stated above, persons providing investment advice to advisory clients on behalf of our firm are registered representatives with Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments. In their capacity as registered representatives, these persons receive compensation in connection with the purchase and sale of securities or other investment products, including asset-based sales charges, service fees or 12b-1 fees for the sale or holding mutual funds. Compensation earned by these persons in their capacities as registered representatives is separate and in addition to our advisory fees. This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice to advisory clients on behalf of our firm who are registered representatives have an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received rather than solely based on your needs. Persons providing investment advice to advisory clients on behalf of our firm can select or recommend, and in many instances will select or recommend, mutual fund investments in share classes that pay 12b-1 fees when clients are

eligible to purchase share classes of the same funds that do not pay such fees and are less expensive. This presents a conflict of interest. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to purchase securities products through a person affiliated with our firm.

Debra A. Gardi is also a certified public accountant with Gardi & Gardi . Clients of our firm may also receive accounting related services from Ms. Gardi. The services provided and compensation received by Ms. Gardi for accounting related activities are separate and distinct from any fees paid for advisory services provided by our firm.

## **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Refer to the *Other Business Activities* section above for disclosures on Ms. Gardi's receipt of additional compensation as a result of her other business activities.

Also, refer to the *Fees and Compensation, Client Referrals and Other Compensation, and Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations* section(s) of Forum Financial Management, LP's firm brochure for additional disclosures on this topic.

## **Item 6 Supervision**

Forum has implemented a Code of Ethics and an internal compliance program that guides each associated person in meeting their fiduciary obligations to clients. Advice provided to clients is directed by Forum's investment philosophy. The firm monitors the advice given to Forum's advisory clients by its advisors in the following ways:

1. an initial review of the asset allocation for a new client as compared to the client's risk tolerance and investment objectives;
2. periodic reviews of a random number of the advisor's client files in order to provide reasonable assurance that the advice provided by the advisor to his or her clients is consistent with the client's stated investment objectives and Forum's policies and procedures, and
3. in-person or telephonic meetings with advisors to review client activity. Moreover, on at least an annual basis, Forum offers training to each of its advisors to cover investments, new products, and related compliance concerns.

Debra A. Gardi, is supervised by Faye H. Nybo, Director of Supervision. Ms. Nybo can be reached at (630) 873-8503 or [fnybo@forumfin.com](mailto:fnybo@forumfin.com).

## Item 7 Part 2B Appendix 1

### **Certified Public Accountant (CPA)**

CPA's are licensed and regulated by their state boards of accountancy. While state laws and regulations vary, the education, experience and testing requirements for licensure as a CPA generally include minimum college education (typically 150 credit hours with at least a baccalaureate degree and a concentration in accounting), minimum experience levels (most states require at least one year of experience providing services that involve the use of accounting, attest, compilation, management advisory, financial advisory, tax or consulting skills, all of which must be achieved under the supervision of or verification by a CPA), and successful passage of the Uniform CPA Examination. In order to maintain a CPA license, states generally require the completion of 40 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) each year (or 80 hours over a two year period or 120 hours over a three year period). Additionally, all American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) members are required to follow a rigorous *Code of Professional Conduct* which requires that they act with integrity, objectivity, due care, competence, fully disclose any conflicts of interest (and obtain client consent if a conflict exists), maintain client confidentiality, disclose to the client any commission or referral fees, and serve the public interest when providing financial services. The vast majority of state boards of accountancy have adopted the AICPA's *Code of Professional Conduct* within their state accountancy laws or have created their own.