Firm Brochure Form ADV Part 2A

Item 1: Cover Page



Argent Wealth Management, Inc. 2251 Double Creek Dr Suite 606 Round Rock, TX 78664 (512) 238-6883 www.awmtx.com

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Argent Wealth Management, Inc. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at: (512) 238-6883, or by email at: scott@awmtx.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 Argent Wealth Management, Inc. is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

March 31, 2025

Item 2: Material Changes

Annual Amendment

Regulatory assets under management, additional assets under advisement, and number of clients have been updated as of 2024-12-31.

Ownership

Ownership percentages have been updated as of 2025-03-31.

Services

Our service offerings have changed effective 2025-01-01. Current services offered are described in Item 4 – Advisory Business.

Full Brochure Available

Whenever you would like to receive a complete copy of our Firm Brochure, please contact us by telephone at: (512) 238-6883 or by email at: scott@awmtx.com.

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Item 4: Advisory Business

Firm Description

Argent Wealth Management, Inc, ("Argent") was founded in 2005.

Argent provides personalized confidential financial planning and investment management to individuals, pension and profit-sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations and small businesses. Advice is provided through consultation with the client and may include: determination of financial objectives, identification of financial problems, cash flow management, tax planning, insurance review, investment management, education funding, retirement planning, and estate plan review.

Argent is strictly a fee-only financial planning and investment management firm. The firm does not sell annuities, insurance, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, limited partnerships, or other commissioned products. The firm is not affiliated with entities that sell financial products or securities. No commissions in any form are accepted. No finder's fees are accepted.

Investment advice is provided with the client making the final decision on investment selection. Argent does not act as a custodian of client assets. The client always maintains asset control. Argent places trades for clients in accounts where limited agent authority has been granted by the client. Clients must place trades themselves in accounts where Argent does not have limited agent authority (primarily employer sponsored accounts).

On a case-by-case basis, clients can impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities in accordance with their values or beliefs. However, if the restrictions prevent Argent from properly servicing the client's account, or if the restrictions would require Argent to deviate from Argent's standard service offerings, Argent reserves the right to end the relationship.

Other professionals (e.g., lawyers, accountants, insurance agents, etc.) are engaged directly by the client on an as-needed basis. Conflicts of interest will be disclosed to the client in the unlikely event they should occur.

The initial meeting, which may be by telephone or video conference, is free of charge and is considered an exploratory interview to determine the extent to which financial planning and investment management may be beneficial to the prospective client.

Principal Owners

Scott Jacobsmeyer owns 99% of Argent Wealth Management, Inc.

Services Summary

Argent offers different services to accommodate the varying needs of our clients. Clients seeking ongoing financial planning and investment management (planning, implementation, monitoring, and reporting) may choose the Core Advisory Service. Clients seeking planning advice only may choose the Financial Consulting Service.

On more than an occasional basis Argent furnishes advice to clients on matters not involving securities such as financial goal planning and tax planning.

Argent had 67 Core Advisory Service clients as of 12/31/2024. For these clients Argent had:

- Regulatory assets under management of \$137.8 million as of 12/31/2024.
 These assets were held at Schwab, Vanguard, and my529 with Argent having been granted limited agent authority to trade for clients.
- Additional assets under advisement of \$63.7 million as of 12/31/2024.
 These assets were primarily employer sponsored accounts (e.g. 401k's) for which Argent provides investment advice and includes in the Investment Portfolio for billing purposes, but Argent has no authority to trade for clients.

All assets are managed on a non-discretionary basis.

Core Advisory Service

This service includes:

- 1. Development of a Financial Goal Plan.
- 2. Development of an Investment Plan.
- 3. Ongoing support to the Client for the implementation and maintenance of the Financial Goal Plan and Investment Plan.
- Reports of investment account balances, performance, holdings, portfolio income, and realized gains & losses. Reporting frequency is quarterly for the first four full calendar quarters of the engagement and then semiannually after that.

Development of the Financial Goal Plan includes:

- 1. Establishing quantified financial goals (e.g. retirement, education, etc.).
- 2. Assessing the Client's risk tolerance.
- 3. Gathering data (e.g. financial account statements, income sources, expenses, tax returns, etc.).
- 4. Modeling of one or more Financial Goal Plan scenarios based on different assumptions for key plan variables (e.g. planned savings, investment rate of return, retirement age, longevity, inflation, etc.).

Development of the Investment Plan includes:

- 1. Determining an appropriate overall asset allocation for the Client.
- 2. Creating an Investment Policy Statement documenting the Client's

- investment philosophy, risk tolerance, and target asset allocation.
- 3. Providing specific investment recommendations for all accounts included in the Investment Portfolio.

The Investment Portfolio includes:

- Taxable investment accounts (e.g. individual, joint, trust) excluding: 1.
 Employer stock plan accounts (e.g. restricted stock, employee stock purchase plan, and stock options), and 2. Accounts holding only money market mutual funds.
- Retirement accounts including IRAs (e.g. Traditional, Rollover, Roth, SEP, SIMPLE, and Inherited), defined contribution retirement plans (e.g. 401k, individual 401k, 403b, 457, 401a), and employer deferred compensation plans.
- 529 college savings accounts.
- Variable annuities.
- Note: Occasionally specific accounts that would otherwise be included as part of the Investment Portfolio may be excluded upon mutual agreement of the Client and the Advisor.

The Core Advisory Service fee consists of two parts:

- 1. A flat financial planning fee of \$4,000 per year, billed quarterly in advance, for the first four full calendar quarters (and prorated for any partial quarter prior to the first full calendar quarter). After four full calendar quarters the flat financial planning fee is reduced to \$3,000 per year.
- 2. A variable investment management fee, billed quarterly in advance, calculated as a percentage of the Investment Portfolio as follows:
 - 0.25% annually on balances up to \$5 million, plus
 - 0.15% annually on any additional balances between \$5 and \$10 million, plus
 - 0.10% annually on any additional balances above \$10 million.

The initial Investment Portfolio value is calculated using account values as near to the Client's start date as possible and then recalculated annually based on year-end account values. The recalculated variable investment management fee applies for four quarters starting with the next billing after recalculation.

The minimum term of agreement for the Core Advisory Service is four full calendar quarters.

Advice on topics outside the scope of the Core Advisory Service is available through the Financial Consulting Service.

Financial Consulting Service

This is an hourly service at \$300/hour providing:

- 1. Advice on specific financial issues and/or,
- 2. Coaching or validation in addressing a particular financial topic.

The fee for the Financial Consulting Service is:

- \$200/hour for Clients engaged under the Core Advisory Service seeking advice on topics outside the scope of the Core Advisory Service. Any Financial Consulting Service fees incurred by Core Advisory Service Clients will be added to the Client's next quarterly invoice.
- \$300/hour for Clients not engaged under our Core Advisory Service. Fees will be invoiced to Client as time is incurred.

For Financial Consulting Service Clients not engaged under our Core Advisory Service:

- Advisor will provide advice, coaching, or validation in addressing applicable financial topics based on information provided by Client. Client will use their best efforts to provide information promptly to Advisor to facilitate the engagement.
- Advisor will not be providing ongoing monitoring of the Client's personal circumstances, financial objectives, investment portfolio, or plan implementation to make sure the recommendations given at the time of the engagement remain appropriate for the Client. Clients seeking ongoing monitoring of their personal circumstances, financial objectives, investment portfolio, and/or plan implementation should consider the Core Advisory Service.

Investment Selection

Assets are invested primarily in no-load mutual funds and exchange-traded funds, usually through discount brokers or fund companies. Fund companies charge each fund shareholder an investment management fee that is disclosed in the fund prospectus. Transaction fees to buy and sell may be charged by the discount broker or fund company. Argent does not receive any compensation, in any form, from fund companies or brokerage firms.

Other securities that may be considered include: certificates of deposit, municipal / corporate / government debt securities, individual stocks, publicly traded real estate investment trusts, variable life insurance, variable annuities, options contracts, futures contracts, and interests in partnerships. Investments in international securities through U.S. registered mutual funds and exchange traded funds may be considered.

Termination of Agreement

A client may terminate their agreement at any time by notifying Argent in writing. If the client made an advance payment, Argent will refund any unearned portion

of the advance payment. If a client terminates the Core Advisory Service prior to completion of four full calendar quarters any unpaid portion of the first year financial planning fee is due to Argent upon termination.

Item 5: Fees and Compensation

Description

Argent bases its fees on:

- A flat financial planning fee plus a variable investment management fee (Core Advisory Service), or
- 2. Hourly fee (Financial Consulting Service)

Fee Billing

Core Advisory Service fees are billed quarterly in advance. Financial Consulting Service fees incurred by Core Advisory Service Clients will be added to the Client's next quarterly invoice. Financial Consulting Service fees for other clients will be invoiced to Client as time is incurred.

Other Fees

Custodians may charge transaction fees on purchases or sales of certain mutual funds and exchange-traded funds. These transaction charges are usually small and incidental to the purchase or sale of a security. The selection of the security is more important than the nominal fee that the custodian charges to buy or sell the security.

Expense Ratios

Mutual funds and exchange traded funds generally charge a management fee for their services as investment managers. The management fee is called an expense ratio. For example, an expense ratio of 0.50 means that the mutual fund or exchange traded fund company charges 0.50% for their services. These fees are in addition to the fees paid to Argent.

Performance figures quoted by mutual fund companies in various publications are <u>after</u> their fees have been deducted.

Past Due Accounts and Termination of Agreement

Argent reserves the right to stop work on any account that is more than 30 days past due.

Argent reserves the right to terminate the client agreement when:

- The client has willfully concealed or has refused to provide pertinent information about their financial situation that is requisite, in Argent's judgment, to providing proper financial advice.
- A conflict of interest, ethics, or personalities develops that makes continuation of the engagement unfeasible.

Any unused portion of fees collected in advance will be refunded within 30 days.

Item 6: Performance-Based Fees

Sharing of Capital Gains

Fees are <u>not</u> based on a share of the capital gains or capital appreciation of managed securities.

Argent does not use a performance-based fee structure because of the potential conflict of interest. Performance-based compensation may create an incentive for the adviser to recommend an investment that may carry a higher degree of risk than is appropriate for the client.

Item 7: Types of Clients

Description

Argent generally provides investment advice to individuals and high net worth individuals. Client relationships vary in scope and length of service.

Account Minimums

Argent does not have a minimum account size or minimum fee.

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

Methods of Analysis

Security analysis methods may include charting, fundamental analysis, technical analysis, and cyclical analysis.

The main sources of information include financial publications (newspapers, magazines, and websites), inspections of corporate activities, research materials prepared by others, corporate rating services, timing services, annual reports, prospectuses, filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and company press releases.

Other sources of information that Argent may use include Morningstar, mutual fund and brokerage company websites, and the internet.

Investment Strategies

The primary investment strategy recommended for client accounts is strategic

asset allocation utilizing passive investment vehicles. This means:

- 1. Determining the asset allocation that is appropriate for the client given their circumstances, objectives, and risk tolerance. Asset allocation is the mix of various investment classes (e.g. stocks, bonds, etc.) within the client's overall portfolio.
- 2. Implementing that allocation using mostly passive investment vehicles. Passive investment vehicles generally provide benchmark rates of returns (less fees), broad diversification, low costs, and higher tax efficiency as compared to actively managed funds (funds that actively buy and sell securities in an attempt to "beat the market").
- 3. Periodically reviewing and rebalancing the portfolio to the asset allocation targets

The investment strategy for a specific client is based upon the objectives stated by the client during consultations. The client may change these objectives at any time. Each client signs an Investment Policy Statement to document acceptance of the investment approach and their target allocation.

Risk of Loss

All investment programs have certain risks that are borne by the investor. Our investment approach keeps the risk of loss in mind. Investors face the following investment risks:

- Market Risk: The price of a security, bond, or mutual fund may drop in reaction to tangible and intangible events and conditions. This type of risk is caused by external factors independent of a security's particular underlying circumstances. For example, political, economic and social conditions may trigger market events.
- Inflation Risk: When any type of inflation is present, a dollar next year will
 not buy as much as a dollar today, because purchasing power is eroding
 at the rate of inflation.
- Currency Risk: Overseas investments are subject to fluctuations in the value of the dollar against the currency of the investment's originating country. This is also referred to as exchange rate risk.
- Reinvestment Risk: This is the risk that future proceeds from investments may have to be reinvested at a potentially lower rate of return (i.e. interest rate). This primarily relates to fixed income securities.
- Business Risk: These risks are associated with a particular industry or a
 particular company within an industry. For example, integrated oil
 companies depend on finding oil and then refining it, a lengthy process,
 before they can generate a profit.
- Liquidity Risk: Liquidity is the ability to readily convert an investment into cash. Generally, assets are more liquid if many traders are interested in a standardized product. For example, Treasury Bills are highly liquid, while real estate properties are not.
- Financial Risk: Excessive borrowing to finance a business' operations increases financial risk, because the company must meet the terms of its

obligations in good times and bad. During periods of financial stress, the inability to meet loan obligations may result in bankruptcy and/or a declining market value.

Item 9: Disciplinary Information

Legal and Disciplinary

The firm and its employees have not been involved in legal or disciplinary events related to past or present investment clients.

Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations
None

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

Code of Ethics

The employees of Argent have committed to the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ Code of Ethics and National Association of Personal Financial Advisors (NAPFA) Code of Ethics that are available for review by clients and prospective clients upon request.

Participation or Interest in Client Transactions

Argent and its employees may buy or sell securities that are also held by clients. Employees may not trade their own securities ahead of client trades. Employees comply with the provisions of the Argent Compliance Manual.

Personal Trading

The Chief Compliance Officer of Argent is Scott Jacobsmeyer. He reviews all employee trades each quarter. His trades are reviewed by Susan Lipscomb. The personal trading reviews ensure that the personal trading of employees does not affect the markets, and that clients of the firm receive preferential treatment. Most employee trades are in open end mutual funds or exchange-traded funds, so the trades do not affect the securities markets.

Item 12: Brokerage Practices

Selecting Investment Custodians

Argent does not have any affiliation with product sales firms. Specific custodian recommendations are made to clients based on their need for such services.

Argent recommends custodians based on the integrity and financial responsibility of the firm and the best execution of orders at reasonable commission rates.

Argent recommends brokerage firms such as Schwab and Vanguard.

Argent does not receive fees or commissions from any of these arrangements.

Best Execution

Argent reviews the execution of trades at each custodian each quarter. Trading fees charged by the custodians are also reviewed on a quarterly basis. Argent does not receive any portion of the trading fee.

Soft Dollars

"Soft dollars" refers to services received by an investment manager in exchange for directing business to another company (e.g. an investment custodian).

Argent does not participate in any soft dollar arrangements.

Order Aggregation

Argent does not aggregate client orders.

Item 13: Review of Accounts

Periodic Reviews

Account reviews for Core Advisory Service clients are offered quarterly for the first four quarters of engagement, then semi-annually after that. Reviews are conducted by advisors Scott Jacobsmeyer, President, and Susan Lipscomb, Vice President. Account reviews are offered more frequently when market conditions dictate.

Account reviews for Financial Consulting Service clients are initiated at the client's request. Argent does not review these clients' accounts on a regular basis.

Review Triggers

Other conditions that may trigger a review are changes in the tax laws, new investment information, and changes in a client's own situation.

Regular Reports

Core Advisory Service clients receive written reports quarterly for the first four quarters of engagement, then semi-annually after that. These written reports may include an investment portfolio summary, calculation of gains and losses by account, portfolio asset allocation analysis, income summary for taxable accounts, and capital gains or losses summary for taxable accounts.

Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation

Incoming Referrals

Argent has been fortunate to receive many client referrals over the years. The referrals came from current clients, estate planning attorneys, accountants, employees, personal friends of employees and other similar sources. The firm does not compensate referring parties for these referrals.

Referrals Out

Argent does not accept referral fees or any form of remuneration from other professionals when a prospect or client is referred to them.

Item 15: Custody

Account Statements

All assets under management are held at qualified custodians, which means the custodians provide account statements directly to clients at their address of record at least quarterly. These statements should be reviewed promptly and carefully.

Performance Reports

Clients are urged to compare the account statements received directly from their custodians to the performance report statements provided by Argent.

Item 16: Investment Discretion

Trading Authority

Argent provides strictly non-discretionary investment management. This means that all investment recommendations must be specifically approved by the client before we will implement them.

Limited Power of Attorney

A limited power of attorney is a trading authorization. A limited power of attorney is signed so that we may execute the trades that have been approved.

Item 17: Voting Client Securities

Proxy Votes

Argent does not vote proxies on securities or provide recommendations on how to vote proxies. Clients are expected to vote their own proxies.

Item 18: Financial Information

Financial Condition

Argent does not have any financial impairment that will preclude the firm from meeting contractual commitments to clients.

A balance sheet is not required to be provided because Argent does not serve as a custodian for client funds or securities and does not require prepayment of fees of more than \$1,200 per client and for six months or more in advance.