# **Fiduciary Financial Services**

B | R I L E Y<sup>°</sup> Wealth Management



# THIRD QUARTER 2023

### 2023 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

- Thursday, November 23rd, 2023 *Thanksgiving Day* Office closed
- Monday, December 25th, 2023 Christmas Day Office closed

#### FIDUCIARY FINANCIAL SERVICES

13155 Noel Road, Suite 750 Dallas, TX 75240 Office: (972) 934-9070 Fax: (972) 866-4294 www.ffss.net

# TEXT MESSAGES

The SEC requires all Broker/Dealers and Advisory firms to track and save all business related communications with clients. At an industry conference, the SEC's Head of Enforcement stated that the SEC is taking a <u>zero-tolerance approach to off-channel business</u> <u>communications (texting)</u> for broker-dealers and RIAs.

In order to comply with this regulation, B. Riley Wealth has introduced Global Relay for text monitoring. While some of you may have our cell phone numbers, we are now required to use the Global Relay text message app and our direct office phone number in order to text message with you. You do not need to use the Global Relay app to send us a message, just send to the direct office phone number listed below.

RICHARD WRIGHT – (972) 866-4292 REGINA KOLKHORST – (972) 866-4284 MEAGAN WOMACK – (972) 866-4279

Please be aware that Global Relay is a one-to-one text message app. If you include us in a group text, we will only be able to respond to the original sender and other members of the group will not see our response.

## REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION

As the year draws to a close, some of you have not completed your 2023 Required Minimum Distribution. If you wish to do a Qualified Charitable Donation, please contact Regina Kolkhorst or Meagan Womack to received the necessary forms to process these requests.

## REASONS TO CONTACT CLIENT SERVICES

(972) 934-9070

- Do you have a new email address?
- Have you moved?
- Have you changed your phone number?
- Do you have a new bank account?
- Do we know who your Trusted Contact is?

Fee-based advisory services offered through B. Riley Wealth Advisors, Inc., an SECregistered investment adviser. Additional disclosures at www.brileyfin.com/platform

## BE AWARE OF CHECK MAIL FRAUD

A new type of mail check fraud is becoming more of an issue in larger cities. Below is a summary of a real experience that one individual shared.

The individual described wrote a check and took it to his local Post Office Drop Box, the big blues ones. When using this drop box previously, he noticed that the box felt sticky, but this time he saw someone else's mail stuck to the box. He loosened the stuck piece of mail and then put his piece into the box as well.

Fast forward two days...

The individual reviewed his checking account online and noticed a substantial sum of money had been withdrawn by check. After investigating, he found a fraudulent check had been written to someone he didn't know and was deposited. After speaking with the bank about the fraud, it was determined that check he had put in the mailbox was intercepted. More than likely, that sticky substance was being used to capture items before they went to the bottom of the mailbox. The fraudster used a fake check template to put in the individual's check information and then wrote it to themselves. Then they printed it and used Mobile Deposit to deposit the check. A review of the check image showed several issues the bank should have picked up on.

Issues found:

- 1. The signature line for the check was missing the very fine print, which should be visible. It also had breaks in the line, which should not be there.
- 2. On the back of the check, several things were missing. Usually, you will see a watermark on the back of the check, and you should also be able to see print and account numbers on the back. None of this existed.

We wanted to share this so that you are aware this type of fraud is occurring. Something as simple as dropping off your mail has become an attack vector. Please speak with your friends and family about this situation so they know what can happen, and hopefully, it will stop someone from being a victim.