

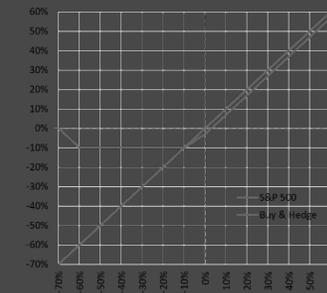
# Since 2011, ZEGA's foundational strategy: Buy & Hedge

January 2026



ZEGA  
INVESTMENTS

The disciplined option



# Disclosure

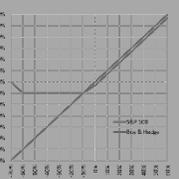
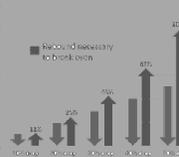
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ZEGA Investments claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. ZEGA has not been independently verified.

**Except where specifically identified otherwise, all performance data in this presentation is the performance of the Separate Account Strategy.**



# About ZEGA Investments LLC

- ❑ ZEGA Investments - SEC Registered Investment Advisor effective 2024 Originally part of ZEGA Financial Founded in 2011
- ❑ ZEGA Investments AUM ~\$500M+ as of 12/31/24.
- ❑ Conservative market positioning that encompasses hedged equity, alternative income, alpha generation and more
- ❑ Authors of the best-seller<sup>1</sup> on hedged equity: *"Buy and Hedge: The 5 Iron Rules for Investing over the Long Term"*
- ❑ Established as a source for option insights on numerous financial media
- ❑ Host of the "Broken Pie Chart Podcast"



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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

**N** Nasdaq

**TheStreet.**

*"ZEGA partners with advisors to deliver options-based solutions that clearly define and align potential returns with an individual client's risk profile.*

*We combine over 140 years of trading experience with our passion to develop forward-thinking strategies that distinguish both our firm...and yours.*

*Never forgetting our adherence to the strictest of ethical codes."*

Jay Pestrinchelli, Founder & Executive  
Chairman

<sup>1</sup> Appeared on Amazon best-seller list for 'Investing' category upon release January 2011

# Meet the ZEGA team



**Derek Moore**  
CEO | CIO

30 + years  
investment  
experience



**Jay Pestrichelli**  
Executive  
Chairman

27 years  
investment  
experience



**Jillian Baker**  
Chief  
Operating  
Officer

20 years  
financial  
experience



**Mike Puck**  
Director of  
Business  
Development

19 years  
investment  
experience



**John McDevitt**  
Chief  
Compliance  
Officer

25 years  
investment  
experience



**Michael Snyder**  
Director of  
Trading

15 years  
investment  
experience



**Shane Skinner**  
Trading  
Manager

5 years  
investment  
experience



**Soupy Chum**  
Operations  
Manager

16 years  
financial  
experience



**Therese Brader**  
Client  
Services  
Manager

14 years  
client service  
experience



**Lynn Pestrichelli**  
Marketing  
Manager

30 years  
marketing  
experience



**Roman Ellefson**  
Business  
Development/  
Operations

4 years  
financial  
experience



**Mateni Yim**  
Performance/  
Data Analyst

1 year  
financial  
experience



**Makai Elep**  
Institutional  
Relationship  
Manager

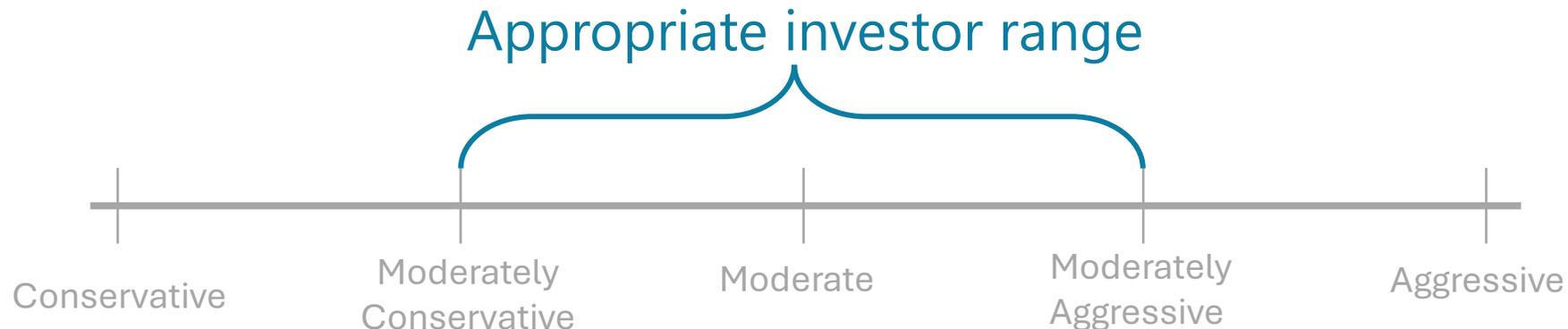
5 years  
financial  
experience

# ZEGA's Buy & Hedge Strategy

- ❑ B&H *buys* stock market exposure to capture 65% to 80% of upside
- ❑ B&H *hedges* to protect clients in severely down markets
- ❑ Portfolio pairs options and yield-focused positions in a strategy built to capture growth while protecting against declines
- ❑ Separate Managed Account structure provides liquidity, transparency, and attention to individual client needs

*In any 12-month period,  
B&H intends to protect  
against equity losses in  
excess of*

**8<sup>to</sup> 10%**

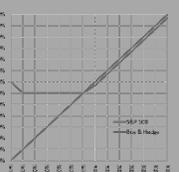
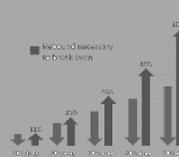
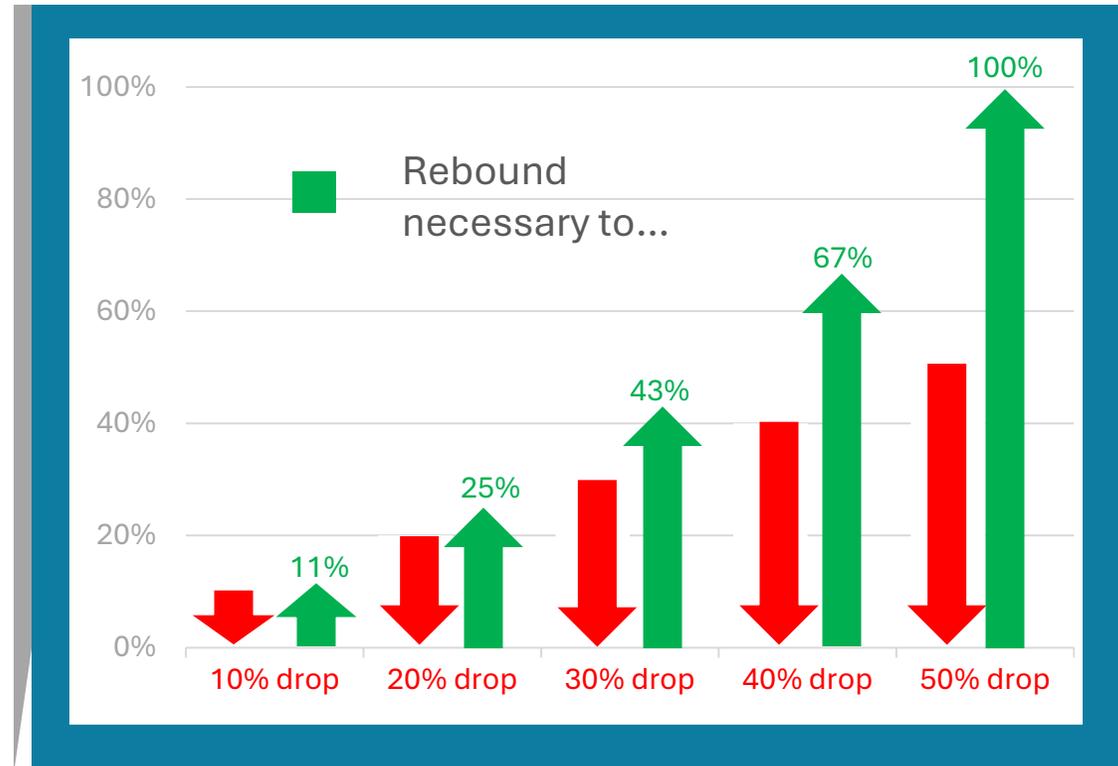


# Why hedge?

- ❑ The S&P 500 suffered an annual decline of >10% five times in the last 22 years
- ❑ Size matters as overcoming larger declines requires an ever greater magnitude of rebound in the market just to break even

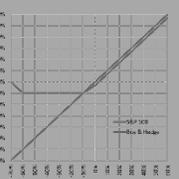
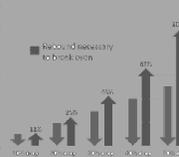
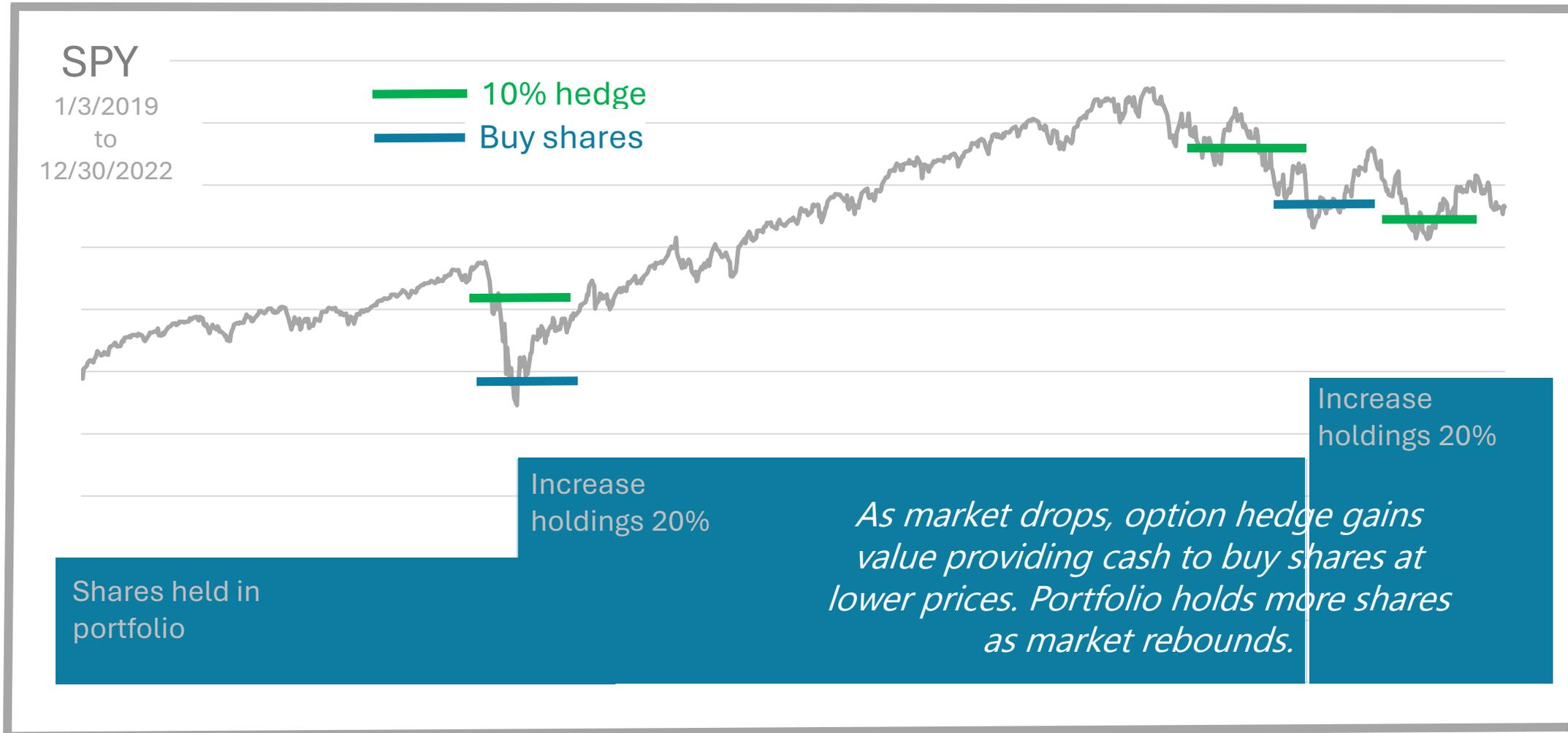
———— 40% drop needs 67% gain ————

- ❑ Avoiding principal losses allows reinvestment at lower market levels potentially increasing investment capital over the long haul
- ❑ Reducing volatility reduces client anxiety allowing for consistent, longer-term investment horizons



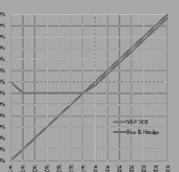
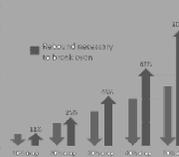
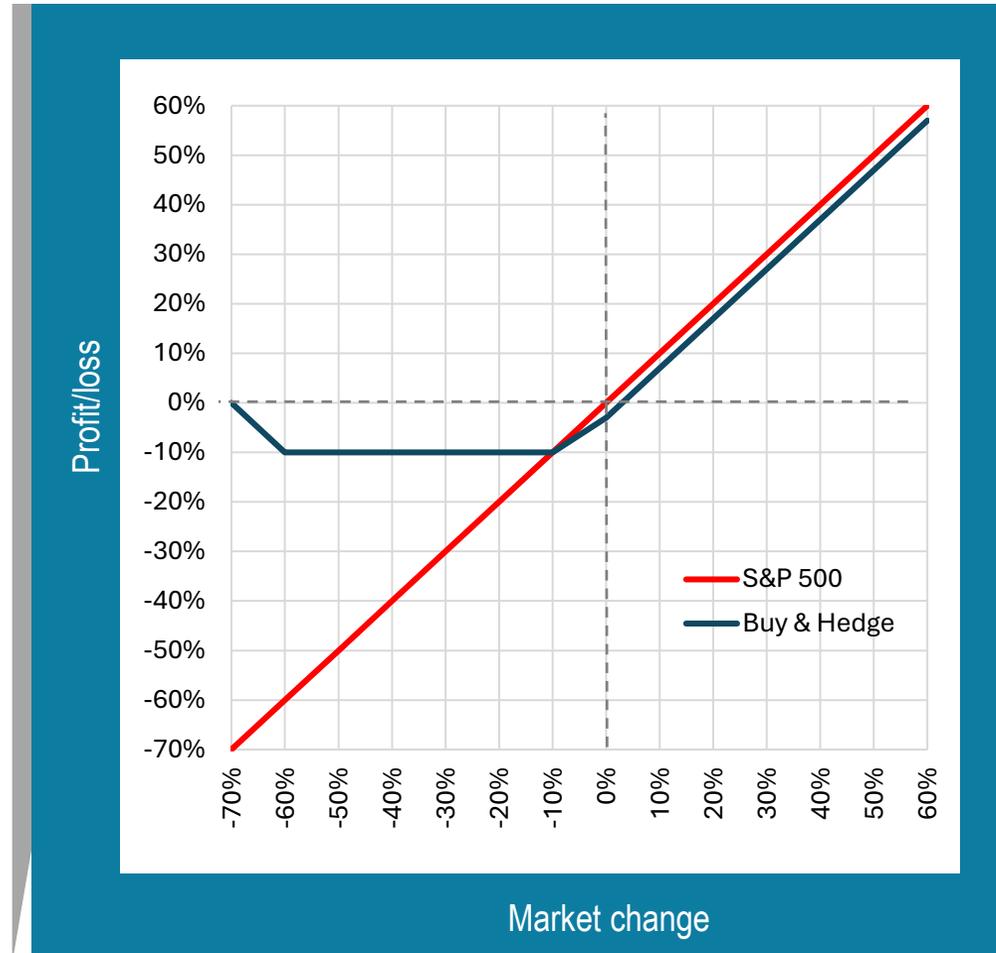
# Theoretical math of hedging

And the two ways to make money: growth in value, reduction in losses



# Buy & Hedge in Classic & Retirement versions

- ❑ B&H equity exposure consists of equity index or option positions depending on which market conditions provide the best advantage for the client
- ❑ Interest rate markets determine which income vehicles B&H holds to offset the cost of certain option positions



# The risks of investing in Buy & Hedge

...and the general downsides of hedging

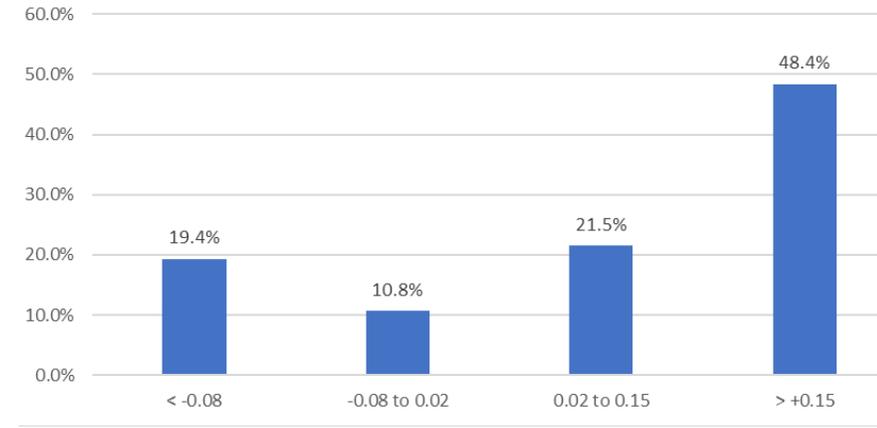
- ❑ B&H does not protect against market losses of less than 8%
- ❑ B&H rarely participates in the full growth of the S&P 500
- ❑ Higher volatility can increase the cost of long options thereby affecting performance
- ❑ Utilizing options to create equity exposure limits direct participation in stock dividends
- ❑ Cost of hedging causes a drag on equity index returns of 2% to 4% annually
- ❑ Yield-based positions expose the portfolio to fixed income risk

*Fast-moving market declines represent the most significant risk in the strategy*

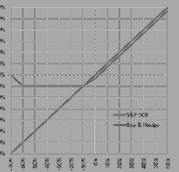
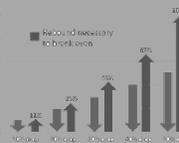
# Historical client expectations

Hedging delivers positive client outcomes ~90% of the time

S&P Ranges Organized to Show Hedge Breakpoints



1-year market change	Historical frequency	Expected hedged equity return	Expected client sentiment
> +15%	~ 50%	Capture 75-85% of upside market move	Happy to participate in strong market gains. Most likely exceeded planned annual return
+2% to +15%	~20%	Capture 65-75% of upside market move	Happy with gains, but slightly disappointed in hedging drag
-8% to +2%	~10%	Underperformance of 2-4% vs. market	Most disappointing situation. Finds little value in the hedges
-100% to -8%	~20%	Losses limited to 8% per year	Max loss experienced, but should be relieved to be hedged. Optimistic about extra upside exposure on a rebound

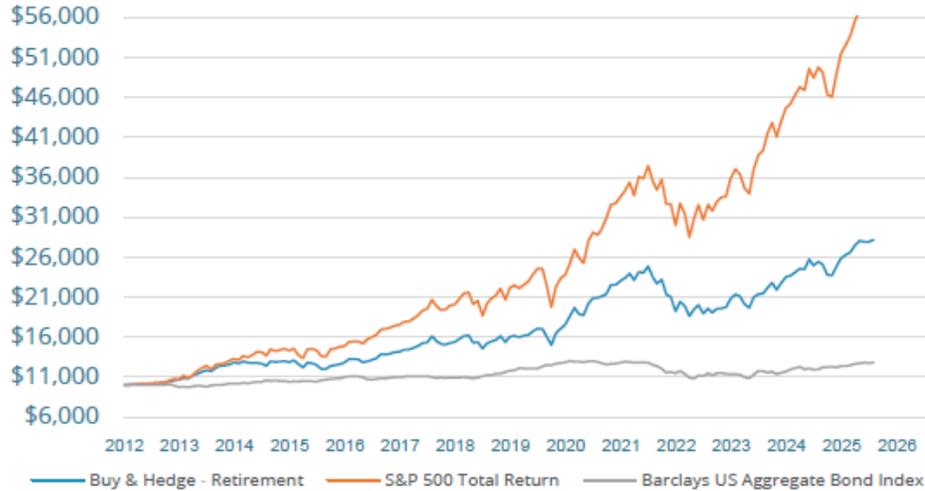


# Buy & Hedge - Retirement Through January 31, 2026

## Performance Statistics

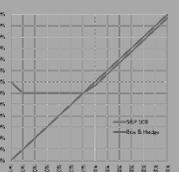
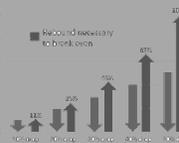
	ZEGA Investments	S&P 500 Total Return	Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index
YTD Return	0.76%	1.45%	0.11%
Ann. Return: 1 year	10.61%	16.36%	6.85%
Ann. Return: 3 years	12.89%	21.12%	3.65%
Ann. Return: 5 years	6.15%	15.00%	-0.18%
Ann. Return: 10 years	8.88%	15.58%	1.89%
Ann. Return: Inception	8.34%	14.56%	1.92%
Annualized Volatility	10.65%	14.13%	4.62%
Sharpe Ratio	0.77	0.91	0.05

## Cumulative Growth (since inception)



## Monthly Performance

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	YTD S&P500
2013			2.68%	1.80%	1.00%	1.03%	1.78%	-0.53%	3.48%	2.07%	2.12%	1.72%	18.48%	24.18%
2014	-1.09%	3.58%	2.11%	0.50%	0.96%	2.09%	-1.33%	2.22%	-1.10%	-0.44%	0.00%	-0.40%	7.19%	13.69%
2015	-2.22%	4.41%	-0.74%	0.50%	0.73%	-1.45%	2.33%	-4.05%	-3.22%	4.89%	-0.59%	-1.83%	-1.66%	1.40%
2016	-3.75%	-0.19%	3.39%	0.52%	1.11%	1.61%	3.34%	0.16%	-0.34%	-2.87%	0.93%	1.52%	5.30%	11.98%
2017	1.68%	3.82%	-0.39%	0.74%	1.50%	0.19%	1.77%	0.20%	1.42%	1.69%	2.33%	0.57%	16.59%	21.84%
2018	4.97%	-3.47%	-2.56%	-0.67%	1.49%	0.62%	2.68%	2.37%	0.45%	-5.61%	0.41%	-5.05%	-4.84%	-4.38%
2019	4.21%	1.76%	1.26%	2.93%	-4.57%	4.28%	0.69%	-1.11%	1.31%	0.72%	2.53%	2.11%	17.00%	31.50%
2020	-0.21%	-5.59%	-6.73%	9.90%	3.50%	3.04%	5.68%	5.89%	-4.05%	-0.69%	7.73%	3.37%	22.29%	18.40%
2021	0.07%	1.11%	1.27%	5.19%	0.30%	1.94%	1.77%	2.32%	-3.60%	4.59%	-0.53%	3.43%	19.04%	28.72%
2022	-5.44%	-3.60%	2.37%	-7.87%	-1.66%	-8.53%	6.24%	-2.78%	-6.12%	4.48%	2.88%	-5.43%	-23.77%	-18.10%
2023	3.30%	-2.48%	2.34%	0.34%	0.71%	5.42%	2.70%	-1.12%	-4.59%	-2.39%	6.75%	1.64%	12.70%	26.27%
2024	0.57%	3.16%	2.90%	-3.86%	4.11%	3.15%	0.69%	1.84%	1.85%	-0.46%	5.08%	-2.88%	16.94%	25.05%
2025	1.96%	-1.53%	-5.24%	-0.16%	4.83%	4.00%	1.62%	1.26%	3.26%	2.11%	-0.43%	0.05%	11.93%	17.89%
2026	0.76%												0.76%	1.45%

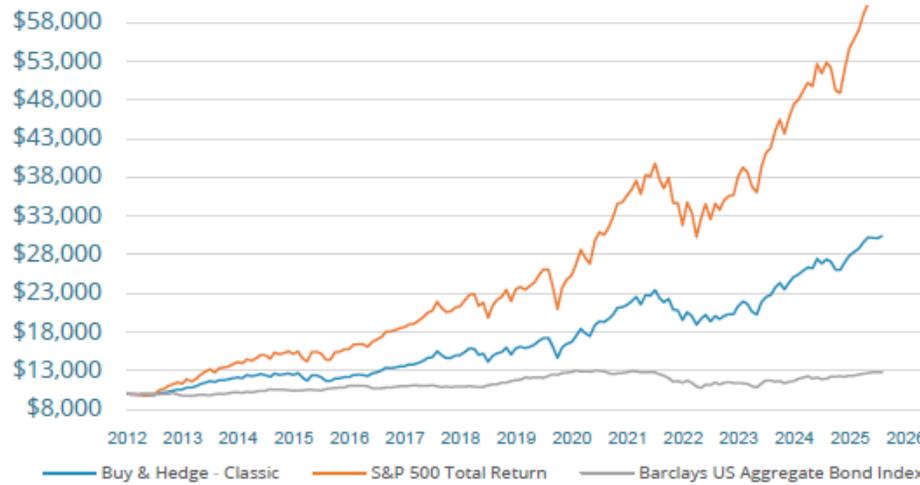


# Buy & Hedge - Classic Through January 31, 2026

## Performance Statistics

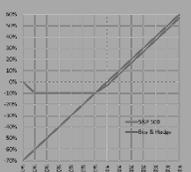
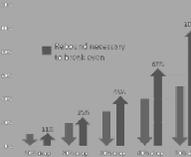
	ZEGA Investments	S&P 500 Total Return	Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index
YTD Return	1.06%	1.45%	0.11%
Ann. Return: 1 year	11.10%	16.36%	6.85%
Ann. Return: 3 years	14.86%	21.12%	3.65%
Ann. Return: 5 years	9.51%	15.00%	-0.18%
Ann. Return: 10 years	10.01%	15.58%	1.89%
Ann. Return: Inception	8.70%	14.59%	1.86%
Annualized Volatility	10.34%	13.98%	4.56%
Sharpe Ratio	0.84	0.93	0.04

## Cumulative Growth (since inception)



## Monthly Performance

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	YTD S&P500
2012													-1.78%	-0.38%
2013	2.81%	0.50%	1.20%	1.39%	1.50%	-0.13%	2.72%	0.00%	1.44%	2.43%	1.75%	1.74%	18.74%	32.39%
2014	-1.00%	1.98%	0.18%	0.52%	1.50%	0.58%	-0.72%	3.51%	-1.39%	1.19%	1.36%	-1.23%	6.55%	13.69%
2015	-1.79%	3.74%	-1.56%	0.75%	0.96%	-1.89%	2.02%	-4.74%	-3.03%	5.78%	-0.02%	-1.95%	-2.19%	1.40%
2016	-3.66%	-0.42%	2.98%	0.23%	1.17%	-0.28%	2.56%	0.21%	-0.36%	-1.31%	3.07%	1.23%	5.34%	11.98%
2017	1.70%	3.00%	-0.61%	0.73%	1.17%	-0.12%	1.97%	0.09%	1.13%	2.14%	2.57%	0.64%	15.32%	21.84%
2018	4.89%	-2.99%	-2.71%	0.23%	2.00%	0.22%	3.01%	2.77%	-0.06%	-5.22%	1.25%	-6.92%	-4.14%	-4.38%
2019	5.36%	2.37%	1.00%	3.66%	-5.67%	5.27%	1.54%	-1.34%	1.14%	1.87%	3.05%	1.88%	21.51%	31.50%
2020	0.36%	-6.24%	-9.34%	8.97%	3.23%	1.07%	4.68%	5.51%	-3.23%	-2.07%	8.02%	2.76%	12.69%	18.40%
2021	-0.37%	1.91%	2.71%	4.44%	0.40%	1.48%	2.15%	2.58%	-4.44%	5.92%	-0.54%	3.28%	20.90%	28.72%
2022	-4.53%	-2.32%	2.12%	-6.52%	-0.32%	-5.95%	5.18%	-2.76%	-5.12%	3.81%	2.52%	-4.03%	-17.28%	-18.10%
2023	3.55%	-2.04%	2.25%	0.88%	0.07%	5.14%	2.96%	-1.58%	-4.51%	-1.90%	7.72%	3.21%	16.18%	26.27%
2024	1.16%	4.20%	2.60%	-3.51%	3.99%	2.92%	1.14%	1.96%	1.57%	-0.46%	4.68%	-2.14%	19.28%	25.05%
2025	1.90%	-0.96%	-3.84%	-0.18%	3.62%	3.31%	1.72%	1.56%	2.86%	2.13%	-0.10%	-0.36%	12.03%	17.89%
2026	1.06%												1.06%	1.45%



For more information – including short videos,  
podcasts, blog posts – on the entire family of  
ZEGA strategies:

[ZEGAInvestments.com](https://ZEGAInvestments.com)

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