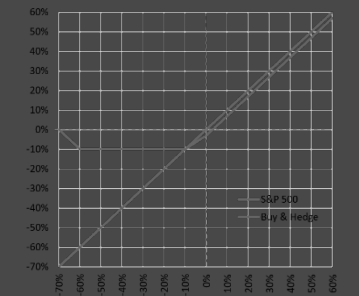


# Since 2011, ZEGA's foundational strategy: Buy & Hedge

February 2026



# Disclosure

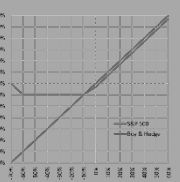
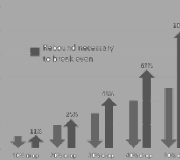
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This presentation should not be regarded as a complete analysis of the subjects discussed. All expressions of opinion reflect the judgment of the adviser as of the date of the presentation and are subject to change.

Past performance may not be indicative of future results. Therefore, no current or prospective client should assume that the future performance of any specific investment or strategy will be profitable or equal to past performance levels. All investment strategies have the potential for profit or loss. Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk, and there can be no assurance that any specific investment or strategy will be suitable or profitable for a client's portfolio. There are no assurances that a portfolio will match or outperform any particular benchmark.

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"



**Bloomberg**

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finance

**FOX**  
BUSINESS

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 Pestrighelli, 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

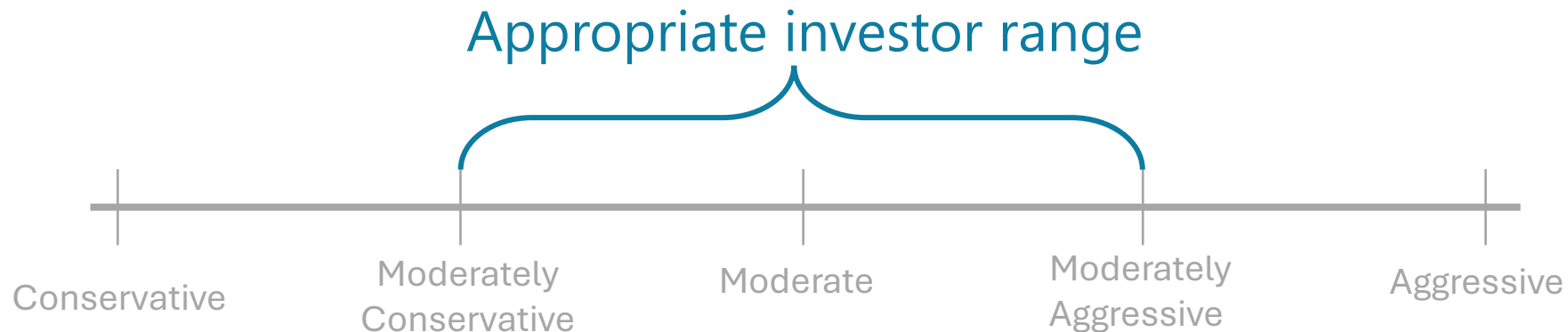
5 years  
financial  
experience

# 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%**

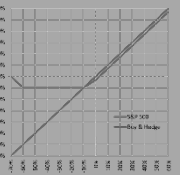
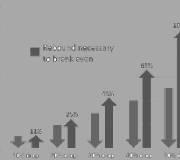
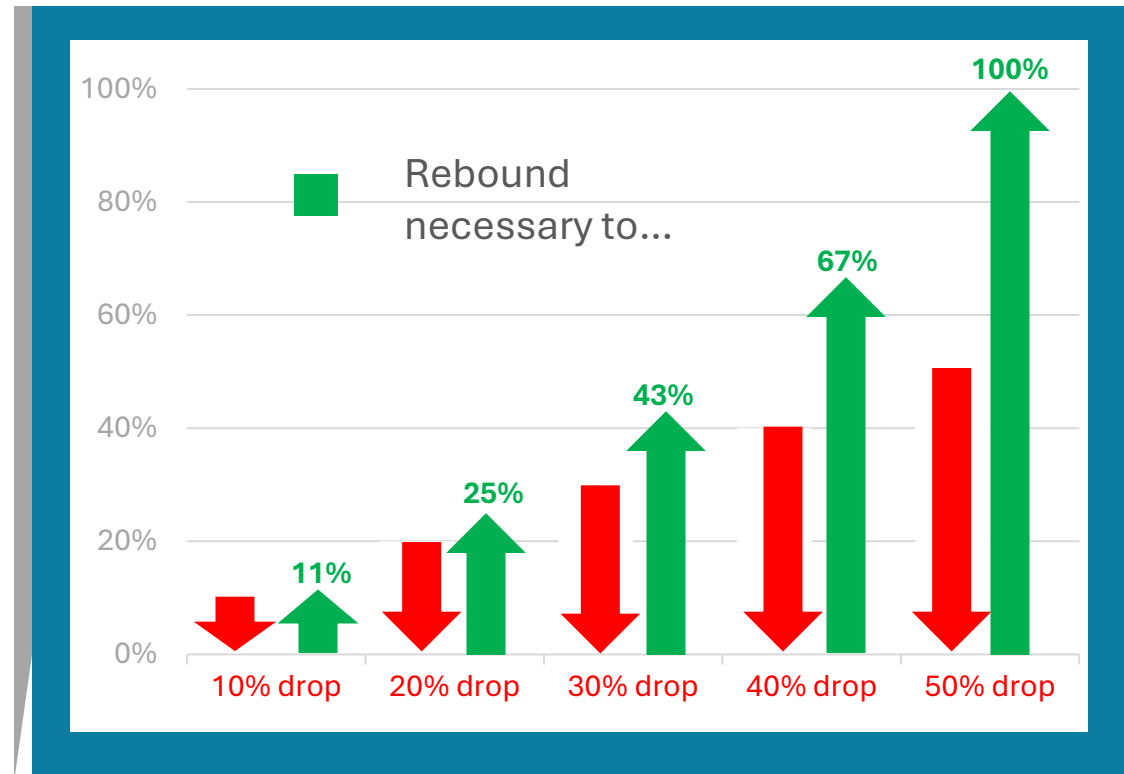


# Why hedge?

- ❑ 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

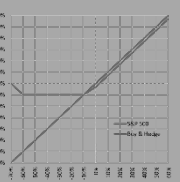
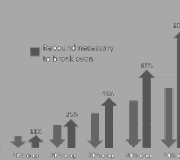
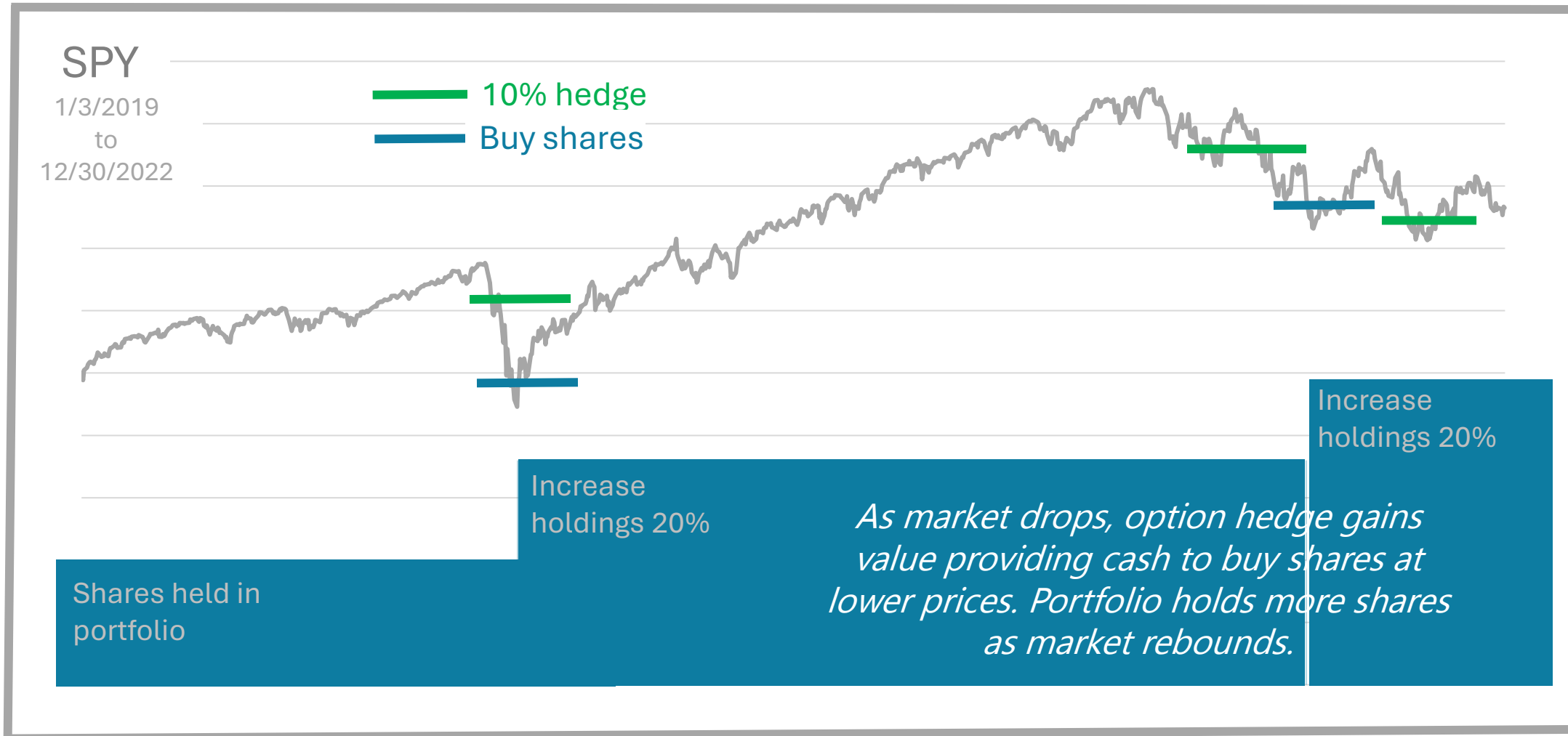
———— 40% drop needs 67% gain ————

- ❑ 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



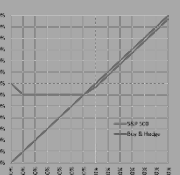
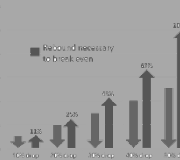
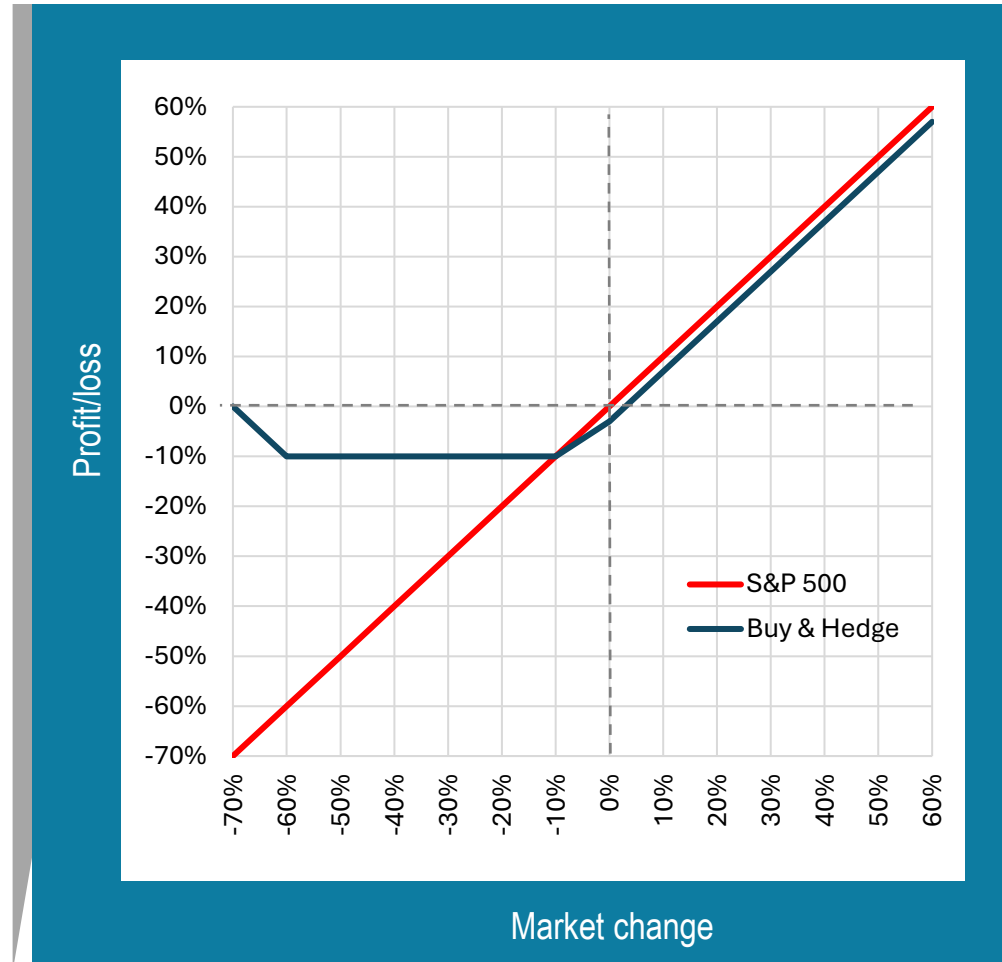
# Theoretical math of hedging

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

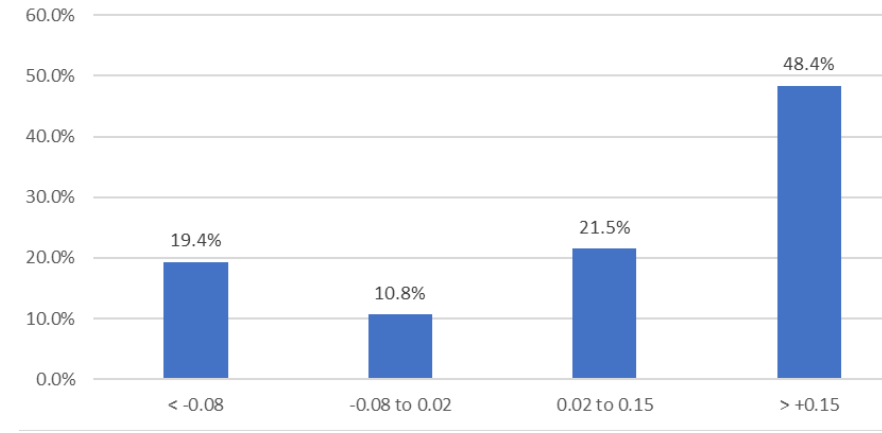
- ❑ B&H does not protect against market losses of less than 8%
- ❑ B&H rarely participates in the full growth of the S&P 500
- ❑ Higher volatility can increase the cost of long options thereby affecting performance
- ❑ Utilizing options to create equity exposure limits direct participation in stock dividends
- ❑ 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*

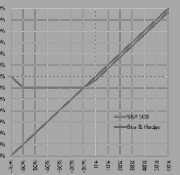
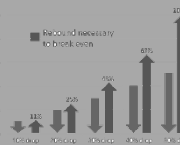
# Historical client expectations

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

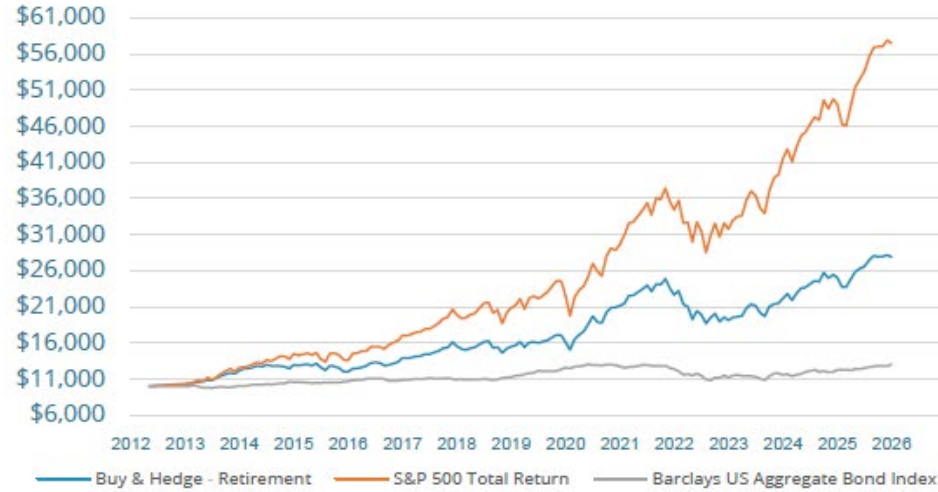


# Buy & Hedge - Retirement Through February 28, 2026

## Performance Statistics

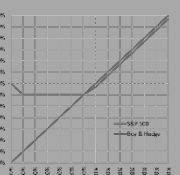
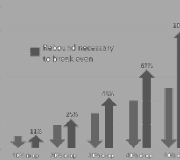
	ZEGA Investments	S&P 500 Total Return	Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index
YTD Return	-0.30%	0.68%	1.75%
Ann. Return: 1 year	11.15%	17.00%	6.26%
Ann. Return: 3 years	13.44%	21.81%	5.13%
Ann. Return: 5 years	5.69%	14.20%	0.44%
Ann. Return: 10 years	8.79%	15.51%	1.98%
Annual Return ITD	8.20%	14.40%	2.04%
Annualized Volatility	10.63%	14.10%	4.63%
Sharpe Ratio	0.76	0.90	0.07

## 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%	-1.05%											-0.30%	0.68%



# Buy & Hedge - Classic Through February 28, 2026

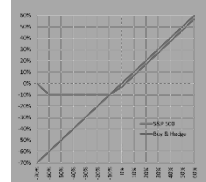
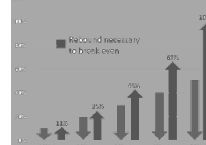
## Performance Statistics

	ZEGA Investments	S&P 500 Total Return	Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index
YTD Return	0.22%	0.68%	1.75%
Ann. Return: 1 year	11.25%	17.00%	6.26%
Ann. Return: 3 years	15.33%	21.81%	5.13%
Ann. Return: 5 years	8.91%	14.20%	0.44%
Ann. Return: 10 years	9.97%	15.51%	1.98%
Annual Return ITD	8.58%	14.43%	1.97%
Annualized Volatility	10.31%	13.95%	4.56%
Sharpe Ratio	0.82	0.92	0.07

## Monthly Performance

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	YTD S&P500
2012										-1.84%	-0.02%	0.08%	-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%	-0.83%											0.22%	0.68%

## Cumulative Growth (since inception)



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

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

[Service@ZEGAInvestments.com](mailto:Service@ZEGAInvestments.com) (email)