

Gerber Kawasaki was founded in 2010 by Ross Gerber and Danilo Kawasaki – industry veterans and longtime friends who thought a new paradigm for wealth and investment management was needed.

In the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, it became evident that the big brokerage firms never had their clients' best interest at heart. The 2008 crisis gave pause to conventional thinking. As these large firms tarnished their reputation, a window was created for new firms with fresh ideas. Clients deserve modern, unbiased, independent financial advice aligned with their goals and tolerance for risk. A firm where your values will match your investments.

Gerber Kawasaki's mission is to provide the highest level of integrity, dedication, and objectivity in guiding their clients holistically to maximize their financial resources while mitigating their risks and preserving their legacy.

With over \$2.5 billion in clients' assets, Gerber Kawasaki is one of the leading investment firms in the country. Recipient of many industry awards, Gerber Kawasaki is a constant presence in the main financial mediums including CNBC, Bloomberg, Fox News, Reuters, Wall Street Journal, LA Times, and many others.

# Who We Are

# Diversity • Integrity • Community

### **WEALTH MANAGEMENT**

### We manage complexity and simplify your life

- Top Industry Certifications & Qualifications
- High-Tech, Human-Centric Service Model
- Collaborative Outreach to Your Team of Professionals
- Bespoke Plans for Every Investor

### **INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT**

### We are investors with real world experience

- Decades of Investment Experience
- Process-Driven Decisions
- Tailored Investment Solutions
- No Proprietary Products

### **TAX SERVICES**

### We strategize and optimize your tax process

- Work Hand-in-hand
- Streamlined communication between adivsor and Tax Professional
- Tactical Driven Tax Process
- Customize strategies with investments
- Organize Bookkeeping & Payroll



Founded



Based



AUM\*



Independent
Investment Management

# Why Gerber Kawasaki



### **Independent Advisory**

We don't sell any proprietary products, and therefore provide objective recommendations for your needs.



Being a fiduciary means we are legally obligated to put our clients' interests first.





### Personalized

We appreciate that our high net worth clients' situations are unique, and so are their portfolios. We design custom plans to fit your own unique situation.



Comprehensive approach encompasses your entire financial life – not just investments. Our expertise includes: tax strategies, estate planning, charitable and legacy planning, as well as risk management.





## Team Approach

Horizontal, not hierarchical business model that pulls equally from the diverse expertise and experience of our entire team.

### Impeccable Regulatory Record

We encourage you to review our clean background by visiting the website: https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/





### **Transparent Fees**

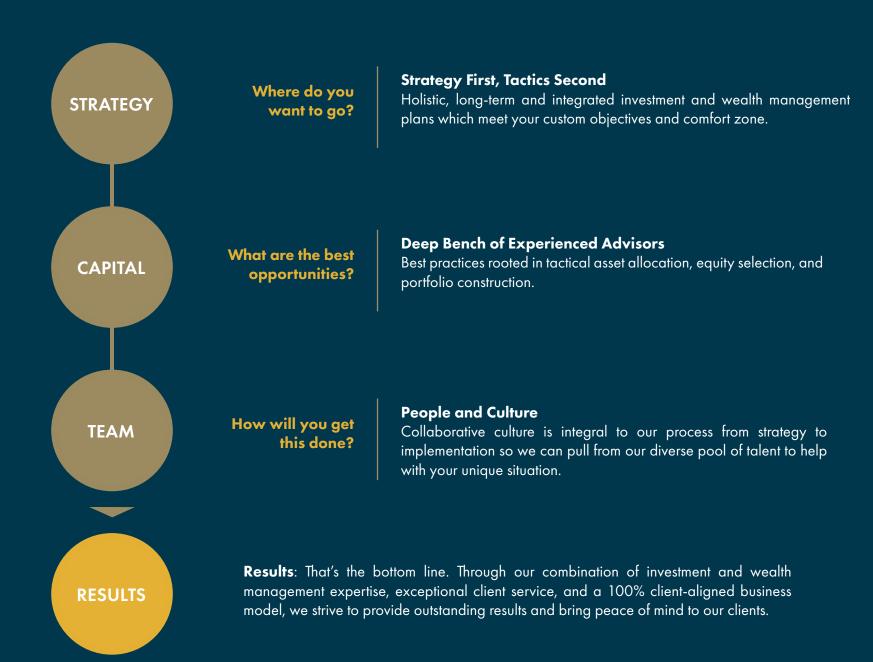
Not only are our fees competitive, but they are simple to understand. Nothing is hidden and we are only paid to give our clients advice.

### **Human Touch + Technology**

Leveraging technology improves the client experience and investment results, but not at the expense of human interaction and nuanced judgement.



# **Holistic Process**



# **Financial Planning Process**

Developing a clear understanding of our clients' issues helps us identify potential strategies to help address their needs and move forward.

### **Discover**

- Needs, Wants, and Dreams
- Tolerance for Risk
- Specific Tax Considerations
- Philanthropic Aspirations
- Legacy Planning

# Designed For You

### **Strategize**

- Portfolio Design
- Optimized Asset Allocation
- Tax & Estate Considerations
- Charitable Planning
- Asset Protection

### **Review**

- Performance Reporting and Benchmarking
- Periodic and Ongoing Reviews
- Investment and Market Commentary
- Ongoing Manager Due Diligence
- Behavioral Coaching

### **Implement**

- Active Portfolio Management
- Tactical Asset Allocation and Rebalancing
- Security Selection
- Manager Selection
- Active Tax Management and Loss Harvesting

# **Investment Process**

CEO and CIO Ross Gerber leads our investment committee, which actively and tactically manages all of our portfolios, company research, and security selection. Our Index + Alpha strategy incorporates our highest conviction ideas though our proprietary equity research to optimize your asset allocation. We believe in holding the highest quality companies with solid growth prospects and strong fundamentals for the long term.

Our tax efficient and tactical asset allocation strategies are designed to dampen volatility and focus on risk adjusted returns.



Impact Investing is in the GK ethos. Socially and environmentally responsible investing doesn't just feel good, it can deliver strong long-term results for our clients. To us, sustainable & conscious companies are tantamount to great investing.

# **Tax Services**

Gerber Kawasaki uses technology to optimize and simplify your tax process. Your investment return is directly impacted by your taxes, and when you work with Gerber Kawasaki Tax and Accounting, your Financial Advisor and CPA are working on the same team.

Say goodbye to passing and confirming information to and from your CPA to your Advisor. Our tax and accounting division streamlines communication between the two without you stuck in the middle. You can now have the peace of mind that all of your investment information is relayed correctly on your tax return. With our all-digital process, we can complete your statements much faster than your traditional accounting firm.

### **Request a Consultation Securely Upload Your** Comprehensive Tax Return Draft **Documents** Review Select a date and Send your documents During your session, Our CPA and your time and add your securely to our CPA. our tax department Financial Advisor will preferred contact will evaluate your email you a tax information. All of our situation and offer return draft and be meetings are tax strategies and readily available to conducted over the alternatives to answer your phone or Zoom. reduce your taxes. 04

# **Services**

Investment Management Equity Compensation Plans

Trust and Estate Services Small Business Planning

Risk Management Tax Planning Solutions

Philanthropic Planning/Charitable Giving Endowments and Foundations

Multigenerational Family Planning and Education Corporate Retirement Plans and Benefits

Wealth Structuring Financial Planning

Business Succession Planning Cash Management Services

Real Estate Solutions and Advisers Collateral Equity Lines of Credit

# Awards & Recognition

Best Places to Work 2020 for Financial Advisors

Investment News

The Most Influential
Wealth Managers in Los Angeles
The Los Angeles Business Journal

40 In Their 40's
Leading Financial Services &
Accounting Professionals
The Los Angeles Business Journal

Excellence In
Diversity & Inclusion
Investment News

**Next-Gen Best-In-State**Wealth Advisors 2019
Forbes

Best of the Westside Best Financial Advisor The Argonaut Newsweekly 40 Under 40
Financial Advisors 2018
Investment News

100 Fastest Growing
Private Companies 2019
The Los Angeles Business Journal

Corporate Social
Responsibility/Diversity
Asset Managers
WealthManagement.com

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# **Ross Gerber**President and CEO

Ross is the Co-Founder, President and CEO of Gerber Kawasaki Wealth & Investment Management. Ross oversees Gerber Kawasaki's corporate and investment management operations as well as serves individual clients. Ross has become one of the most influential investors on social and in traditional media. His investment ideas and advice have made him a regular in global business news and he is featured on CNN, CNBC, Fox Business News, Bloomberg and Reuters as well as a contributing writer for Forbes.com. Ross and the Gerber Kawasaki team oversees \$2.2 billion of investments as of 2/17/23 focused on technology, media and entertainment companies for clients and the firm. Gerber Kawasaki is a leader in Fintech by leveraging technology and social media to work with large diverse client base. GK is a leader in providing investment advice for the younger generation. Ross is an expert in online marketing and social media as well as co-developed the company's app for iOS, My-Moneypage. In 10 years since founding, Gerber Kawasaki has grown to over 40 employees and from \$50 mil to \$2.2 bil of AUM as of 2/17/23.

Ross received his BA in Communications from the Annenberg School at the University of Pennsylvania concentrating in Business Law at the Wharton School of Business, graduating class of 1993. Ross also received a second concentration in Classical Music Studies at the University of Pennsylvania and attended the Grove School of Music. Ross was born and raised in Los Angeles, CA and attended Brentwood High School with the graduating class of 1989.

In 2008, the financial crisis caused the collapse of several major financial institutions and the government bailout of others, challenging the existing state of affairs within the financial industry. Navigating these trying times, Ross understood the importance of focusing on the client's best interest utilizing a modern and unbiased approach to serving the client community. It was during this time that Ross developed his vision for a new type of investment firm, one free of conflicts of interests and focused on serving a diverse client base using technology and leveraging new media.

In 2010, Ross and his business partner, Danilo Kawasaki, felt it was the opportune time to start their own firm, Gerber Kawasaki Inc., aligned with this client-centric mission. Built on the mission to provide clients with customized, objective financial advice, Gerber Kawasaki began with a core group of advisors and specializes in working with two groups of clients, baby boomers and Generation X/Millennials. Ross and Danilo started Gerber Kawasaki with the goal of using online advertising, social media and their financial application, My-MoneyPage, to attract new clients and enhance the client experience as well as to focus on a new market for financial advice, Generation X/Millennials. While maintaining their traditional wealth management business focusing on helping baby boomers plan for retirement and protect their families, Gerber Kawasaki also serves a younger generation of clients through their wealth building program. Gerber Kawasaki serves over 11,000 clients and is one of the fastest growing privately held companies\* in the industry.

Ross currently resides in Pacific Palisades, CA with his family and is on the executive board and is most recent past President of the charitable organization, The Guardians of the Jewish Home. He continues to play music and perform in his free time with his band, The Danger Band and is a co-creator and managing member of Cocoon Music – Malibu.



### Danilo Kawasaki, CFP® CPWA®

### Vice President and COO

Danilo is the Co-Founder, Vice-President and COO of **Gerber Kawasaki**, a wealth and investment management firm. Danilo oversees the compliance and day-to-day operations of the firm as well as serves individuals clients. He is a member of the Gerber Kawasaki Board of Directors and the Investment Selection Committee. In 2018, Danilo was nominated by Investment News as one of the top 40 advisors under the age of 40 in the country (http://www.investmentnews.com/section/40-under-40/2018/profile/10/Danilo-Kawasaki).

Danilo received his BS degree in Business Administration from the University of Redlands. As a scholar athlete, Danilo is a three-time All-American in tennis. Danilo received a certificate in Personal Financial Planning from UCLA and is a Certified Financial Planner™ professional. Danilo also received a certificate in Wealth Management Theory & Practice from Yale School of Management and is a Certified Private Wealth Advisor®.

Danilo was born and raised in Sao Paulo, Brazil where he was a top-ranked junior tennis player, which earned him a scholarship to play tennis in the US. Growing up in Brazil, Danilo learned the importance of proper wealth management at a very young age. With inflation averaging as high as 1000% a year, it was vital to ensure that your money was always working for you.

Danilo started his career in the financial services industry joining SunAmerica Securities in 2002. He moved up the rankings in record time and was promoted to the branch manager position of the West Los Angeles branch by the age of 24. Danilo's conviction that he is doing one of the most important jobs anyone can do in life by helping people save, grow, and preserve their assets helped gross revenues for the branch tripled from 2004 to 2007. Shortly after, his branch became the top office in the company.

The 2008 financial crisis, which resulted in the collapse of large financial institutions and the bailout of many others, challenged the status quo. Large financial institutions got themselves in trouble for not putting their clients interest ahead of their own. Danilo felt that clients deserve modern, unbiased, independent financial advice in line with their goals and tolerance for risk. With all that in mind, Danilo and his business partner, Ross Gerber, founded Gerber Kawasaki Wealth Management. 'It is our mission to have a client-centric practice, provide our clients with quality and objective financial advice, and by combining the latest technology and our personal touch Gerber Kawasaki promises to offer our clients a unique client experience.'

Danilo lives in Pacific Palisades and enjoys spending quality time with his wife, Wendy, and his three kids, Gabi, Tristan, and Bodhi. In his spare time he can be found beating opponents on the paddle tennis courts of the Jonathan Club, playing golf, and practicing yoga and meditation.



# Ruth Cantu Director of Tax

Ruth Cantu is a seasoned tax professional with over 12 years of experience in public accounting serving HNWI Trusts and Estates, along with public and private companies. Upon moving to Los Angeles in 2004, Ruth secured her first large public industry opportunity with Herbalife International Inc. Ruth is an accomplished finance and operations executive known for driving strategic growth and developing customized solutions for internal and external clients. Ruth delivers high-quality financial, administrative, and operational results through streamlined operations, processes, and team structures.

Ruth serves as the Tax Director at Gerber Kawasaki, leading accounting and tax compliance and consulting engagements for high-net-worth individuals, partnerships, multinational corporations, fiduciary, and non-profit organizations. Her expertise spans federal and multinational tax planning, compliance, and reporting. She excels in navigating complex tax regulations, optimizing tax positions, and providing strategic tax advice. Ruth's deep understanding of tax law, regulations, and general information reporting, with an emphasis on common reporting standards, allows her to deliver tailored solutions aligned with clients' financial goals.

Before joining Gerber Kawasaki, Ruth held pivotal roles at Deloitte and Ernst & Young in Houston, Texas. In 2004, Ruth moved with her two children to Redondo Beach, California, where she has served as an executive management professional and advisor to multinational companies like Honda Finance Inc, Marcus & Millichap Real Estate Services, 99 Cents Only Stores, American Homes 4 Rent, and Herbalife. She managed tax accounting, compliance, cross-border transactions, research, strategic tax planning, and analysis for these companies while mentoring junior staff and managing client relationships.

Ruth holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Texas @ Austin and is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in Texas, awaiting reciprocity with the California Board of Accountants (CBA). She is an active member of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and is currently working towards her Certification as a Financial Officer from Kester and Byrnes Columbia Business School, expected to be completed by August 2025. Additionally, Ruth also holds a certification in Women in Leadership from Syracuse University and a Life Insurance license in California.

Ruth is dedicated to giving back to the community, volunteering her time and expertise to various non-profit organizations by providing pro bono tax services and financial education. She currently serves as the VP of Memberships for the Board of Financial Executives International – LA Chapter. Ruth is also a member of C-Sweet – LA Chapter and a member of the City Club of Los Angeles.

Ruth is a single mom of two young adult children: Jonathan, a 33-year-old biotech engineer and avid surfer living in Torrance, California, and Angela, a 30-year-old medical student at the University of Texas in McAllen and first place stunt cheerleader for the Cardinals @ University of Louisville. Ruth is also a doggie Glama to two Great Danes and an emotional support Boston Terrier. Ruth enjoys sports and other outdoor activities: golfing, stand-up paddleboarding, hiking, wine tasting, cooking, and traveling. She is driven by customer satisfaction, leading and mentoring staff, and displays true grit in getting the job done while leading with empathy and compassion.

CA Insurance License # 4075368
TX CPA License # 052706
CA CPA License # To be assigned October 2024 after PETH exam.

# **Disclosures**

The information and data in this presentation were obtained from sources deemed reliable. Their accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed and the giving of the same is not deemed a solicitation on our part with respect to the purchase or sale of any securities or commodities, or any specific investment or strategy. For more information, please contact your Financial Advisor.

Tax laws are complex and subject to change. GERBER KAWASAKI and its financial advisors do not provide tax or legal advice. This material was not intended or written to be used for the purpose of avoiding tax penalties that may be imposed on the taxpayer. Individuals are encouraged to consult their tax and legal advisors (a) before establishing a retirement plan or account, and (b) regarding any potential tax, ERISA and related consequences of any investments made under such plan or account.

The strategies listed may not be suitable for all investors. GERBER KAWASAKI recommends that investors independently evaluate particular strategies, and encourages investors to seek the advice of a financial advisor. The appropriateness of a particular strategies will depend upon an investor's individual circumstances and objectives.

Investors should carefully review and consider potential risks before investing. Some of these risks may include: loss of all or a substantial portion of the investment due to leveraging, short-selling, or other speculative practices; lack of liquidity in that there may be no secondary market for the fund and none is expected to develop; volatility of returns; restrictions on transferring interests; potential lack of diversification and resulting higher risk due to concentration of trading authority when a single advisor is utilized; absence of information regarding valuations and pricing; complex tax structures and delays in tax reporting; less regulation and higher fees than mutual funds; and manager risk. Individual funds will have specific risks related to their investment programs that will vary from fund to fund.

GERBER KAWASAKI offers insurance products in conjunction with its licensed insurance agency affiliates. Since life insurance is medically underwritten, you should not cancel your current policy until your new policy is in force. A change to your current policy may incur charges, fees and costs. A new policy will require a medical exam. Surrender charges may be imposed and the period of time for which the surrender charges apply may increase with a new policy. You should consult with your own tax advisors regarding your potential tax liability on surrenders.

The information, products and services described here are intended only for individuals residing in states where the Financial Advisor is properly registered as described on our website: www.gerberkawasaki.com

Fixed annuities are long-term investment vehicles designed for retirement purposes. Gains from tax-deferred investments are taxable as ordinary income upon withdrawal. Guarantees are based on the claims paying ability of the issuing company. Withdrawals made prior to age 59 ½ are subject to a 10% IRS penalty tax and surrender charges may apply.

Investors should carefully consider the charges and fees associated with a new insurance policy as well as any cost that may be associated with surrendering the current policy.

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