

**Contact:**

John W. McAuley, CIMA®
Head of Intermediary Distribution & Marketing
Sterling Capital Management LLC
4350 Congress Street, Suite 1000 | Charlotte, NC 28209
704.927.4109 | jmcauley@sterlingcapital.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 26, 2020

Sterling Capital Launches Focus Equity ETF

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Sterling Capital Management LLC (Sterling) is pleased to announce the launch of the Focus Equity ETF (NYSE: LCG), which will be available to the public on August 27, 2020. The Focus ETF is the first exchange-traded fund launched by Sterling, and will be the first of several ETFs to be offered on a Sterling ETF platform.

“The creation of this ETF is a first for Sterling, and will greatly enhance our distribution efforts,” said John W. McAuley, CIMA, Head of Intermediary Distribution and Marketing. “We are very confident that this product will be the first in a long line of active ETFs here at Sterling.”

The Fund will be managed by Lead Portfolio Manager Colin R. Ducharme, CFA® and Associate Portfolio Manager Jeremy M. Lopez, CFA®.

“We are excited to broaden our investor access through the new Sterling Capital Focus Equity ETF,” said Ducharme. “The Focus Equity ETF seeks long-term capital appreciation and is performance-focused, active and flexible. We believe this strategy provides significant excess return potential since it invests with conviction and is built to be different from its benchmark. Leveraging unconstrained idea sourcing, we allocate seeking to grow investor capital.”

“Our performance will stem from Sterling Capital’s investment platform, which is backed by our consistent philosophy and tenured team and benefits from access to the broad resources that Truist Financial Corporation provides,” said Lopez. “We bring our group’s “four process pillars” – consisting of the potential for operating growth, strong financial profiles, high profitability, and attractive valuation – to bear on our management of Focus Equity.”

Ducharme continued, “We designed the Fund to include a variety of strong companies with skilled management who can benefit from attractive sector themes. We also believe our long-term approach may help make the Fund more tax efficient.”

Ducharme and Lopez have worked at Sterling for nine years and four years, respectively, and co-manage a similar strategy on a separately managed account platform. They have more than 37 years of combined investment experience.

About the Team

Colin Ducharme has investment experience since 2004. He received his BA in Physics from the University of Virginia and his MBA and SM in Materials Science and Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He holds the CFA® designation.

Jeremy Lopez has investment experience since 1997. He received his BA in Economics from Wheaton College and his MBA from the University of Chicago’s Booth School of Business. He holds the CFA® designation.

**Contact:**

John W. McAuley, CIMA®
Head of Intermediary Distribution & Marketing
Sterling Capital Management LLC
4350 Congress Street, Suite 1000 | Charlotte, NC 28209
704.927.4109 | jmcauley@sterlingcapital.com

About the Fund

The Fund is an actively managed exchange traded fund (“ETF”). The Fund seeks to outperform the Russell 1000® Growth Index with a portfolio of 15 to 30 stocks. The adviser employs a bottom-up fundamental investment process to select stocks in companies that, in its view, demonstrate potential for sustainable competitive advantages, visible reinvestment opportunities, and have experienced management teams. These companies have the potential for consistent revenue and free cash flow growth, high profitability, strong balance sheets, and attractive valuations compared to their peers, although each individual holding may not have all of these qualities.

About Sterling Capital Management LLC*

Sterling Capital Management LLC, is a registered investment advisor founded in 1970, with over \$71 billion in assets under management and assets under advisement as of June 30, 2020. Sterling is an independently managed firm backed by Truist Financial Corporation. Headquartered in Charlotte, NC, Sterling is comprised of 169 seasoned investment professionals, client service and administrative associates, with offices in Raleigh, NC, Washington, DC, Richmond and Virginia Beach, VA, Jupiter, FL, Philadelphia, PA and San Francisco, CA. Sterling provides investment management services to a diverse group of clients, including corporate, public, health care, private clients, endowment, foundation, insurance, sub-advisory and managed investment pools.

*Sterling’s preliminary Assets Under Advisement (“AUA”) differs from our regulatory Assets Under Management (“AUM”) for which we provide continuous and regular investment management services as disclosed in our ADV. AUA generally refers to non-discretionary assets for which Sterling provides advice or consultation for which Sterling does not have authority to effectuate transactions. Such services include Model portfolios and assets Sterling advises as an outsourced Chief Investment Officer on a non-discretionary basis. Sterling personnel and office location data is as of 08.03.2020.

Disclosures

There is no guarantee that any investment strategy will achieve its objectives, generate profits or avoid losses.

Sterling Capital personnel are not permitted to give legal or tax advice.

A Note on Indices

The volatility of an index varies greatly and investments cannot be made directly in an index. Unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses or sales charges. The referenced indices are shown for general market comparisons and are not meant to represent the Fund. It should be noted that there will be differences in the composition of the portfolio when compared to the benchmarks listed. Those differences will need to be considered when comparing the results.

Russell 1000® Growth: The Russell 1000® Growth Index measures the performance of growth style of investing in Large Cap U.S. stocks. The Growth Index contains those securities with greater-than-average growth orientation.

Sterling Capital Management LLC, a separate subsidiary of BB&T Corporation now Truist Financial Corporation, serves as investment adviser to the Sterling Capital Focus Equity ETF and is paid a fee for its services. Shares of the Sterling Capital Focus Equity ETF are not deposits or obligations of, or guaranteed or endorsed by, Branch Banking and Trust Company now Truist Bank or its affiliates. The Sterling Capital Focus Equity ETF is not insured by the FDIC or any other government agency. The Sterling Capital Focus Equity ETF is distributed Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, member FINRA/SIPC, which is not affiliated with Branch Banking and Trust Company now Truist Bank or its affiliates.



Contact:

John W. McAuley, CIMA®
Head of Intermediary Distribution & Marketing
Sterling Capital Management LLC
4350 Congress Street, Suite 1000 | Charlotte, NC 28209
704.927.4109 | jmcauley@sterlingcapital.com

Risk Considerations

Investing involves risk. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate, and an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost.

The fund is new with limited operating history. ETFs are subject to investment advisory and other expenses, which will be indirectly paid by the Fund. ETFs are subject to issuer risks and other risks specific to the Fund. As a non-diversified fund, the Fund may invest more than 5% of total assets in the securities of one or more issuers. A concentrated portfolio may add a measure of volatility to performance, as a major fluctuation in any one holding will likely affect the fund more than a fund with greater diversification.

Shares of any ETF are bought and sold at market price (not NAV), may trade at a discount or premium to NAV and are not individually redeemed from the Fund. Brokerage commissions will reduce returns. The Fund may face more risks than if it were diversified broadly over numerous industries or sectors.

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Sterling Capital Focus Equity ETF. This and other important information about the Fund is contained in the prospectus, which can be obtained at www.sterlingcapital.com/ETF or by calling 888-637-7798. The prospectus should be read carefully before investing. The Sterling Capital Focus Equity ETF is distributed by Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, member FINRA/SIPC. Sterling Capital Management is not affiliated with Northern Lights Distributors, LLC.

SOURCE: Sterling Capital Management LLC

Not a deposit • Not FDIC insured • May lose value • Not guaranteed by the bank • Not insured by any government agency

3947-NLD-8/26/2020