

# Serenity Wealth Management Advises on Smarter Retirement Planning Strategies and Pension Elections

*How to solve the "pension dilemma": what to think about when making pension elections.*

LONG BEACH, CA, UNITED STATES, June 24, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As retirement draws near, many couples face a critical decision regarding pension elections that could significantly impact their financial future. [Serenity Wealth Management](#) explores alternative strategies that offer greater protection and financial viability, urging individuals to rethink conventional life-plus-spouse pension elections.

Pensions, traditionally perceived as a stable financial asset for retirees, often come with limitations that may leave surviving spouses inadequately covered. Curtis Hill, Founder of Serenity Wealth Management, emphasizes the importance of understanding and evaluating these choices: "Many retirees default to the options offered by their employers, not realizing that there are more effective strategies that can offer better financial security."

## **\*\*The Pension Dilemma: A Closer Look\*\***

During retirement planning, many employees are presented with options like the life-plus-spouse pension election, which, while offering reduced payments to the employee, allows a continuation of benefits to the surviving spouse. However, these options often result in significantly reduced monthly payouts, limiting liquidity and cash flow during retirement. Moreover, if both spouses pass away shortly after retirement, the plan offers no inheritance for heirs, underscoring the need for solutions that support estate planning and financial legacy.

Hill points out the potential pitfalls in these traditional elections. "A reduced monthly pension



Choosing the Best Option for Your Loved Ones



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*Curtis Hill*

can unnecessarily limit cash flow. If either spouse falls ill or incurs unexpected expenses, this can create financial strain. Additionally, these plans do not support leaving a legacy for children or heirs, a crucial aspect often overlooked."

#### **\*\*Alternative Strategies: Leveraging Life Insurance\*\***

To counter these limitations, Serenity Wealth Management recommends considering life insurance options as a

substitute for reduced pension payments. For instance, instead of opting for a spousal continuation pension that offers lower monthly amounts, retirees can choose a full, unreduced pension plan and use the difference to purchase term or permanent life insurance.

This strategy not only provides a potentially higher, tax-free payout to surviving spouses but also extends benefits to the next generation. By converting additional pension income into life insurance, retirees can ensure both spousal coverage and a legacy for heirs.

"Permanent life insurance options like Guaranteed Universal Life (GUL) or Indexed Universal Life (IUL) insurance provide long-term coverage while also offering cash value benefits," explains Irina Hill, Co-Founder of Serenity Wealth Management. "These plans can supplement other retirement income sources and provide security against unforeseen medical expenses."

#### **\*\*[The Role of Financial Planning](#)\*\***

A key message from Serenity Wealth Management is the importance of consulting with a professional financial advisor before making retirement decisions. Many employees depend solely on guidance from HR departments, which may not always provide comprehensive financial advice.

"Working with a knowledgeable financial advisor can prevent costly mistakes and empower individuals to make informed decisions," Curtis Hill advises. "At Serenity Wealth Management, we focus on creating holistic financial plans that align with personal goals and risk tolerance."

#### **\*\*[About Serenity Wealth Management](#)\*\***

Serenity Wealth Management, led by Curtis Hill and Irina Hill, prides itself on offering independent, customized financial planning services. As fiduciary advisors, Curtis, a Certified Financial Planner®, and Irina, a Certified Public Accountant, develop strategic solutions tailored to enhancing wealth and security throughout retirement. Their commitment to client-focused service ensures that each plan prioritizes individual needs over all else.

**\*\*Please Note:\*\*** This press release is provided for informational purposes only. Potential investors should consult financial professionals before making any changes based on these strategies.

Irina Hill

Serenity Wealth Management

+1 310-467-2277

[irina@serenitywealthmanagement.com](mailto:irina@serenitywealthmanagement.com)

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