As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 1, 2024

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8 **REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Zevra Therapeutics, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

20-5894398 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1180 Celebration Boulevard, Suite 103 Celebration, FL 34747 (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Zevra Therapeutics, Inc. Amended and Restated 2023 Employment Inducement Award Plan

(Full Title of the Plan)

R. LaDuane Clifton, CPA Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer Zevra Therapeutics, Inc. 1180 Celebration Boulevard, Suite 103 Celebration, FL 34747

(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

(321) 939-3416 (Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

Copies to:

Nathan Ajiashvili, Esq. Latham & Watkins LLP 1271 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020 (212) 906-1200

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

| Large accelerated filer | | Accelerated filer | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| Non-accelerated filer | X | Smaller reporting company | X |
| | | Emerging growth company | |
| | | | |

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act. \Box

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A Registration Statement of the Registrant on Form S-8 relating to the Registrant's 2023 Employment Inducement Award Plan is effective. This Registration Statement on Form S-8 is being filed for the purpose of registering an additional 3,000,000 shares of the Registrant's Common Stock to be issued pursuant to the amendment by the Registrant's board of directors of the 2023 Employment Inducement Award Plan (as amended, the "Amended and Restated 2023 Employment Inducement Award Plan").

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION STATEMENTS ON FORM S-8

The contents of the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. <u>333-270341</u>), including any amendments thereto, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"), are incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Registration Statement.

Item 8. Exhibits.

Exhibit Number

- 4.1 Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-36913) filed on April 21, 2015)
- 4.2 Certificate of Amendment of Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant, effective as of December 23, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-36913) filed on December 23, 2020)
- 4.3 Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant, effective as of February 21, 2023 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-36913) filed on February 24, 2023)
- 4.4 Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-36913) filed on February 22, 2024)
- 5.1* Opinion of Latham & Watkins LLP
- 23.1* Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
- 23.3* Consent of Latham & Watkins LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)
- 24.1 <u>Power of Attorney (included on signature page)</u>
- 99.1 Zevra Therapeutics, Inc. 2023 Employment Inducement Award Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7.8 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K (File No. 001-36913) filed on April 1, 2024)

107.1* Filing Fee Table

* Filed herewith

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Celebration, State of Florida, on this 1st day of April, 2024.

Zevra Therapeutics, Inc.

By: /s/ R. LaDuane Clifton R. LaDuane Clifton, CPA Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints Neil F. McFarlane. and R. LaDuane Clifton, CPA and each or any one of them, his lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their or his substitutes or substitute, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| Signature | Title | Date |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| /s/ Neil F. McFarlane Neil F. McFarlane | President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer) | April 1, 2024 |
| /s/ R. LaDuane Clifton R. LaDuane Clifton, CPA | Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer (Principal Financial Officer) | April 1, 2024 |
| /s/ Timothy J. Sangiovanni Timothy J. Sangiovanni, CPA | Senior Vice President, Corporate Controller (Principal Accounting Officer) | April 1, 2024 |
| /s/ Thomas D. Anderson Thomas D. Anderson | Director | April 1, 2024 |
| /s/ John B. Bode John B. Bode | Director | April 1, 2024 |
| /s/ Douglas W. Calder Douglas W. Calder | Director | April 1, 2024 |
| /s/ Wendy Dixon, Ph.D. Wendy Dixon, Ph.D. | Director | April 1, 2024 |
| /s/ Tamara A. Favorito Tamara A. Favorito | Director | April 1, 2024 |
| /s/ Alvin Shih Alvin Shih | Director | April 1, 2024 |
| /s/ Corey Watton Corey Watton | Director | April 1, 2024 |

LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

April 1, 2024

1271 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10020-1401 Tel: +1.212.906.1200 Fax: +1.212.751.4864 www.lw.com FIRM / AFFILIATE OFFICES Austin Milan Beijing Munich Boston New York Brussels Orange County Century City Paris Riyadh Chicago San Diego Dubai Düsseldorf San Francisco Frankfurt Seoul Hamburg Shanghai Hong Kong Silicon Valley Houston Singapore London Tel Aviv Los Angeles Tokyo Madrid Washington, D.C.

Zevra Therapeutics, Inc.

1180 Celebration Boulevard, Suite 103 Celebration, FL 34747

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-8; 3,000,000 shares of Zevra Therapeutics, Inc. Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share

To the addressee set forth above:

We have acted as special counsel to Zevra Therapeutics, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), in connection with the preparation and filing by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") of a registration statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), relating to the issuance by the Company of up to 3,000,000 shares of common stock of the Company, \$0.0001 par value per share (the "Shares"), issuable under the Zevra Therapeutics, Inc. Amended and Restated 2023 Employment Inducement Award Plan (the "Plan"). This opinion is being furnished in connection with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K under the Act, and no opinion is expressed herein as to any matter pertaining to the contents of the Registration Statement or the Shares.

As such counsel, we have examined such matters of fact and questions of law as we have considered appropriate for purposes of this letter. With your consent, we have relied upon certificates and other assurances of officers of the Company and others as to factual matters without having independently verified such factual matters. We are opining herein only as to the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "DGCL"), and we express no opinion with respect to any other laws.

Subject to the foregoing and the other matters set forth herein, it is our opinion that, as of the date hereof, when the Shares shall have been duly registered on the books of the transfer agent and registrar therefor in the name or on behalf of the recipients thereof, and have been issued by the Company for legal consideration in excess of par value in the circumstances contemplated by the Plan, assuming in each case that the individual grants or awards under the Plan are duly authorized by all necessary corporate action and duly granted or awarded and exercised in accordance with the requirements of law and the Plan (and the agreements and awards duly adopted thereunder and in accordance therewith), the issue and sale of the Shares will have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action of the Company, and the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. In rendering the foregoing opinion, we have assumed that the Company will comply with all applicable notice requirements regarding uncertificated shares provided in the DGCL

This opinion is for your benefit in connection with the Registration Statement and may be relied upon by you and by persons entitled to rely upon it pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Act. We consent to your filing this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not thereby admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder.

Sincerely,

s/ Latham & Watkins LLP

Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8) pertaining to the Zevra Therapeutics, Inc. 2023 Employment Inducement Award Plan of our report dated April 1, 2024, with respect to the financial statements of Zevra Therapeutics, Inc. included in its Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2023, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Orlando, Florida April 1, 2024

CALCULATION OF FILING FEE TABLE

FORM S-8 (Form Type)

Zevra Therapeutics, Inc. xact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter) (Exact Na

Table I: Newly Registered Securities

| Plan | | | Fee | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | Security | | Calculation | Amount | Proposed Maximum Offering | Maximum Aggregate | | Amount of |
| | Туре | Security Class Title | Rule | Registered ⁽¹⁾ | Price Per Unit | Offering Price | Fee Rate | Registration Fee |
| Amended and Restated 2023 Employment | Equity | Common Stock, par value | Rule 457(c) | 3,000,000(2) | \$5.73(3) | \$ 17,190,000.00 | \$147.60 per | \$2,537.25 |
| Inducement Award Plan | | \$0.0001 per share | and 457(h) | | | | million dollars | |
| Total Offering Amounts | | | | | \$17,190,000.00 | | \$2,537.25 | |
| Total Fee Offsets | | | | | | | <u>\$</u> | |
| | Net Fee Due | | | | | | | \$2,537.25 |

(1) In accordance with Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("Securities Act"), this registration statement shall be deemed to cover any additional securities that may from time to time be offered or (1) in accordance with Kute 410(a) under the Securities Act of 1955, as antended (Securities Act), this registration statement shall be deemed to cover any additional securities and may from time to time to time to other do risk and the stated 2023 Employment Inducement Act), this registration statement shall be deemed to cover any additional securities for stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions. In addition, pursuant to Rule 416(c) under the Securities Act, this registration statement also covers an indeterminate amount of interests to be offered or sold pursuant to the Inducement Plan.
 (2) Consists of 3,000,000 shares of Common Stock that may become issuable under the Inducement Plan pursuant to its terms.
 (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) and 457(h) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Common Stock to the View Med 2021 to the View Med 20

Stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on March 27, 2024.