



IAPD Report

William B Stevenson III

CRD# 1217172

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>
Report Summary	1
Qualifications	2 - 5
Registration and Employment History	6
Disclosure Information	7



When communicating online or investing with any professional, make sure you know who you're dealing with. [Imposters](#) might link to sites like BrokerCheck from [phishing](#) or similar scam websites, or through [social media](#), trying to steal your personal information or your money.

Please contact FINRA with any concerns.



IAPD Information About Representatives

IAPD offers information on all current-and many former representatives. Investors are strongly encouraged to use IAPD to check the background of representatives before deciding to conduct, or continue to conduct, business with them.

What is included in a IAPD report?

IAPD reports for individual representatives include information such as employment history, professional qualifications, disciplinary actions, criminal convictions, civil judgments and arbitration awards.

It is important to note that the information contained in an IAPD report may include pending actions or allegations that may be contested, unresolved or unproven. In the end, these actions or allegations may be resolved in favor of the representative, or concluded through a negotiated settlement with no admission or finding of wrongdoing.

Where did this information come from?

The information contained in IAPD comes from the Investment Adviser Registration Depository (IARD) and FINRA's Central Registration Depository, or CRD, (see more on CRD below) and is a combination of:

- information the states require representatives and firms to submit as part of the registration and licensing process, and
- information that state regulators report regarding disciplinary actions or allegations against representatives.

How current is this information?

Generally, representatives are required to update their professional and disciplinary information in IARD within 30 days.

Need help interpreting this report?

For help understanding how to read this report, please consult NASAA's IAPD Tips page <http://www.nasaa.org/IAPD/IARReports.cfm>

What if I want to check the background of an Individual Broker or Brokerage Firm?

To check the background of an Individual Broker or Brokerage firm, you can search for the firm or individual in IAPD. If your search is successful, click on the link provided to view the available licensing and registration information in FINRA's BrokerCheck website.

Are there other resources I can use to check the background of investment professionals?

It is recommended that you learn as much as possible about an individual representative or Investment Adviser firm before deciding to work with them. Your state securities regulator can help you research individuals and certain firms doing business in your state. The contact information for state securities regulators can be found on the website of the North American Securities Administrators Association <http://www.nasaa.org>



Report Summary

William B Stevenson III (CRD# 1217172)

The report summary provides an overview of the representative's professional background and conduct. The information contained in this report has been provided by the representative, investment adviser and/or securities firms, and/or securities regulators as part of the states' investment adviser registration and licensing process. The information contained in this report was last updated by the representative, a previous employing firm, or a securities regulator on **02/16/2026**.

CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
B	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	CRD# 7691	10/03/1986
IA	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	CRD# 7691	04/12/1998

QUALIFICATIONS

This representative is currently registered in **6** SRO(s) and **29** jurisdiction(s).

Is this representative currently Inactive or Suspended with any regulator? **No**

Note: Not all jurisdictions require IAR registration or may have an exemption from registration.

Additional information including this individual's qualification examinations and professional designations is available in the Detailed Report.

REGISTRATION HISTORY

This representative was previously registered with the following firm(s):

	FIRM	CRD#	LOCATION	REGISTRATION DATES
B	FIRST JERSEY SECURITIES, INC.	6621	LOCATION	12/21/1983 - 09/18/1986

For additional registration and employment history details as reported by the individual, refer to the Registration and Employment History section of the Detailed Report.

DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

Disclosure events include certain criminal charges and convictions, formal investigations and disciplinary actions initiated by regulators, customer disputes and arbitrations, and financial disclosures such as bankruptcies and unpaid judgments or liens.

Are there events disclosed about this representative? **Yes**

The following types of events are disclosed about this representative:

Type	Count
Customer Dispute	6



Qualifications

REGISTRATIONS

This section provides the SRO, states and U.S. territories in which the representative is currently registered and licensed, the category of each registration, and the date on which the registration becomes effective. This section also provides, for each firm with which the representative is currently employed, the address of each location where the representative works. This individual is currently registered with **29** jurisdiction(s) and 6 SRO(s) through his or her employer(s).

Employment 1 of 1

Firm Name: **MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED**
Main Address: ONE BRYANT PARK
NEW YORK, NY 10036
Firm ID#: 7691

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	05/14/2014
B	Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	05/14/2014
B	Cboe Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	03/03/1991
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/03/1986
B	Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Representative	Approved	07/12/2006
B	New York Stock Exchange	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/07/1986
B	Alabama	Agent	Approved	11/24/2021
B	Arizona	Agent	Approved	09/20/1990
B	California	Agent	Approved	10/09/1987
B	Colorado	Agent	Approved	05/07/2002
B	Connecticut	Agent	Approved	03/14/2024
B	District of Columbia	Agent	Approved	02/17/2026
B	Florida	Agent	Approved	03/08/1990



Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	07/22/2016
B	Idaho	Agent	Approved	04/21/2017
B	Illinois	Agent	Approved	10/03/1986
IA	Illinois	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	04/12/1998
B	Indiana	Agent	Approved	11/22/2023
B	Iowa	Agent	Approved	02/16/2026
B	Maine	Agent	Approved	02/07/2014
B	Maryland	Agent	Approved	02/19/2026
B	Michigan	Agent	Approved	07/21/1994
B	Minnesota	Agent	Approved	09/01/1992
B	New Hampshire	Agent	Approved	04/28/2006
B	New Jersey	Agent	Approved	01/24/2022
B	New York	Agent	Approved	01/25/2003
B	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	11/04/2009
B	Ohio	Agent	Approved	03/07/2000
B	Pennsylvania	Agent	Approved	04/02/2007
B	South Carolina	Agent	Approved	01/31/2000
B	Tennessee	Agent	Approved	07/05/2019
B	Texas	Agent	Approved	09/01/2000



Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
IA	Texas	Investment Adviser Representative	Restricted Approval	09/01/2000
B	Utah	Agent	Approved	03/09/1994
B	Washington	Agent	Approved	02/27/1996
B	West Virginia	Agent	Approved	08/30/2021
B	Wisconsin	Agent	Approved	03/25/1987

Branch Office Locations

**MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH
INCORPORATED**
2021 SPRING RD
OAK BROOK, IL 60523

**MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH
INCORPORATED**
Inverness, IL



Qualifications



PASSED INDUSTRY EXAMS

This section includes all industry exams that the representative has passed. Under limited circumstances, a representative may attain registration after receiving an exam waiver based on a combination of exams the representative has passed and qualifying work experience. Likewise a new exam requirement may be grandfathered based on a representative's specific qualifying work experience. Exam waivers and grandfathering are not included below.

This individual has passed 0 principal/supervisory exams, 3 general industry/product exams, and 2 state securities law exams.

Principal/Supervisory Exams

Exam	Category	Date
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No information reported.

General Industry/Product Exams

Exam	Category	Date
B Securities Industry Essentials Examination (SIE)	SIE	10/01/2018
B Futures Managed Funds Examination (S31)	Series 31	06/03/2005
B General Securities Representative Examination (S7)	Series 7	12/17/1983

State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
IA Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination (S65)	Series 65	07/18/1997
B Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (S63)	Series 63	10/31/1986



PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS

This section details that the representative has reported **0** professional designation(s).

No information reported.

Only professional designations listed in Question 8 of the Form U4 will appear in this section if the appropriate box is checked and verified by the issuing organization at the time of the filing. Learn more about eligible designations at [IARD](#) and [NASAA](#).



Registration & Employment History

PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED WITH THE FOLLOWING FIRMS

This representative held registrations with the following firms:

	Registration Dates	Firm Name	ID#	Branch Location
B	12/21/1983 - 09/18/1986	FIRST JERSEY SECURITIES, INC.	CRD# 6621	

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Below is the representative's employment history for up to the last 10 years.

Employment Dates	Employer Name	Position	Investment Related	Employer Location
07/2011 - Present	Bank of America, N.A.	Wealth Management Advisor	Y	OAK BROOK, IL, United States
09/1986 - Present	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	NOT PROVIDED	Y	OAKBROOK, IL, United States

OTHER BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

This section includes information, if any, as provided by the representative regarding other business activities the representative is currently engaged in either as a proprietor, partner, officer, director, employee, trustee, agent, or otherwise. This section does not include non-investment related activity that is exclusively charitable, civic, religious, or fraternal and is recognized as tax exempt.

No information reported.



Disclosure Summary

Disclosure Information

What you should know about reported disclosure events:

(1) Certain thresholds must be met before an event is reported to IARD, for example:

- A law enforcement agency must file formal charges before an Investment Adviser Representative is required to report a particular criminal event.;
- A customer dispute must involve allegations that an Investment Adviser Representative engaged in activity that violates certain rules or conduct governing the industry and that the activity resulted in damages of at least \$5,000.

(2) Disclosure events in IAPD reports come from different sources:

As mentioned in the "About IAPD" section on page 1 of this report, information contained in IAPD comes from Investment Adviser Representatives, firms and regulators. When more than one of these sources reports information for the same disclosure event, all versions of the event will appear in the IAPD report. The different versions will be separated by a solid line with the reporting source labeled.

(3) There are different statuses and dispositions for disclosure events:

- A disclosure event may have a status of *pending*, *on appeal*, or *final*.
 - A "pending" disclosure event involves allegations that have not been proven or formally adjudicated.
 - A disclosure event that is "on appeal" involves allegations that have been adjudicated but are currently being appealed.
 - A "final" disclosure event has been concluded and its resolution is not subject to change.
- A final disclosure event generally has a disposition of *adjudicated*, *settled* or *otherwise resolved*.
 - An "adjudicated" matter includes a disposition by (1) a court of law in a criminal or civil matter, or (2) an administrative panel in an action brought by a regulator that is contested by the party charged with some alleged wrongdoing.
 - A "settled" matter generally represents a disposition wherein the parties involved in a dispute reach an agreement to resolve the matter. Please note that Investment Adviser Representatives and firms may choose to settle customer disputes or regulatory matters for business or other reasons.
 - A "resolved" matter usually includes a disposition wherein no payment is made to the customer or there is no finding of wrongdoing on the part of the Investment Adviser Representative. Such matters generally involve customer disputes.

(4) You may wish to contact the Investment Adviser Representatives to obtain further information regarding any of the disclosure events contained in this IAPD report.



DISCLOSURE EVENT DETAILS

When evaluating this information, please keep in mind that some items may involve pending actions or allegations that may be contested and have not been resolved or proven. The event may, in the end, be withdrawn, dismissed, resolved in favor of the Investment Adviser Representative, or concluded through a negotiated settlement with no admission or finding of wrongdoing.

This report provides the information exactly as it was reported to the Investment Adviser Registration Depository. Some of the specific data fields contained in the report may be blank if the information was not provided.

The following types of events are disclosed about this representative:

Type	Count
Customer Dispute	6

Customer Dispute

This section provides information regarding a customer dispute that was reported to the Investment Adviser Registration Depository (IARD) by the Investment Adviser Representative (IAR), an investment adviser and/or securities firm, and/or a securities regulator. The event may include a consumer-initiated, investment-related complaint, arbitration proceeding or civil suit that contains allegations of sales practice violations against the individual.

The customer dispute may be pending or may have resulted in a civil judgment, arbitration award, monetary settlement, closure without action, withdrawal, dismissal, denial, or other outcome.

Disclosure 1 of 6

Reporting Source:	Individual
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED
Allegations:	THE CUSTOMER ALLEGES UNSUITABLE INVESTMENTS AND EXCESSIVE TRADING FROM JANUARY 2011 THROUGH JULY 2012.
Product Type:	Equity Listed (Common & Preferred Stock)
Alleged Damages:	\$36,450.00
Is this an oral complaint?	No
Is this a written complaint?	Yes
Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?	No

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	10/10/2012
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Settled
Status Date:	02/08/2013
Settlement Amount:	\$12,000.00
Individual Contribution Amount:	\$0.00

**Disclosure 2 of 6**

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MERRILL LYNCH

Allegations: CUSTOMER ALLEGES FA MADE UNSUITABLE INVESTMENTS.

Product Type: Mutual Fund(s)

Other Product Type(s): INDIVIDUAL STOCKS

Alleged Damages: \$300,000.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 04/18/2005

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Arbitration/Reparation

Status Date: 04/18/2005

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Arbitration Information

Arbitration/Reparation Claim filed with and Docket/Case No.: NASD 05-01842

Date Notice/Process Served: 04/18/2005

Arbitration Pending? No

Disposition: Settled

Disposition Date: 12/04/2006

Monetary Compensation Amount: \$9,999.00

Individual Contribution Amount: \$0.00

Broker Statement RESPONDENT ADAMANTLY DENIES ALL ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING AND MAINTAINS THAT CLAIMANT'S ACCOUNTS WERE SEVICED IN A COMPETENT AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER. CLAIMANT ACTUALLY SUSTAINED A SIGNIFICANT OVERALL PROFIT IN HER ACCOUNTS DESPITE AN EXTENSIVE BEAR MARKET. THE CASE WAS SETTLED SOLELY TO AVOID THE COSTS AND INCONVENIENCE OF ARBITRATION.

Disclosure 3 of 6

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MERRILL LYNCH

Allegations: CUSTOMER CLAIMS THAT MR. STEVENSON MADE MISREPRESENTATIONS ABOUT BOSTON CHICKEN BONDS. CUSTOMER DOES NOT ALLEGE ANY SPECIFIC AMOUNT OF DAMAGES.



Product Type: Debt - Corporate

Alleged Damages: \$0.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 12/15/1998

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Denied

Status Date: 04/26/2000

Settlement Amount: \$0.00

Individual Contribution Amount: \$0.00

Broker Statement ALL CLAIMS WERE DENIED IN THEIR ENTIRETY. CUSTOMER HAD FAMILIARITY WITH THIS TYPE OF INVESTMENT. MR. STEVENSON MAINTAINS THAT HE DID NOT MISREPRESENT THE INVESTMENT.

Disclosure 4 of 6

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Allegations: CLAIMANTS ALLEGED THAT THEY WERE SOLD UNSUITABLE CONVERTIBLE BOND INVESTMENTS AND SOUGHT \$70,000 IN ACTUAL DAMAGES, INTEREST, COSTS AND ATTORNEY'S FEES.

Product Type:

Alleged Damages: \$70,000.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Arbitration/Reparation

Status Date:

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Arbitration Information

Arbitration/Reparation Claim filed with and Docket/Case No.: NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE; 1997-006410

Date Notice/Process Served: 03/25/1997

Arbitration Pending? No

Disposition: Settled

Disposition Date: 04/16/1998

Monetary Compensation Amount: \$50,000.00

**Individual Contribution Amount:**

Broker Statement \$50,000
REGISTRANT CONTINUES TO DENY ALL ALLEGATIONS.
THIS CLAIM WAS SETTLED IN ORDER TO AVOID THE CONSIDERABLE TIME
AND EXPENSE OF LITIGATION.

Disclosure 5 of 6

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Allegations: CUSTOMER ALLEGES THAT HE SOLD AN UNSUITABLE
CORPORATE BOND AND SEEKS \$34,000 IN COMPENSATION DAMAGES.

Product Type:

Alleged Damages: \$34,000.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 03/27/1996

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

Status Date:

Settlement Amount: \$25,000.00

Individual Contribution Amount:

Broker Statement WHILE ALL ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING ARE BEING
VIGOROUSLY DENIED, A BUSINESS DECISION WAS MADE TO SETTLE THIS
MATTER FOR \$25,000 IN ORDER TO AVOID ADDITIONAL COSTS OF
POTENTIAL LITIGATION.
WE MAINTAIN THAT THIS WAS SUITABLE AND
APPROPRIATE INVESTMENT AT THE TIME, IN LIGHT OF THE CUSTOMER
INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND GOALS. ANY LOSSES INCURRED WERE
THE
RESULT OF THE DECLINE IN VALUE BY THIS INVESTMENT. CUSTOMERS
LOSSES WERE COMPOUNDED BY HIM CONTINUING TO HOLD THE
INVESTMENT
AS THE PRICE CONTINUED TO DECLINE. NEITHER REGISTRANT NOR
MERRILL LYNCH HAD ANY CONTROL OVER THE MARKET CIRCUMSTANCES
WHICH AFFECTED THIS INVESTMENT.

Disclosure 6 of 6

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED

Allegations: CUSTOMER ALLEGES THAT SHE WAS SOLD UNSUITABLE
CORPORATE BONDS AND SOUGHT \$10,000 IN COMPENSATORY DAMAGES.
THIS OCCURRED AT MERRILL LYNCH.

**Product Type:**

Alleged Damages: \$10,000.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 03/27/1996

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

Status Date:

Settlement Amount: \$10,000.00

**Individual Contribution
Amount:**

Broker Statement

SETTLED FOR \$10,000
THIS CLAIM WAS SETTLED TO AVOID THE TIME AND
EXPENSE INHERENT IN LITIGATION.



End of Report

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