IAPD Report

STEVEN DEAN AUSTIN

CRD# 1449142

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

User Guidance

www.adviserinfo.sec.gov

Report Summary

STEVEN DEAN AUSTIN (CRD# 1449142)

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 **06/26/2026**.

CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
B	KOVACK SECURITIES INC.	CRD# 44848	05/31/2011
IA	KOVACK ADVISORS, INC.	CRD# 140808	06/01/2011

QUALIFICATIONS

This representative is currently registered in **2** SRO(s) and **14** 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	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY	149777	MELBOURNE, FL	06/01/2009 - 06/15/2011
IA	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC	149777	MELBOURNE, FL	06/01/2009 - 06/15/2011
B	MORGAN STANLEY & CO. INCORPORATED	8209	MELBOURNE, FL	04/02/2007 - 06/01/2009

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
Termination	1

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 **14** jurisdiction(s) and 2 SRO(s) through his or her employer(s).

Employment 1 of 2

Firm Name: **KOVACK SECURITIES INC.**

Main Address: 6451 N. FEDERAL HWY.
SUITE 1201
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33308

Firm ID#: 44848

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	05/31/2011
B	Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Representative	Approved	05/31/2011
B	Alabama	Agent	Approved	06/16/2011
B	Florida	Agent	Approved	06/09/2011
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	07/12/2016
B	Indiana	Agent	Approved	12/08/2025
B	Louisiana	Agent	Approved	01/10/2020
B	Massachusetts	Agent	Approved	01/05/2024
B	Michigan	Agent	Approved	06/11/2011
B	New Hampshire	Agent	Approved	01/22/2020
B	New York	Agent	Approved	06/10/2011
B	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	05/20/2024
B	Oregon	Agent	Approved	04/07/2020

 Report about STEVEN DEAN AUSTIN.

Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	Tennessee	Agent	Approved	07/06/2016
B	West Virginia	Agent	Approved	06/15/2011
B	Wisconsin	Agent	Approved	03/11/2025

Branch Office Locations

RK ADVISORS
Melbourne, FL

Employment 2 of 2

Firm Name: **KOVACK ADVISORS, INC.**

Main Address: 6451 N. FEDERAL HWY
SUITE 1201
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33308

Firm ID#: 140808

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
IA	Florida	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	06/08/2011

Branch Office Locations

KOVACK ADVISORS, INC.
Melbourne Beach, FL

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 1 principal/supervisory exam, 3 general industry/product exams, and 2 state securities law exams.

Principal/Supervisory Exams

	Exam	Category	Date
B	General Securities Sales Supervisor - Options Module Examination (S9)	Series 9	11/22/2002

General Industry/Product Exams

	Exam	Category	Date
B	Securities Industry Essentials Examination (SIE)	SIE	10/01/2018
B	National Commodity Futures Examination (S3)	Series 3	06/03/1986
B	General Securities Representative Examination (S7)	Series 7	01/18/1986

State Securities Law Exams

	Exam	Category	Date
IA	Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination (S65)	Series 65	10/31/1996
B	Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (S63)	Series 63	02/04/1986

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	06/01/2009 - 06/15/2011	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY	CRD# 149777	MELBOURNE, FL
IA	06/01/2009 - 06/15/2011	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC	CRD# 149777	MELBOURNE, FL
B	04/02/2007 - 06/01/2009	MORGAN STANLEY & CO. INCORPORATED	CRD# 8209	MELBOURNE, FL
IA	04/02/2007 - 06/01/2009	MORGAN STANLEY & CO. INCORPORATED	CRD# 8209	MELBOURNE, FL
IA	01/01/1991 - 04/02/2007	MORGAN STANLEY	CRD# 7556	MELBOURNE, FL
B	01/29/1988 - 04/02/2007	MORGAN STANLEY DW INC.	CRD# 7556	MELBOURNE, FL
B	02/15/1988 - 10/12/1990	LEHMAN BROTHERS INC.	CRD# 7506	
B	01/22/1986 - 02/15/1988	E. F. HUTTON & COMPANY INC	CRD# 235	

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
05/2011 - Present	KOVACK ADVISORS, INC.	INVESTMENT ADVISOR	Y	MELBOURNE, FL, United States
05/2011 - Present	KOVACK SECURITIES, INC	REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE	Y	MELBOURNE, FL, 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.

1) AUSTIN FINANCIAL GROUP-SUB S CORP.-ESTABLISHED 6/3/11-INVESTMENT FIRM-OWNER/MANAGER- 79% OF BUSINESS-2 OFFICERS/EMPLOYEES-COMMISSIONS.
2) FIXED INSURANCE SALES - MELBOURNE, FL 32901; FIXED INSURANCE; NON INVESTMENT RELATED; PRESIDENT; SELL FIXED INCOME ANNUITIES; 2% OF TIME SPENT
3) RUSHING WIND, LLC-MELBOURNE, FL-RENTAL PROPERTY,RAW LAND AND CONDO -PART OWNER-1% TIME SPENT-RENTAL INCOME.
4) RENTAL PROPERTIES: AUSTIN MINI STORAGE, 1% OF TIME SPENT; CONDO IN NORTH CAROLINA, 1% OF TIME

Registration & Employment History

OTHER BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

SPENT; PINETREE CONDO, 1% OF TIME SPENT.
5) J AND W EDON AND COMPANY - INSURANCE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY, AGENT, 5% OF TIME SPENT, COMPENSATED BY COMMISSION.
6) PALMS OF INDIAN RIVER ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION - SUBDIVISION, RUSHING WIND LLC OWNS THE LAND, MANAGE PROPERTY, 1% OF TIME SPENT, COMPENSATED ON RENTAL INCOME.
7) RENTAL PROPERTY (OAKWOOD VILLAS) - 1430 SHEAFE AVE NE, PALM BAY, FL 32905, 1% OF TIME SPENT.
8) RENTAL PROPERTY - 1320 MARINER AVE. SE, PALM BAY, FL 32909; RENTAL PROPERTY; NON INVESTMENT RELATED; OWNER; MANAGE PROPERTY; 1% OF TIME SPENT
9) MODELING/ACTING VARIOUS AGENTS - FLORIDA; I AM TRYING TO GET VARIOUS MODELING/ACTING AGENCIES TO GET BUSINESS WITH ANOTHER MODEL AND MOVIE JOBS NOT INCORPORATED AT THIS POINT; NON INVESTMENT RELATED; MODEL/ACTOR; 2% OF TIME SPENT
10) STEVEN AUSTIN TRUST, 594 SAN LUIS AVE SW PALM BAY, FL 32908; PROPERTY OWNER; RENT OUT THE PROPERTY; NON-INVESTMENT RELATED BUSINESS; 1% OF TIME SPENT
11) REAL ESTATE - 316 SCOTTDALE SQ., UNIT 316, WINTER PARK, FL 32972; INVESTMENT RELATED; REAL ESTATE PROPERTY; OWNER; LESS THAN 1% OF TIME SPENT.
12) CONDO RENTAL - 1010 PINETREE DRIVE, UNIT 201, INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH, FL 32937; NON-INVESTMENT RELATED; OWNER; I HOUR/MONTH DEVOTED TO OTHER BUSINESS DURING SECURITIES TRADING HOURS; 1 HOUR/MONTH DEVOTED TO OTHER BUSINESS.
13) RENTAL PROPERTY - 3230 HADDON AVE NE, PALM BAY FL, 32905; NON-INVESTMENT RELATED; OWNER; MANAGE PROPERTY; 5 HOURS/MONTH DEVOTED TO OTHER BUSINESS; 5 HOURS/MONTH DEVOTED TO OTHER BUSINESS DURING SECURITIES TRADING HOURS.

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
Termination	1

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:	Firm
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	MSSB
Allegations:	CLIENT ALLEGES MISREPRESENTATION WITH RESPECT TO VARIABLE ANNUITY - MAY 2005.
Product Type:	Annuity-Variable
Alleged Damages:	$0.00
Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):	UNSPECIFIED
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:	02/17/2015
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Settled
Status Date:	05/29/2015

Settlement Amount: $4,000.00

Individual Contribution Amount: $0.00

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MSSB

Allegations: CLIENT ALLEGES MISREPRESENTATION WITH RESPECT TO A VARIABLE ANNUITY - MAY 2005.

Product Type: Annuity-Variable

Alleged Damages: $0.00

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact): UNSPECIFIED

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: 02/17/2015

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

Status Date: 05/20/2015

Settlement Amount: $4,000.00

Individual Contribution Amount: $0.00

Broker Statement [CUSTOMER] IS A FORMER CLIENT. HE HAS HELD THIS ANNUITY FOR OVER 10 YEARS, AND THE LAST TIME I SPOKE WITH HIM, ABOUT 5 YEARS AGO, HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE ANNUITY'S PERFORMANCE, ESPECIALLY DURING THE MARKET CORRECTION. I HAVE NOT BEEN WITH MSSB FOR OVER THREE YEARS, AND LEFT MY FILES WITH THEM, SO AM UNABLE TO REVIEW FILE. I AM CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT ALL FEATURES OF THE ANNUITY WERE CLEARLY PRESENTED, AND THAT THE ANNUITY WAS SUITABLE FOR THE CLIENT.

Disclosure 2 of 6

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MORGAN STANLEY & CO. INCORPORATED

Allegations: CLIENT ALLEGES FINANCIAL ADVISOR SOLD A UNIT INVESTMENT TRUST WITHOUT HER AUTHORIZATION ON OR AROUND JANUARY 5, 2009.

Product Type: Unit Investment Trust(s)

Alleged Damages: $11,473.33

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 01/22/2009

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Closed/No Action

Status Date: 02/04/2009

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Disclosure 3 of 6

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MORGAN STANLEY & CO. INCORPORATED

Allegations: BENEFICIARY OF ESTATE, LISA REILE, ALLEGES THAT FA TRADED EXCESSIVELY IN HER MOTHER'S ACCOUNT. NO DATES PROVIDED.

Product Type: Other

Other Product Type(s): IRA/ERISA/RETIREMENT PLAN

Alleged Damages: $498,000.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 11/21/2008

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Denied

Status Date: 12/19/2008

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Disclosure 4 of 6

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MORGAN STANLEY DW INC.

Allegations: CUSTOMER ALLEGES THAT FINANCIAL ADVISOR MADE MISREPRESENTATIONS ABOUT SELLING HIS STOCKS AND THE RESULTING CAPITAL GAINS TAX THAT SUBSEQUENTLY OCCURRED IN FEBRUARY 2005.

Product Type: Other

Other Product Type(s): EQUITIES

Alleged Damages: $10,682.27

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	04/10/2006
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Denied
Status Date:	05/19/2006
Settlement Amount:	$0.00
Individual Contribution Amount:	$0.00

Disclosure 5 of 6

Reporting Source:	Individual
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	MORGAN STANLEY DW INC.
Allegations:	CUSTOMER ASSERTS CLAIMS AND ALLEGES FAILURE TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.
Product Type:	Other
Other Product Type(s):	ACTIVE ASSETS ACCOUNT IRA & IRA/SEP (STOCKS)
Alleged Damages:	$5,300.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	09/30/2003
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Denied
Status Date:	02/05/2004
Settlement Amount:	
Individual Contribution Amount:	

Disclosure 6 of 6

Reporting Source:	Firm
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	
Allegations:	PLAINTIFFS ALLEGED CHURNING, FORGED DOCUMENTS, FRAUD, BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY, NEGLIGENT SUPERVISION, RICO VIOLATIONS. COMPENSATORY DAMAGES IN EXCESS OF $10,000.00
Product Type:	
Alleged Damages:	

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	
Complaint Pending?	No

Status: Litigation

Status Date:

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Civil Litigation Information

Court Details: STATE; FL

Date Notice/Process Served: 05/18/1988

Litigation Pending? No

Disposition: Settled

Disposition Date: 07/01/1991

Monetary Compensation Amount: $80,000.00

Individual Contribution Amount: $0.00

Firm Statement

SETTLEMENT - $80,000.00. STEVEN AUSTIN DID NOT
CONTRIBUTE TOWARD SETTLEMENT.
THE FIRM DOES NOT VIEW THIS COMPLAINT AS DIRECTED
AT MR. AUSTIN. MR. AUSTIN SIMPLY INHERITED THE ACCOUNT FROM A
PRIOR BROKER, AND HAD NO SUBSTANTIVE DEALINGS WITH THE
ACCOUNT.
OPTIONS AND COMMODITIES NOT INVOLVED.

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Allegations: PLAINTIFF ALLEGED CHURNING, FORGED DOCUMENTS,
FRAUD, BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY, NEGLIGENT SUPERVISION, RICO
VIOLATIONS. COMPENSATORY DAMAGES IN EXCESS OF 10,000.00

Product Type:

Alleged Damages:

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Litigation

Status Date:

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Civil Litigation Information

Court Details: STATE; FL

Date Notice/Process Served: 05/18/1988

Litigation Pending?	No
Disposition:	Settled
Disposition Date:	07/01/1991
Monetary Compensation Amount:	$80,000.00
Individual Contribution Amount:	$0.00
Broker Statement	SETTLEMENT - 80,000.00. STEVEN AUSTIN DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE SETTLEMENT. THE FIRM DOES NOT VIEW THIS COMPLAINT AS DIRECTED AT MR. AUSTIN. MR. AUSTIN SIMPLY INHERITED THE ACCOUNT FROM A PRIOR BROKER, AND HAD NO SUBSTANTIVE DEALINGS WITH THE ACCOUNT OPTIONS AND COMMODITIES NOT INVOLVED.

Termination

This disclosure event involves a situation where the Investment Adviser Representative voluntarily resigned, was discharged or was permitted to resign after allegations were made that accused the Investment Adviser Representative of violating investment-related statutes, regulations, rules or industry standards of conduct; fraud or the wrongful taking of property; or failure to supervise in connection with investment-related statutes, regulations, rules or industry standards of conduct.

Disclosure 1 of 1

Reporting Source:	Firm
Firm Name:	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY
Termination Type:	Discharged
Termination Date:	05/16/2011
Allegations:	ALLEGATIONS THAT INCORRECT INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED IN CONNECTION WITH VARIABLE ANNUITY PURCHASE.
Product Type:	Annuity-Variable

Reporting Source:	Individual
Firm Name:	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY
Termination Type:	Discharged
Termination Date:	05/16/2011
Allegations:	ALLEGATIONS THAT INCORRECT INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED IN CONNECTION WITH VARIABLE ANNUITY PURCHASE.
Product Type:	Annuity-Variable

End of Report

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