IAPD Report

PAUL ANTHONY AHERN

CRD# 2257376

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

PAUL ANTHONY AHERN (CRD# 2257376)

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 **10/08/2025**.

CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
B	HIGHTOWER SECURITIES, LLC	CRD# 116681	10/25/2018
IA	HIGHTOWER ADVISORS, LLC	CRD# 145323	11/21/2018

QUALIFICATIONS

This representative is currently registered in **1** SRO(s) and **5** 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
IA	WEALTHTRUST ARIZONA	141926	SCOTTSDALE, AZ	12/19/2006 - 03/28/2019
B	PURSHE KAPLAN STERLING INVESTMENTS	35747	SCOTTSDALE, AZ	03/31/2008 - 10/25/2018
B	AIG FINANCIAL ADVISORS, INC.	133763	CHANDLER, AZ	10/31/2005 - 04/11/2008

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	3

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 **5** jurisdiction(s) and 1 SRO(s) through his or her employer(s).

Employment 1 of 2

Firm Name: **HIGHTOWER SECURITIES, LLC**

Main Address: 200 WEST MADISON STREET
SUITE 2500
CHICAGO, IL 60606-3414

Firm ID#: 116681

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	FINRA	General Securities Principal	Approved	10/25/2018
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/25/2018
B	FINRA	Operations Professional	Approved	10/25/2018
B	Arizona	Agent	Approved	10/25/2018
B	Indiana	Agent	Approved	01/05/2023
B	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	10/25/2018
B	Pennsylvania	Agent	Approved	01/05/2023
B	Virginia	Agent	Approved	10/25/2018

Branch Office Locations

17200 N. Perimeter Drive
Suite 203
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Employment 2 of 2

Firm Name: **HIGHTOWER ADVISORS, LLC**

Main Address: 200 W. MADISON ST.
SUITE 2500
CHICAGO, IL 60606

Qualifications

Firm ID#: 145323

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
IA	Arizona	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	11/21/2018

Branch Office Locations

HIGHTOWER ADVISORS, LLC
8434 East Shea Boulevard
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

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 Principal Examination (S24)	Series 24	10/15/2010

General Industry/Product Exams

	Exam	Category	Date
B	Operations Professional Examination (S99TO)	Series 99TO	01/02/2023
B	Securities Industry Essentials Examination (SIE)	SIE	10/01/2018
B	General Securities Representative Examination (S7)	Series 7	07/14/1992

State Securities Law Exams

	Exam	Category	Date
IA	Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination (S65)	Series 65	09/16/1998
B	Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (S63)	Series 63	07/17/1992

PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS

This section details that the representative has reported **2** professional designation(s).

Certified Financial Planner

Chartered Financial Consultant

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
IA	12/19/2006 - 03/28/2019	WEALTHTRUST ARIZONA	CRD# 141926	SCOTTSDALE, AZ
B	03/31/2008 - 10/25/2018	PURSHE KAPLAN STERLING INVESTMENTS	CRD# 35747	SCOTTSDALE, AZ
B	10/31/2005 - 04/11/2008	AIG FINANCIAL ADVISORS, INC.	CRD# 133763	CHANDLER, AZ
IA	08/21/2002 - 12/07/2006	WEALTH TRUST - ARIZONA LLC	CRD# 107582	SCOTTSDALE, AZ
B	12/03/1996 - 10/31/2005	SUNAMERICA SECURITIES, INC.	CRD# 20068	PHOENIX, AZ
B	07/16/1992 - 12/03/1996	AMERICAN EXPRESS FINANCIAL ADVISORS INC.	CRD# 6363	MINNEAPOLIS, MN
B	07/16/1992 - 12/03/1996	IDS LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	CRD# 6321	MINNEAPOLIS, MN

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
10/2018 - Present	HIGHTOWER SECURITIES LLC	MANAGING DIRECTOR	Y	Scottsdale, AZ, United States
10/2018 - Present	HighTower Advisors LLC	Managing Director	Y	Scottsdale, AZ, United States
03/2008 - 10/2018	PURSHE KAPLAN STERLING INVESTMENTS	REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE	Y	ALBANY, NY, United States
11/2006 - 10/2018	WEALTHTRUST - ARIZONA LLC	INVESTMENT ADVISOR/OWNER	Y	SCOTTSDALE, AZ, 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.

WEALTHTRUST ARIZONA LLC
8434 E. SHEA BLVD

Registration & Employment History

OTHER BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260
YES, INVESTMENT ADVISORY, IAR SINCE 12/06, 50% OF TIME.

INSURANCE LICENSED
8434 E. SHEA BLVD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260
YES, AGENT SINCE 2000, 10% OF TIME.

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	3

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 3

Reporting Source:	Individual
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	SUNAMERICA SECURITIES, INC.
Allegations:	UNFILED STATEMENT OF CLAIM ALLEGES UNSUITABLE INVESTMENTS DURING APPROXIMATE PERIOD JUNE 1999 TO NOVEMBER 2004. TWO OTHER PROPOSED RESPONDENTS ARE NAMED.
Product Type:	Equity - OTC
Alleged Damages:	$1,311,468.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	07/28/2005
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Settled
Status Date:	04/28/2006
Settlement Amount:	$340,000.00
Individual Contribution Amount:	$0.00
Broker Statement	SETTLEMENT WAS ENTERED INTO AND EXECUTED BY AND BETWEEN CLAIMANT AND SUNAMERICA SECURITIES, INC. THE SETTLEMENT RELEASED PAUL AHERN. PAUL AHERN WAS NOT REQUIRED TO BE A SIGNATORY TO THE SETTLEMENT NOR WAS HE REQUIRED TO CONTIBUTE TO THE SETTLEMENT. RESPONDENT PARTIES' ANALYSIS OF THE CLAIM INDICATED SUBSTANTIAL DEFENSES. HOWEVER, RESPONDENT PARTIES

ELECTED TO MEDIATE THE CLAIM AND ULTIMATELY SETTLED AS A BUSINESS DECISION RATHER THAN INCUR THE EXPENSE AND TIME ASSOCIATED WITH PROTRACTED LITIGATION.

Disclosure 2 of 3

Reporting Source:	Individual
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	SUNAMERICA SECURITIES, INC.
Allegations:	ALLEGE THAT THE INVESTMENTS MADE WERE NOT IN LINE WITH THEIR STATED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. THE CLIENT APPROVED A WRITTEN FINANCIAL PLAN THAT HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR THEM AND REPEATEDLY IGNOED ADVICE TO LESSEN RISK OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS. COMPLAINT LOOKS TO SET THE REPRESENTATIVE UP FOR POSSIBLE FURTHER ACTION REGARDING THESE ALLEGED LOSSES FROM FLUCTUATIONS IN THE STOCK MARKET.
Product Type:	Mutual Fund(s)
Alleged Damages:	$200,000.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	09/23/2002
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Settled
Status Date:	04/11/2003
Settlement Amount:	$50,000.00
Individual Contribution Amount:	$0.00

Disclosure 3 of 3

Reporting Source:	Individual
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	SUNAMERICA SECURITIES, INC.
Allegations:	ALLEGES THAT REPRESENTATIVE FAILED TO HONOR HIS REQUEST TO LIQUIDATE WHICH CAUSED DAMAGES. IN ADDITION, HE CLAIMS THAT THE REPRESENTATIVE DID NOT INVEST IN A WAY THAT WAS SUITABLE OR REASONABLY DESIGNED TO MEET THEIR GOALS.
Product Type:	Mutual Fund(s)
Other Product Type(s):	BONDS EQUITIES-OTC AND LITED MONEY MARKET FUNDS
Alleged Damages:	$400,000.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	05/06/2002
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Denied

Status Date:	05/03/2002
Settlement Amount:	
Individual Contribution Amount:	
Broker Statement	THE CLIENT LOST A TOTAL OF 6% OVER TWO YEARS WHILE WORKING WITH REPRESENTATIVE AND HIS FIRM. CONSIDERING WHAT THE MARKET DID AS A WHOLE, HE WAS IN FAR BETTER SHAPE THAN THE AVERAGE INVESTOR.

End of Report

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