



IAPD Report

RUSSELL HILARY COTTON

CRD# 2323232

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>
Report Summary	1
Qualifications	2 - 5
Registration and Employment History	6 - 7
Disclosure Information	8



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

RUSSELL HILARY COTTON (CRD# 2323232)

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 **11/21/2025**.

CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
B	RAYMOND JAMES & ASSOCIATES, INC.	CRD# 705	02/06/2009
IA	RAYMOND JAMES & ASSOCIATES, INC.	CRD# 705	02/06/2009

QUALIFICATIONS

This representative is currently registered in **9** SRO(s) and **25** 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	STERNE AGEE INVESTMENT ADVISORS, INC.	130888	BIRMINGHAM, AL	04/04/2005 - 02/12/2009
B	STERNE, AGEE & LEACH, INC.	791	LOUISVILLE, KY	11/13/2003 - 02/12/2009
IA	STERNE AGEE & LEACH, INC. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	791	LOUISVILLE, KY	04/04/2005 - 01/03/2007

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	4



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 **25** jurisdiction(s) and 9 SRO(s) through his or her employer(s).

Employment 1 of 1

Firm Name: **RAYMOND JAMES & ASSOCIATES, INC.**

Main Address: 880 CARILLON PARKWAY
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716

Firm ID#: 705

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	02/06/2009
	Investors' Exchange LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	09/09/2025
	MEMX LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	09/09/2025
	NYSE American LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	02/06/2009
	NYSE Arca, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	09/09/2025
	NYSE Texas, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	09/09/2025
	Nasdaq PHLX LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	02/06/2009
	Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Representative	Approved	02/06/2009
	New York Stock Exchange	General Securities Representative	Approved	02/06/2009
	Alabama	Agent	Approved	08/05/2024
	Arizona	Agent	Approved	07/23/2013
	Arkansas	Agent	Approved	09/24/2021
	California	Agent	Approved	08/05/2010



Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	Colorado	Agent	Approved	07/18/2023
B	Florida	Agent	Approved	02/06/2009
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	06/10/2009
B	Illinois	Agent	Approved	07/14/2014
B	Indiana	Agent	Approved	06/10/2009
B	Kentucky	Agent	Approved	02/06/2009
IA	Kentucky	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	02/06/2009
B	Maine	Agent	Approved	05/22/2018
B	Maryland	Agent	Approved	08/05/2024
B	Michigan	Agent	Approved	02/06/2009
B	Minnesota	Agent	Approved	08/05/2024
B	Missouri	Agent	Approved	09/13/2016
B	New Jersey	Agent	Approved	03/04/2022
B	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	02/06/2009
B	Ohio	Agent	Approved	02/06/2009
B	Pennsylvania	Agent	Approved	12/18/2020
B	South Carolina	Agent	Approved	05/26/2009
B	Tennessee	Agent	Approved	02/06/2009
B	Texas	Agent	Approved	02/06/2009



Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
IA	Texas	Investment Adviser Representative	Restricted Approval	04/23/2009
B	Utah	Agent	Approved	07/23/2019
B	Virginia	Agent	Approved	09/08/2022
B	Washington	Agent	Approved	11/21/2025

Branch Office Locations

RAYMOND JAMES & ASSOCIATES, INC.

4969 US HWY 42
SUITE 1600
LOUISVILLE, KY 40222



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, 2 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 General Securities Representative Examination (S7)	Series 7	04/07/1993

State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
IA Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination (S65)	Series 65	07/23/2004
B Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (S63)	Series 63	04/23/1993



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
IA	04/04/2005 - 02/12/2009	STERNE AGEE INVESTMENT ADVISORS, INC.	CRD# 130888	BIRMINGHAM, AL
B	11/13/2003 - 02/12/2009	STERNE, AGEE & LEACH, INC.	CRD# 791	LOUISVILLE, KY
IA	04/04/2005 - 01/03/2007	STERNE AGEE & LEACH, INC. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	CRD# 791	LOUISVILLE, KY
B	07/05/1995 - 11/13/2003	MORGAN KEEGAN & COMPANY, INC.	CRD# 4161	MEMPHIS, TN
B	08/22/1994 - 08/02/1995	H.J. MEYERS & CO., INC.	CRD# 15609	ROCHESTER, NY
B	04/08/1993 - 09/15/1994	HIBBARD BROWN & CO., INC.	CRD# 18246	NEW YORK, NY
B	08/08/1994 - 08/19/1994	WESTFIELD FINANCIAL CORPORATION	CRD# 8143	NEW YORK, NY

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
02/2009 - Present	RAYMOND JAMES & ASSOCIATES, INC.	REGISTERED ASSOCIATE	Y	LOUISVILLE, KY, 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)Name of Business: RichRussLLC Address: 4609 Wolfcreek Parkway, Louisville, KY, 40241, United States Activity Type: Business Owner Position/Title: Partner Investment Related: No Start Date: 05/30/2014 Hours per month devoted to this business: 0-1 Hours per month devoted to this business during trading hours: 0-1 Description of duties: I am the managing partner of RichRussLLC. We seek out investment opportunities such as real estate, race horses, stocks, ETF's etc.

(2)Name of Business: Saint Bernadette Catholic Church Address: 6500 Saint Bernadette Ave., Prospect, KY, 40059, United States Activity Type: Non profit Position/Title: Advisory Board Investment Related: Yes Start Date: 06/16/2021 Hours per month devoted to this business: 0-1 Hours per month devoted to this business during trading hours: 0-1 Description of duties: We review budgets and approve for the church and school.

(3)Name of Business: Valhalla Woods Llc Address: 4609 wolf creek parkway, louisville, KY, 40241, United States Activity Type: Business Owner Position/Title: Partner Investment Related: No Start Date: 06/09/2010 Hours per month devoted to this business: 0-1 Hours per month devoted to this business during trading hours: 0-1 Description of duties: Make payments towards our loan



Registration & Employment History



OTHER BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

on the property and enjoy hunting, camping, etc.



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	4

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 4

Reporting Source:	Individual
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	RAYMOND JAMES & ASSOCIATES, INC.
Allegations:	**UPDATE - THIS DISCLOSURE IS NO LONGER REPORTABLE ON THE CURRENT U4 BECAUSE IT WAS FILED MORE THAN 24 MONTHS AGO AND DID NOT SETTLE FOR \$15,000 OR MORE.** CLAIMANT ALLEGES FAILURE TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS. ACTIVITY DATE IS 6/10/09 THRU 6/11/09.
Product Type:	Equity-OTC
Alleged Damages:	\$100,000.00
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:	10/13/2009
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Denied
Status Date:	12/09/2009
Settlement Amount:	

**Individual Contribution
Amount:****Broker Statement**

****UPDATE - THIS DISCLOSURE IS NO LONGER REPORTABLE ON THE
CURRENT U4 BECAUSE IT WAS FILED MORE THAN 24 MONTHS AGO AND
DID NOT SETTLE FOR \$15,000 OR MORE.****

Disclosure 2 of 4**Reporting Source:**

Firm

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

MORGAN KEEGAN & COMPANY, INC.

Allegations:

CLAIM ALLEGES THEFT OF FUNDS AND/OR SECURITIES. ALLEGED
DAMAGES ARE APPROXIMATELY \$18,000.

Product Type:

No Product

Alleged Damages:**Customer Complaint Information****Date Complaint Received:**

06/14/2004

Complaint Pending?

No

Status:

Denied

Status Date:

10/06/2005

Settlement Amount:**Individual Contribution
Amount:**
.....**Reporting Source:**

Individual

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

MORGAN KEEGAN & COMPANY, INC.

Allegations:

CLAIM ALLEGES THEFT OF FUNDS AND/OR SECURITIES. ALLEGED
DAMAGES ARE APPROXIMATELY \$18,000

Product Type:

No Product

Alleged Damages:**Customer Complaint Information****Date Complaint Received:**

06/14/2004

Complaint Pending?

No

Status:

Denied

Status Date:

10/06/2005

Settlement Amount:**Individual Contribution
Amount:****Broker Statement**

I HAVE NEVER PLACED A TRADE FOR JAMES BENDER. AT MORGAN
KEEGAN, I SPOKE WITH MR. BENDER MAYBE TWO TIMES OVER AN EIGHT



YEAR PERIOD. MY NAME WAS ON THE ACCOUNT AS ONE OF THE ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVES; HOWEVER, I HAD LITTLE TO NO COMMUNICATIONS WITH MR. BENDER, AS HE DEALT ONLY WITH MY PARTNER.

Disclosure 3 of 4

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MORGAN KEEGAN & COMPANY, INC.

Allegations: CLAIM ALLEGES CHURNING. ALLEGED DAMAGES ARE \$178,000 PLUS \$50,000 IN ATTORNEY FEES.

Product Type: Equity - OTC

Alleged Damages:

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 05/19/2004

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Closed/No Action

Status Date: 06/21/2004

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Firm Statement CLAIMANT HAS FILED ARBITRATION; HOWEVER, MR. COTTON WAS NOT NAMED. THIS ITEM IS NOW CONSIDERED CLOSED AS TO MR. COTTON.

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MORGAN KEEGAN & COMPANY, INC.

Allegations: CLAIM ALLEGES CHURNING. ALLEGED DAMAGES ARE \$178,000 PLUS \$50,000 ATTORNEY FEES.

Product Type: Equity - OTC

Alleged Damages:

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 05/19/2004

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Closed/No Action

Status Date: 06/21/2004

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Broker Statement I HAVE NOT PLACED A TRADE OR SPOKEN TO [CUSTOMER] ABOUT ANY



SPECIFIC TRADES IN HER ACCOUNT FOR OVER 5 YEARS. MY NAME WAS ON THE ACCOUNT AS ONE OF THE ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVES; HOWEVER, I HAVE HAD VERY LITTLE COMMUNICATION WITH [CUSTOMER] OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS, AS SHE PRIMARILY DEALT WITH MY PARTNER.

Disclosure 4 of 4

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MORGAN KEEGAN & COMPANY, INC.

Allegations: CLAIM ALLEGES UNAUTHORIZED TRADING. DAMAGES ARE BELIEVED TO BE IN EXCESS OF \$5,000.

Product Type: Options

Alleged Damages:

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 01/21/2004

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Closed/No Action

Status Date: 08/09/2004

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Firm Statement CLAIMANT HAS FILED ARBITRATION; HOWEVER, MR. COTTON WAS NOT NAMED. THIS ITEM IS NOW CONSIDERED CLOSED AS TO MR. COTTON.

Reporting Source: Individual

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: MORGAN KEEGAN & COMPANY, INC

Allegations: CLAIM ALLEGES UNAUTHORIZED TRADING. DAMAGES ARE BELIEVED TO BE IN EXCESS OF \$5,000

Product Type: Options

Alleged Damages:

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 01/21/2004

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Closed/No Action

Status Date: 08/09/2004

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:



End of Report

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