



## IAPD Report

# CHRISTIAN CRAIG ZERNICH

CRD# 2368941

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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

### CHRISTIAN CRAIG ZERNICH (CRD# 2368941)

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 **04/29/2024**.

### CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
IA	US ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC	CRD# 124234	04/02/2024

### QUALIFICATIONS

This representative is currently registered in **0** SRO(s) and **1** 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	STRATOS WEALTH PARTNERS, LTD	153184	Wexford, PA	04/01/2011 - 04/29/2024
B	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	6413	WEXFORD, PA	04/01/2011 - 04/26/2024
IA	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	6413	WEXFORD, PA	12/10/2013 - 01/27/2016

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
Regulatory Event	1
Customer Dispute	1
Termination	2



## 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 **1** jurisdiction(s) and **0** SRO(s) through his or her employer(s).

### Employment 1 of 1

Firm Name: **US ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC**  
Main Address: 211 N. WHITFIELD STREET  
SUITE 201  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15206-3030  
Firm ID#: 124234

Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
<b>IA</b> Pennsylvania	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	04/02/2024

### Branch Office Locations

**US ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC**  
211 N. WHITFIELD STREET  
SUITE 201  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15206-3030



## 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
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Securities Industry Essentials Examination (SIE)	SIE	10/01/2018
General Securities Representative Examination (S7)	Series 7	07/15/1997
Investment Company Products/Variable Contracts Representative Examination (S6)	Series 6	09/20/1993

#### State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
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Uniform Combined State Law Examination (S66)	Series 66	01/18/2008
Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (S63)	Series 63	11/05/1993

### PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS

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

No information reported.



## 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	04/01/2011 - 04/29/2024	STRATOS WEALTH PARTNERS, LTD	CRD# 153184	Wexford, PA
B	04/01/2011 - 04/26/2024	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	CRD# 6413	WEXFORD, PA
IA	12/10/2013 - 01/27/2016	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	CRD# 6413	WEXFORD, PA
IA	06/24/2009 - 04/04/2011	LINCOLN FINANCIAL ADVISORS CORPORATION	CRD# 3978	SEWICKLEY, PA
B	11/11/2004 - 04/04/2011	LINCOLN FINANCIAL ADVISORS CORPORATION	CRD# 3978	SEWICKLEY, PA
B	11/11/2004 - 05/24/2006	THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	CRD# 2580	FORT WAYNE, IN
B	06/13/1994 - 11/09/2004	CUNA BROKERAGE SERVICES, INC.	CRD# 13941	WAVERLY, IA
B	09/21/1993 - 06/08/1994	PRUCO SECURITIES CORPORATION	CRD# 5685	NEWARK, NJ

### 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
03/2011 - Present	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE	Y	WEXFORD, PA, United States
03/2011 - Present	STRATOS WEALTH PARTNERS, LTD	INVESTMENT ADVISER REPRESENTATIVE	Y	WEXFORD, PA, 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) 03/17/2011: NO BUSINESS NAME - INV REL - 1603 CARMODY CT, STE 300, SEWICKLEY, PA 15143 - NON-VARIABLE INSURANCE - AGENT LICENSED W VARIOUS CARRIERS, CONDUCTING SALES AND SERVICE OF FIXED INS PRODUCTS, INCLUDING FIXED ANNUITIES, TERM, UNIVERSAL WHOLE LIFE, LTC DISABILITY HEALTH AND DENTAL

(2) 05/02/2011: EXECUTIVE BENEFIT SOLUTIONS - NON-VARIABLE INSURANCE DBA - 90% OF TIME SPENT - PROVIDE



## Registration & Employment History



### OTHER BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

#### FINANCIAL SERVICES IN THE AREA OF EXECUTIVE BENEFITS: 401K PROVIDER FOR CREDIT UNIONS

(3) 5/26/2011 - Stratos Wealth Partners, Ltd - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - Registered Investment Advisor Hybrid - Start Date: 3/2011 - Time Spent 100% - I provide investment advisory services through Stratos Wealth Partners LTD, an independent investment advisor firm. I started this business activity in 3/2011. I expect to spend approximately 160 hours per month on this activity. Please see the advisory firm's Form ADV for more information about its address, the nature of its business, its owners, and its services at <http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov/IAPD>. The firm is separate from and independent of LPL Financial.

(4) 09/25/2013: STRATOS WEALTH PARTNERS - DBA FOR LPL BUSINESS (ENTITY FOR LPL BUSINESS) - INV REL - 1603 CARMODY CT, STE 300, SEWICKLEY, PA 15143

(5) 11/21/2018 - Executive Benefits Solutions - DBA for LPL Business (entity for LPL business) - Invest Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - Start Date 12/01/2004 - 40 hours/month - 40 hours during trading.

(6) 1/30/2019 - Stratos Wealth Partners, LTD - DBA: (Hybrid) Executive Benefits Solutions - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - Registered Investment Advisor DBA - IAR - Started 01/01/2004 - 40 Hours Per Month During Securities Trading - Time Spent 25%.

(7) 3/19/2019 - Executive Benefits Solutions - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - Non-Variable Insurance - Started 01/01/2004 - 40 Hours Per Month During Securities Trading.



## 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
Regulatory Event	1
Customer Dispute	1
Termination	2

### Regulatory Event

This disclosure event may include a final, formal proceeding initiated by a regulatory authority (e.g., a state securities agency, a federal regulator such as the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Commodities Futures Trading Commission, or a foreign financial regulatory body) for a violation of investment-related rules or regulations. This disclosure event may also include a revocation or suspension of an Investment Adviser Representative's authority to act as an attorney, accountant or federal contractor.

#### Disclosure 1 of 1

**Reporting Source:** Regulator

**Regulatory Action Initiated By:** NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SECURITIES DEALERS, INC.

**Sanction(s) Sought:**

**Other Sanction(s) Sought:**

**Date Initiated:** 12/05/2001

**Docket/Case Number:** C05010054

**Employing firm when activity occurred which led to the regulatory action:** CUNA BROKERAGE SERVICES, INC.

**Product Type:** Annuity(ies) - Variable

**Other Product Type(s):** VARIABLE UNIVERSAL LIFE INSURANCE

**Allegations:** NASD RULE 2110- WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE ALLEGATIONS, THE RESPONDENT CONSENTED TO THE ENTRY OF FINDINGS THAT, A MEMBER FIRM, ACTING THROUGH ZERNICH, RECOMMENDED AND ENGAGED IN A VARIABLE ANNUITY CONTRACT PURCHASE TRANSACTION IN THE ACCOUNT OF A PUBLIC CUSTOMER AND FAILED TO COMMUNICATE A MATERIAL FACT WITH RESPECT TO INVESTMENT IN LIGHT OF THE CUSTOMER'S AGE AND INVESTMENT TIME HORIZON, SPECIFICALLY, THE 10 PER CENT ADDITIONAL TAX ON EARLY DISTRIBUTIONS FROM DEFERRED ANNUITY CONTRACTS.

**Current Status:** Final



**Resolution:** Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)  
**Resolution Date:** 12/05/2001  
**Sanctions Ordered:** Monetary/Fine \$2,500.00  
Suspension  
**Other Sanctions Ordered:**  
**Sanction Details:** FINED \$2,500 AND SUSPENDED FROM ASSOCIATION WITH ANY NASD MEMBER IN ANY CAPACITY FOR FIVE DAYS. SUSPENSION EFFECTIVE JANUARY 7, 2002 TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS JANUARY 11, 2002.

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**Reporting Source:** Individual  
**Regulatory Action Initiated By:** NASDR,INC  
**Sanction(s) Sought:** Civil and Administrative Penalt(ies) /Fine(s)  
**Other Sanction(s) Sought:** SUSPENSION  
**Date Initiated:** 12/05/2001  
**Docket/Case Number:** CASE C05010054  
**Employing firm when activity occurred which led to the regulatory action:** CUNA BROKERAGE SERVICES INC  
**Product Type:** Annuity(ies) - Variable  
**Other Product Type(s):**  
**Allegations:** NEGLECTED TO DISCUSS THE 10% TAX ON EARLY DIST. FROM DEFERRED ANNUITY CONTRACT  
**Current Status:** Final  
**Resolution:** Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)  
**Resolution Date:** 12/05/2001  
**Sanctions Ordered:** Monetary/Fine \$2,500.00  
Suspension  
**Other Sanctions Ordered:**  
**Sanction Details:** SUSPENSION- 5 DAYS AS GENERAL SECURITIES REP START DATE 1/7/02 FINE \$2,500.00 LEVIED AGAINST ME. MAILED CHECK 12/13/2001.  
**Broker Statement** IT IS MY PRACTICE TO DISCLOSE THE FEATURES OF VARIABLE ANNUITIES, INCLUDING PENALTIES. I ALWAYS PROVIDE A PROSPECTUS TO POTENTIAL CLIENTS. IN REGARD TO THIS COMPLAINT, CLIENT TOOK AN EARLY WITHDRAWAL, REALIZED THE PENALTY AND TOOK AN ADDITIONAL EARLY WITHDRAWAL THE FOLLOWING YEAR, THEN INITIATED THE COMPLAINT. I WAS ASKED TO REMEMBER A CONVERSATION I HAD WITH THE CLIENT BACK IN 1995 AND I STATED THAT I COULD NOT CLEARLY REMEMBER THE EXACT CONVERSATION I HAD SIX YEARS PRIOR.



### 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 1

**Reporting Source:** Firm

**Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:** CUNA BROKERAGE SERVICES, INC

**Allegations:** CUSTOMER ALLEGES UNSUITABLE INVESTMENT AND FAILURE TO DISCLOSE PRODUCT FEATURES

**Product Type:** Insurance

**Other Product Type(s):** VARIABLE UNIVERSAL LIFE CONTRACT

**Alleged Damages:** \$12,000.00

#### Customer Complaint Information

**Date Complaint Received:** 12/23/2005

**Complaint Pending?** No

**Status:** Denied

**Status Date:** 01/23/2006

#### Settlement Amount:

#### Individual Contribution Amount:

**Firm Statement** AFTER REVIEW OF THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE COMPLAINT, THE FIRM FOUND THE COMPLAINT TO BE WITHOUT MERIT.

.....

**Reporting Source:** Individual

**Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:** CUNA BROKERAGE SERVICES INC

**Allegations:** CUSTOMER ALLEGES UNSUITABLE INVESTMENT AND FAILURE TO DISCLOSE PRODUCT FEATURES

**Product Type:** Insurance

**Other Product Type(s):** VARIABLE UNIVERSAL LIFE CONTRACT

**Alleged Damages:** \$12,000.00

#### Customer Complaint Information

**Date Complaint Received:** 12/23/2005

**Complaint Pending?** No

**Status:** Denied



**Status Date:** 01/23/2006

**Settlement Amount:**

**Individual Contribution Amount:**

**Broker Statement**

AFTER ITS REVIEW OF THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE COMPLAINT, CUNA BROKERAGE SERVICES FOUND THE COMPLAINT TO BE WITHOUT MERIT. I AM PROVIDING THE NARRATIVE THAT YOU HAVE REQUESTED REGARDING THE COMPLAINT FILED AGAINST ME WHILE I WAS EMPLOYED BY CUNA MUTUAL GROUP BY [CUS] PRESIDENT/CEO OF BARD EMPLOYEES FCU. [CUS] FILED A COMPLAINT ON DEC 28 OF 2005 REGARDING THE EXECUTIVE BENEFITS PROGRAM THAT HER BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED FOR HER IN 1999.

IT IS MY PRACTICE OF EXPLAINING AND REVIEWING ALL POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR A CREDIT UNION TO IMPLEMENT AN EXECUTIVE BENEFITS PROGRAM. IT IS ALSO MY PRACTICE TO EXPLAIN TO THE EXECUTIVE THE RISK OF MARKET FLUCTUATION AND HOW IT COULD EFFECT THE INVESTMENTS IN A NEGATIVE OR POSITIVE WAY.

I PROVIDED THE PROPOSAL THAT SHE REQUESTED, AND WAS NOTIFIED BY [CUS] THAT HER BOARD HAD APPROVED THE PLAN. AT THAT POINT THERE WERE NO CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS. HISTORY SHOWS THAT THE CREDIT UNION IMPLEMENTED THE PROGRAM FOR [CUS] AT THE PEAK OF THE BULL MARKET, AND SUBSEQUENTLY EXPERIENCED A THREE YEAR DOWN TURN IN THE MARKET. EXACERBATING THE SITUATION WERE THE INTERNAL COSTS OF LIFE INSURANCE CONTRACT. ALL OF THESE VARIABLES WERE CAREFULLY EXPLAINED AND REVIEWED WITH [CUS]. IT IS MY RECOLLECTION THAT IT WAS [CUS]' DECISION TO PURCHASE THIS CONTRACT, AND ALSO SHE CHOSE THE SPECIFIC VARIABLE SUB-ACCOUNTS THAT FUNDED HER PLAN.

AS REQUIRED I THEN TOOK THE APPLICATION AND SUBMITTED WITH THE BOARD APPROVED ILLUSTRATION. IT IS MY RECOLLECTION THAT [CUS] RECEIVED FAVORABLE UNDERWRITING. THE POLICY WAS ISSUED AND DELIVERED TO [CUS].

IT IS MY PRACTICE TO REVIEW MY CLIENTS ACCOUNT AT LEAST ANNUALLY. IT IS MY RECOLLECTION THAT [CUS] DID MAKE SOME ADJUSTMENTS TO HER PORTFOLIO AFTER REVIEWING HER PLAN.

EMPLOYMENT RECORDS WILL SHOW I TERMINATED MY SERVICE WITH CUNA MUTUAL GROUP IN NOVEMBER 8, 2004. I RECEIVED NOTICE OF THIS COMPLAINT ON JANUARY 31, 2006. THE PLAN IMPLEMENTED IN 1999



## 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 2

**Reporting Source:** Firm  
**Firm Name:** Stratos Wealth Partners, ltd  
**Termination Type:** Permitted to Resign  
**Termination Date:** 04/11/2024  
**Allegations:** Failed to provide timely notice of outstanding liens to the Firm.  
**Product Type:** No Product

### Disclosure 2 of 2

**Reporting Source:** Firm  
**Firm Name:** LPL FINANCIAL LLC  
**Termination Type:** Permitted to Resign  
**Termination Date:** 04/11/2024  
**Allegations:** Failed to timely report outstanding liens to Firm.  
**Product Type:** No Product



## End of Report

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