



IAPD Report

W. JOSEPH HARPER

CRD# 237512

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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

W. JOSEPH HARPER (CRD# 237512)

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 **03/26/2021**.

CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
IA	HP & ASSOCIATES	CRD# 300587	08/15/2019

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	W. JOSEPH HARPER	119879	COLUMBUS, OH	11/21/2003 - 06/27/2019

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



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: **HP & ASSOCIATES**
Main Address: BELLEFONTAINE, OH
Firm ID#: 300587

Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
IA Ohio	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	08/15/2019

Branch Office Locations

HP & ASSOCIATES
BELLEFONTAINE, OH



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, 0 general industry/product exams, and 1 state securities law exam.

Principal/Supervisory Exams

Exam	Category	Date
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No information reported.

General Industry/Product Exams

Exam	Category	Date
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No information reported.

State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
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IA Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination (S65)	Series 65	04/11/1996
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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	11/21/2003 - 06/27/2019	W. JOSEPH HARPER	CRD# 119879	COLUMBUS, OH

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
04/1983 - 07/2019	HARPER ASSOCIATES	OWNER	Y	COLUMBUS, OH, 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.

Director of family owned funeral Business in Columbus Ohio with no day to day responsibility



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

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:	Florida Office of Financial Regulation
Sanction(s) Sought:	Bar Cease and Desist
Date Initiated:	01/18/2019
Docket/Case Number:	91331-S
URL for Regulatory Action:	
Employing firm when activity occurred which led to the regulatory action:	Harper Associates, LLC
Product Type:	No Product
Allegations:	N/A
Current Status:	Final
Resolution:	Order
Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or deceptive conduct?	No
Resolution Date:	01/18/2019
Sanctions Ordered:	Bar (Permanent) Cease and Desist

**Sanction 1 of 1**

Sanction Type: Bar (Permanent)
Capacities Affected: Dealer, associated person, issuer, investment adviser, or affiliate
Duration:
Start Date: 01/18/2019
End Date:

Regulator Statement

On January 18, 2019, the Office of Financial Regulation entered a Final Order adopting the Stipulation and Consent Agreement in the matter of W. Joseph Harper. Mr. Harper neither admitted nor denied the findings but consented to the entry of findings by the Office. The Office found that W. Joseph Harper failed to establish written policies and procedures reasonably designed to achieve compliance. In addition, Mr. Harper misrepresented his qualifications when he represented that he was a Certified Financial Planner via the "CFP" designation on his firm's ADV, Part 2, and on invoices sent to clients, when in fact he was not a CFP during the relevant time period. Pursuant to the Final Order, W. Joseph Harper agreed to cease and desist from all present and future violations of Chapter 517, F.S. and the administrative rules thereunder; and to a permanent bar by the Office from the following activity subject to Chapter 517, F.S.: engaging as a dealer, associated person, issuer or affiliate in the offer or sale of securities from offices or to persons residing in the state of Florida; providing investment advisory services from offices or to persons residing in the state of Florida or acting as an affiliate of any person who provides investment advisory services; submitting an application or notification for a license or registration with the Office; and engaging in any activity that would require disclosure of Mr. Harper's name, status, or function in any application for registration.

Reporting Source: Individual
Regulatory Action Initiated By: Florida Office of Financial Regulation
Sanction(s) Sought: Bar
Date Initiated: 02/23/2018
Docket/Case Number: 91331-S
Employing firm when activity occurred which led to the regulatory action: Harper Associates
Product Type: No Product
Allegations:

- Did not disclose accurate number of employees
- Did not disclose type of client
- Did not disclose continuous supervision
- Did not disclose specifics of other businesses
- Did not disclose custody
- Did not disclose who acted as qualified custodian
- Did not disclose mandatory statement on firm brochure cover page
- Did not disclose having deemed custody
- Disclosed a defunct website address
- Engaged in use if CFP designation after expiration
- Failed to update compliance manual
- Failed to provide updated financials



Current Status: Final

Resolution: Stipulation and Consent

Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or deceptive conduct? No

Resolution Date: 01/18/2019

Sanctions Ordered: Bar (Permanent)

Sanction 1 of 1

Sanction Type: Bar (Permanent)

Capacities Affected: All Capacities

Duration:

Start Date: 01/18/2019

End Date:

Broker Statement

W Joseph Harper had registered in Florida as part of obtaining Florida residence and planning his pre- retirement. Later, in attempting to relinquish registration in Florida, a Florida audit discovered that Mr. Harper had made some seemingly innocuous oversights in his ADV filing. At the time of the audit, Mr. Harper had no Florida clients and was not attempting to secure any Florida clients. Nevertheless, Florida pursued these minor paperwork errors to the extreme. It became obvious after a proposed financial penalty, that the Florida Securities Department, unlike Ohio which had been the previous registration authority, operated as a funding unit for the government.

Example of a "major" highlighted infraction was an inadvertent failure to remove the CFP designation from one piece of electronic signature used in invoices. Mr. Harper had been a multi-decade member of the CFP organization, serving as the local president in Central Ohio. Mr. Harper voluntarily resigned his membership as part of his retirement process and had attempted and intended to remove all CFP references from business cards and letterhead

As a coincidence, he has been subsequently invited to obtain Emeritus status with the organization.

Mr. Harper discontinued his website, again as part of the retirement process but forgot to note that removal in the amended ADV, another "major" failing and subject to a \$10,000 fine from Florida.

Other items were similar in that no client was affected in any way or suffered any financial harm. No members of the public were induced to become clients or provided any marketing material with that attempt. The effort to collect fines was all encompassing, bordering on the absurd. When Florida offered to waive all financial penalties in exchange for a permanent bar to doing business, it was gladly accepted.

Having spent over 40 years in the business, and going through multitudes of changes from paper filings, to the beginning hiccups of e-filing, and through the ridiculous YTK expenses, and even the requirement to purchase laser printers, Mr. Harper has been diligent with securities requirements - even assisting the nascent Ohio Department with their first efforts to learn what should be reviewed in auditing



the very few Fee Only firms.

In summary, no client was harmed in any way, no new clients have been added for well over 5 years and Ohio has been most helpful in assisting with the corrected filing of the current and everchanging ADV.



End of Report

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