



IAPD Report

JOSEPH C ADORNATO

CRD# 2380973

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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

JOSEPH C ADORNATO (CRD# 2380973)

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 **07/06/2026**.

CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
B	MORGAN STANLEY	CRD# 149777	08/13/2021
IA	MORGAN STANLEY	CRD# 149777	08/13/2021

QUALIFICATIONS

This representative is currently registered in **4** SRO(s) and **20** 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	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	7691	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL	07/22/2008 - 08/16/2021
B	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	7691	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL	07/18/2008 - 08/16/2021
IA	OPPENHEIMER & CO. INC.	249	BOCA RATON, FL	08/02/2005 - 07/30/2008

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	1
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 **20** jurisdiction(s) and 4 SRO(s) through his or her employer(s).

Employment 1 of 1

Firm Name: **MORGAN STANLEY**
Main Address: 2000 WESTCHESTER AVENUE
PURCHASE, NY 10577-2530
Firm ID#: 149777

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	08/13/2021
B	NYSE American LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	08/13/2021
B	Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Representative	Approved	08/13/2021
B	New York Stock Exchange	General Securities Representative	Approved	08/13/2021
B	Alabama	Agent	Approved	08/19/2021
B	Arizona	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021
B	California	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021
B	Florida	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021
IA	Florida	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	08/16/2021
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	08/16/2021
B	Illinois	Agent	Approved	08/23/2021
B	Maine	Agent	Approved	01/07/2026
B	Maryland	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021



Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	Massachusetts	Agent	Approved	09/20/2021
B	Michigan	Agent	Approved	01/08/2026
B	Nevada	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021
B	New Jersey	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021
B	New York	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021
B	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021
B	Ohio	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021
B	Puerto Rico	Agent	Approved	05/19/2022
B	South Carolina	Agent	Approved	08/13/2021
B	South Dakota	Agent	Approved	07/07/2026
B	Texas	Agent	Approved	10/27/2023
IA	Texas	Investment Adviser Representative	Restricted Approval	10/31/2023
B	Virginia	Agent	Approved	12/26/2023

Branch Office Locations

MORGAN STANLEY

350 East Las Olas Boulevard
Suite 1500
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301



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
	Futures Managed Funds Examination (S31)	Series 31	11/06/2003
	General Securities Representative Examination (S7)	Series 7	09/13/1993

State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
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	Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination (S65)	Series 65	09/17/2007
	Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (S63)	Series 63	01/10/1995

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	07/22/2008 - 08/16/2021	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	CRD# 7691	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL
B	07/18/2008 - 08/16/2021	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	CRD# 7691	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL
IA	08/02/2005 - 07/30/2008	OPPENHEIMER & CO. INC.	CRD# 249	BOCA RATON, FL
B	07/18/2005 - 07/30/2008	OPPENHEIMER & CO. INC.	CRD# 249	BOCA RATON, FL
IA	01/12/1995 - 05/27/2005	MORGAN STANLEY	CRD# 7556	FT.LAUDERDALE, FL
B	01/10/1995 - 05/27/2005	MORGAN STANLEY DW INC.	CRD# 7556	PURCHASE, NY
B	09/14/1993 - 10/27/1993	MUTUAL SERVICE CORPORATION	CRD# 4806	BOSTON, MA

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
09/2021 - Present	Morgan Stanley Private Bank, N.A	Financial Advisor	Y	New York, NY, United States
08/2021 - Present	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC	FINANCIAL ADVISOR	Y	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL, United States
12/2009 - 08/2021	BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.	VP; FINANCIAL ADVISOR	Y	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL, United States
07/2008 - 08/2021	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	FINANCIAL ADVISOR	Y	FORT LAUDERDALE, 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.

No information reported.



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	1
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 1

Reporting Source: Regulator

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: OPPENHEIMER & CO., INC.

Allegations: BREACH OF CONTRACT; BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTIES; UNSUITABILITY; NEGLIGENCE; MISREPRESENTATIONS; AND COMMON LAW FRAUD. THE CAUSES OF ACTION RELATE TO THE PURCHASE OF VARIABLE ANNUITIES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A PRUDENTIAL VARIABLE ANNUITY IN CLAIMANT'S ACCOUNT.

Product Type: Annuity-Variable

Alleged Damages: \$170,000.00

Arbitration Information

Arbitration/Reparation Claim filed with and Docket/Case No.: FINRA - CASE #11-02746

Date Notice/Process Served: 07/11/2011

Arbitration Pending? No

Disposition: Settled

Disposition Date: 01/18/2013

Disposition Detail: JOSEPH ADORNATO WAS A SUBJECT OF THE CUSTOMER'S STATEMENT OF CLAIM ALLEGING THAT ADORNATO AND HIS MEMBER FIRM CAUSED SALES PRACTICE VIOLATIONS. ON OR ABOUT JANUARY 18, 2013, THE PARTIES



NOTIFIED FINRA DISPUTE RESOLUTION OF THE SETTLEMENT OF THE MATTER.

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: OPPENHEIMER & CO. INC.

Allegations: CLAIMANT ALLEGES THAT IN EARLY 2008 HIS FINANCIAL ADVISOR INVESTED IN A VARIABLE ANNUITY RATHER THAN A FIXED ANNUITY AND THIS RESULTED IN A LOSS OF \$170,000.

Product Type: Annuity-Variable

Alleged Damages: \$170,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation? Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location: FINRA BOCA RATON, FL

Docket/Case #: 11-02746

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation: 07/11/2011

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 08/02/2011

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

Status Date: 02/26/2013

Settlement Amount: \$25,000.00

Individual Contribution Amount: \$0.00

Firm Statement "I MADE THE CLIENT AWARE PRIOR TO THE PURCHASE OF THE ANNUITY THAT THE ANNUITY WAS A VARIABLE ANNUITY AND NOT A FIXED ANNUITY. THE CLIENT WAS ALSO PROVIDED A PROSPECTUS WHICH HAD THE DETAILS OF THE ANNUITY IN IT AND CLEARLY DESCRIBED IT AS A VARIABLE ANNUITY. THE CLIENT MADE SEVERAL CHANGES TO THE ANNUITY ON THEIR OWN ACCORD AND WITHOUT MY RECOMENDATION. BY DOING THIS THEY CHANGED THE ORIGINAL PLAN THAT I RECOMMENDED. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THE OPPENHEIMER SETTLED FOR BUSINESS REASONS/COSTS OF DEFENSE. I DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE SETTLEMENT."

Reporting Source: Individual



Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

OPPENHEIMER & CO. INC.

Allegations:

CLAIMANT ALLEGES THAT IN EARLY 2008 HIS FINANCIAL ADVISOR INVESTED IN A VARIABLE ANNUITY RATHER THAN A FIXED ANNUITY AND THIS RESULTED IN A LOSS OF \$170,000.00

Product Type:

Annuity-Variable

Alleged Damages:

\$170,000.00

Is this an oral complaint?

No

Is this a written complaint?

No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

FINRA BOCA RATON, FL

Docket/Case #:

11-02746

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation:

07/11/2011

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:

08/02/2011

Complaint Pending?

No

Status:

Settled

Status Date:

02/26/2013

Settlement Amount:

\$25,000.00

Individual Contribution Amount:

\$0.00

Broker Statement

"I MADE THE CLIENT AWARE PRIOR TO THE PURCHASE OF THE ANNUITY THAT THE ANNUITY WAS A VARIABLE ANNUITY AND NOT A FIXED ANNUITY. THE CLIENT WAS ALSO PROVIDED A PROSPECTUS WHICH HAD THE DETAILS OF THE ANNUITY IN IT AND CLEARLY DESCRIBED IT AS A VARIABLE ANNUITY. THE CLIENT MADE SEVERAL CHANGES TO THE ANNUITY ON THEIR OWN ACCORD AND WITHOUT MY RECOMENDATION. BY DOING THIS THEY CHANGED THE ORIGINAL PLAN THAT I RECOMMENDED. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THE OPPENHEIMER SETTLED FOR BUSINESS REASONS/COSTS OF DEFENSE. I DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE SETTLEMENT."



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 DW INC.

Termination Type: Voluntary Resignation

Termination Date: 04/29/2005

Allegations: THE BROWARD COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND THE NYSE HAVE ADVISED MORGAN STANLEY THAT MR. ADORNATO IS UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR UNLAWFUL COMPENSATION ALLEGEDLY PAID TO A FORMER BROWARD COUNTY INVESTMENT MANAGER IN EXCHANGE FOR DIRECTING BUSINESS TO MR. ADORNATO AND FOR ALLEGED PERJURY IN CONNECTION WITH A VOLUNTARY SWORN STATEMENT THAT MR. ADORNATO HAD PROVIDED TO THE STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN THAT INVESTIGATION. MORGAN STANLEY WAS ADVISED THAT THIS INVESTIGATION IS BASED, IN PART, UPON A SWORN STATEMENT THAT HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY THE FORMER INVESTMENT MANAGER TO THE STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. MR. ADORNATO HAS ADAMANTLY DENIED THESE ALLEGATIONS. NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED BY THE BROWARD COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND BY LETTER DATED MAY 24, 2005, THE NYSE HAS INFORMED MR. ADORNATO THAT IT WILL TAKE NO ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THESE MATTERS.

Product Type: Other

Other Product Types: BONDS

Firm Statement MR. ADORNATO ADAMANTLY DENIES THE ALLEGATIONS AND STATES THAT HE SUBMITTED HIMSELF TO A POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION WHICH HE PASSED. NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED BY THE BROWARD COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND THE NYSE HAS INFORMED MR. ADORNATO THAT IT WILL TAKE NO ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THESE MATTERS.

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Reporting Source: Individual

Firm Name: MORGAN STANLEY DW INC.

Termination Type: Voluntary Resignation

Termination Date: 04/29/2005

Allegations: THE BROWARD COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND THE NYSE HAVE ADVISED MORGAN STANLEY THAT MR. ADORNATO IS UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR UNLAWFUL COMPENSATION ALLEGEDLY PAID TO A FORMER BROWARD COUNTY INVESTMENT MANAGER IN EXCHANGE FOR DIRECTING BUSINESS TO MR. ADORNATO AND FOR ALLEGED PERJURY IN CONNECTION WITH A VOLUNTARY SWORN STATEMENT THAT MR. ADORNATO HAD PROVIDED TO THE STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN THAT INVESTIGATION. MORGAN STANLEY WAS ADVISED THAT THIS INVESTIGATION IS BASED, IN PART, UPON A SWORN STATEMENT THAT HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY THE FORMER INVESTMENT MANAGER TO THE STATE



ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. MR. ADORNATO HAS ADAMANTLY DENIED THESE ALLEGATIONS. NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED BY THE BROWARD COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND BY LETTER DATED MAY 24, 2005, THE NYSE HAS INFORMED MR. ADORNATO THAT IT WILL TAKE NO ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THESE MATTERS.

Product Type:

Other

Other Product Types:

BONDS

Broker Statement

MR. ADORNATO ADMANTLY DENIES THE ALLEGATIONS AND STATES THAT HE SUBMITTED HIMSELF TO A POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION WHICH HE PASSED. NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED BY THE BROWARD COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND THE NYSE HAS INFORMED MR. ADORNATO THAT IT WILL TAKE NO ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THESE MATTERS.



End of Report

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