IAPD Report

PAUL BUEHNER MERRILL

CRD# 2507989

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

User Guidance

www.adviserinfo.sec.gov

Report Summary

PAUL BUEHNER MERRILL (CRD# 2507989)

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 **05/01/2025**.

CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
B	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	CRD# 6413	03/08/2012
IA	PRIVATE ADVISOR GROUP, LLC	CRD# 155216	10/24/2018

QUALIFICATIONS

This representative is currently registered in **1** 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	INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL PARTNERS	125112	IDAHO FALLS, ID	03/09/2012 - 12/07/2018
IA	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	6413	VICTOR, ID	08/09/2013 - 01/25/2016
B	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY	149777	IDAHO FALLS, ID	06/01/2009 - 04/05/2012

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

Employment 1 of 2

Firm Name: **LPL FINANCIAL LLC**

Main Address: 1055 LPL WAY
FORT MILL, SC 29715

Firm ID#: 6413

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	FINRA	General Securities Principal	Approved	03/08/2012
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	03/08/2012
B	Arizona	Agent	Approved	03/29/2012
B	California	Agent	Approved	04/20/2012
B	Colorado	Agent	Approved	03/04/2015
B	Florida	Agent	Approved	02/23/2021
B	Hawaii	Agent	Approved	03/23/2012
B	Idaho	Agent	Approved	03/08/2012
B	Illinois	Agent	Approved	11/18/2015
B	Maryland	Agent	Approved	05/30/2019
B	Michigan	Agent	Approved	10/11/2021
B	Montana	Agent	Approved	05/01/2025
B	Nebraska	Agent	Approved	04/29/2019

Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	Nevada	Agent	Approved	04/26/2012
B	New Mexico	Agent	Approved	03/29/2012
B	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	04/27/2012
B	Oregon	Agent	Approved	03/04/2015
B	Texas	Agent	Approved	07/30/2013
B	Utah	Agent	Approved	03/29/2012
B	Virginia	Agent	Approved	03/29/2012
B	Washington	Agent	Approved	03/29/2012
B	Wyoming	Agent	Approved	03/29/2012

Branch Office Locations

LPL FINANCIAL LLC
3393 MERLIN DRIVE, SUITE C
IDAHO FALLS, ID 83404

Employment 2 of 2

Firm Name: **PRIVATE ADVISOR GROUP, LLC**

Main Address: 305 MADISON AVENUE
MORRISTOWN, NJ 07960

Firm ID#: 155216

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
IA	Idaho	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	10/24/2018
IA	Texas	Investment Adviser Representative	Restricted Approval	10/24/2018

Branch Office Locations

PRIVATE ADVISOR GROUP, LLC

Qualifications

3393 Merlin Ave Suite C
Idaho Falls, ID 83404

PRIVATE ADVISOR GROUP, LLC
2 Springs Pkwy, Ste 202
Victor, ID 83455

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	08/12/1996

General Industry/Product Exams

	Exam	Category	Date
B	Securities Industry Essentials Examination (SIE)	SIE	10/01/2018
B	Futures Managed Funds Examination (S31)	Series 31	05/07/2004
B	General Securities Representative Examination (S7)	Series 7	07/06/1994

State Securities Law Exams

	Exam	Category	Date
IA B	Uniform Combined State Law Examination (S66)	Series 66	02/07/2003
B	Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (S63)	Series 63	07/27/1994

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	03/09/2012 - 12/07/2018	INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL PARTNERS	CRD# 125112	IDAHO FALLS, ID
IA	08/09/2013 - 01/25/2016	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	CRD# 6413	VICTOR, ID
B	06/01/2009 - 04/05/2012	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY	CRD# 149777	IDAHO FALLS, ID
IA	06/01/2009 - 04/05/2012	MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC	CRD# 149777	IDAHO FALLS, ID
B	07/01/2008 - 06/01/2009	CITIGROUP GLOBAL MARKETS INC.	CRD# 7059	IDAHO FALLS, ID
IA	07/01/2008 - 06/01/2009	CITIGROUP GLOBAL MARKETS INC.	CRD# 7059	IDAHO FALLS, ID
B	08/12/2006 - 07/07/2008	UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.	CRD# 8174	IDAHO FALLS, ID
IA	08/12/2006 - 07/07/2008	UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.	CRD# 8174	IDAHO FALLS, ID
IA	02/10/2003 - 08/12/2006	PIPER JAFFRAY & CO.	CRD# 665	IDAHO FALLS, ID
B	11/16/1998 - 08/12/2006	PIPER JAFFRAY & CO.	CRD# 665	IDAHO FALLS, ID
B	09/03/1997 - 11/16/1998	U.S. BANCORP INVESTMENTS, INC.	CRD# 17868	SAINT PAUL, MN
B	05/13/1996 - 09/03/1997	U.S. BANCORP SECURITIES	CRD# 17439	PORTLAND, OR
B	07/20/1994 - 05/20/1996	INVEST FINANCIAL CORPORATION	CRD# 12984	APPLETON, WI
B	07/07/1994 - 08/17/1994	AMERICAN EXPRESS FINANCIAL ADVISORS INC.	CRD# 6363	MINNEAPOLIS, MN
B	07/07/1994 - 08/17/1994	IDS LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	CRD# 6321	MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Registration & Employment History

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	Private Advisor Group, LLC	Investment Adviser Representative	Y	Idaho Falls, ID, United States
03/2012 - Present	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE	Y	IDAHO FALLS, ID, United States
12/2013 - 10/2018	Independent Financial Partners	Investment Adviser Representative	Y	Idaho Falls, ID, 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. 3/2/2012: Merrill & Brown Investments - DBA for LPL Business (entity for LPL business) - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - Owner

2. 5/25/2012: Dura manufacturing - family business - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - 1% Time Spent - Family manufacturing start up business of truck camper shells.

3. 5/25/2012: No Business Name - Real Estate Rental - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - 1% Time Spent - One rental unit. Condominium. No Advisors or clients rent it. Rented through a property management company.

4. 10/21/2016: Merrill Investments LLC - Business Entity For Tax/Investment Purposes Only - Investment Related - 502 S Woodruff Ave, Idaho Falls, ID 83401 - Start 03/01/2012 - 0 Hr/Mo - IFP advisory based revenue, for tax purposes only, not held out to the public.

5. 11/6/2018 - Private Advisor Group - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - Registered Investment Advisor Hybrid - Started 08/10/2018 - 100 Hours Per Month/20 Hours During Securities Trading - I provide investment advisory services through Private Advisor Group, an independent investment advisor firm. I started this business activity on 11/06/2018. I expect to spend approximately 160 hours/month on this activity. Please see the advisory firms 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.

6. 2/14/2019 - Merrill Investments - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - DBA for LPL Business (entity for LPL business) - Start Date: 10/15/2018 - 120 Hours Per Month/120 Hours During Securities Trading.

7. 6/7/2021 - No Business Name - Investment Related - Lahaina, HI 96761 - Real Estate Rental - Start Date: 6/1/2018 - 1 Hours Per Month/0 Hours During Securities Trading - One rental unit. Condominium. No Advisors or clients rent it. Rented through a property management company.

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	2

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 2

Reporting Source:	Individual
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.
Allegations:	CLIENT ALLEGES, "IF I HAD UNDERSTOOD AND (HAD) BEEN EXPLAINED THROUGHLY THE COST, TAX IMPLICATIONS, PENALTIES AND SURRENDER CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TERMINATING AND LIQUIDATING MY VARIABLE ANNUITY, I WOULD NEVER AGREED TO IT"
Product Type:	Annuity(ies) - Variable
Alleged Damages:	$15,000.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	11/28/2007
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Denied
Status Date:	01/25/2008
Settlement Amount:	
Individual Contribution Amount:	
Broker Statement	CLIENT WAS AWARE OF TAXABLE EVENT. SHE SIGNED THE WITHDRAWAL FORM AND WITHHELD FOR TAXES. TAXES WERE MORE THAN SHE ESTIMATED. 20 MONTHS AFTER THE FACT HER SON IN LAW, WHO RECENTLY BECAME SECURITIES LICENSED, WROTE THE COMPLAINT.

Disclosure 2 of 2

Reporting Source:	Individual
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	PIPER JAFFRAY & CO.
Allegations:	CLIENT BELIEVES THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF HIS FINANCIAL ADVISOR WERE UNSUITABLE AND WERE SOLICITED MORE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR THAN HIM.
Product Type:	Mutual Fund(s)
Alleged Damages:	$5,000.00

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	02/22/2005
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Denied
Status Date:	06/14/2005
Settlement Amount:	
Individual Contribution Amount:	
Broker Statement	FINANCIAL ADVISOR BELIEVES SAID ALLEGATIONS TO BE FRIVOLOUS. CLIENT CLAIMS $5000.00 DAMAGES WHEN ONLY TRADES THAT WERE DONE TOTALED $900.00 IN COMMISSIONS AND WERE DISCOUNTED 50%. CLIENT TRANSFERRED ACCOUNT OUT AND NEVER TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITY TO RE-INVEST AND TO GET ACCOUNT ALLOCATED PROPERLY. NO SETTLEMENT IS ANTICIPATED AT THIS TIME.

End of Report

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