



## IAPD Report

# EARNEST RUBY SMITH III

CRD# 3188681

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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

### EARNEST RUBY SMITH III (CRD# 3188681)

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 **03/31/2026**.

### CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
<b>B</b>	TRUIST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	CRD# 17499	08/29/2005
<b>IA</b>	TRUIST ADVISORY SERVICES, INC.	CRD# 283390	09/01/2016

### QUALIFICATIONS

This representative is currently registered in **1** SRO(s) and **41** 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
<b>IA</b>	SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	17499	NASHVILLE, TN	09/16/2005 - 12/31/2016
<b>B</b>	ALLSTATE FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC	18272	LINCOLN, NE	01/03/2001 - 08/24/2005
<b>B</b>	AMERICAN EXPRESS FINANCIAL ADVISORS INC.	6363	MINNEAPOLIS, MN	04/29/1999 - 01/12/2001

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



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

### Employment 1 of 2

Firm Name: **TRUIST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.**  
Main Address: 303 PEACHTREE STREET  
2ND FLOOR  
ATLANTA, GA 30303  
Firm ID#: 17499

Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
<b>B</b> FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	08/29/2005
<b>B</b> Alabama	Agent	Approved	04/05/2017
<b>B</b> Arizona	Agent	Approved	09/17/2024
<b>B</b> California	Agent	Approved	07/29/2008
<b>B</b> Colorado	Agent	Approved	03/05/2012
<b>B</b> Connecticut	Agent	Approved	04/05/2017
<b>B</b> Delaware	Agent	Approved	11/02/2021
<b>B</b> District of Columbia	Agent	Approved	01/31/2023
<b>B</b> Florida	Agent	Approved	09/01/2005
<b>B</b> Georgia	Agent	Approved	02/19/2013
<b>B</b> Idaho	Agent	Approved	03/17/2022
<b>B</b> Illinois	Agent	Approved	07/27/2015
<b>B</b> Indiana	Agent	Approved	01/20/2022



### Qualifications

Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
<b>B</b> Kansas	Agent	Approved	03/31/2026
<b>B</b> Kentucky	Agent	Approved	08/29/2005
<b>B</b> Maryland	Agent	Approved	01/19/2017
<b>B</b> Massachusetts	Agent	Approved	06/12/2019
<b>B</b> Michigan	Agent	Approved	07/23/2019
<b>B</b> Minnesota	Agent	Approved	06/17/2024
<b>B</b> Mississippi	Agent	Approved	06/10/2024
<b>B</b> Missouri	Agent	Approved	05/23/2024
<b>B</b> Montana	Agent	Approved	01/07/2025
<b>B</b> New Hampshire	Agent	Approved	08/12/2019
<b>B</b> New Jersey	Agent	Approved	01/02/2024
<b>B</b> New Mexico	Agent	Approved	04/05/2017
<b>B</b> New York	Agent	Approved	04/05/2017
<b>B</b> North Carolina	Agent	Approved	03/26/2014
<b>B</b> Ohio	Agent	Approved	08/14/2014
<b>B</b> Oklahoma	Agent	Approved	06/17/2024
<b>B</b> Oregon	Agent	Approved	10/09/2020
<b>B</b> Pennsylvania	Agent	Approved	08/06/2015
<b>B</b> Puerto Rico	Agent	Approved	04/24/2024



### Qualifications

Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
<b>B</b> South Carolina	Agent	Approved	09/08/2017
<b>B</b> South Dakota	Agent	Approved	04/05/2023
<b>B</b> Tennessee	Agent	Approved	09/01/2005
<b>B</b> Texas	Agent	Approved	01/20/2016
<b>B</b> Utah	Agent	Approved	06/10/2024
<b>B</b> Vermont	Agent	Approved	06/26/2024
<b>B</b> Virginia	Agent	Approved	10/26/2016
<b>B</b> Washington	Agent	Approved	06/17/2024
<b>B</b> West Virginia	Agent	Approved	12/09/2015
<b>B</b> Wisconsin	Agent	Approved	02/05/2013

### Branch Office Locations

**SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.**  
 3322 WEST END AVE  
 FL 6  
 NASHVILLE, TN 37203

**SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.**  
 NASHVILLE, TN

### Employment 2 of 2

Firm Name: **TRUIST ADVISORY SERVICES, INC.**  
 Main Address: 303 PEACHTREE STREET  
 2ND FLOOR  
 ATLANTA, GA 30303  
 Firm ID#: 283390

Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
<b>IA</b> Tennessee	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	09/01/2016
<b>IA</b> Texas	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	11/13/2017



## Qualifications

### Branch Office Locations

**TRUIST ADVISORY SERVICES, INC.**

3322 W END AVE

STE 620

NASHVILLE, TN 37203



## 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 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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Securities Industry Essentials Examination (SIE)	SIE	10/01/2018
Futures Managed Funds Examination (S31)	Series 31	04/30/2008
General Securities Representative Examination (S7)	Series 7	02/22/1999

#### State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
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Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (S63)	Series 63	02/23/1999
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### PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS

This section details that the representative has reported **1** professional designation(s).

#### Certified Financial Planner

This representative holds or did hold **1** professional designation(s) that may have been used to qualify as an Investment Advisor representative. Please check with the appropriate designation authority for verification that the designation is still in effect. The contact information for these professional designation authorities can be found on the website for the North American Securities Administrators Association at <http://www.nasaa.org>



### 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	09/16/2005 - 12/31/2016	SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	CRD# 17499	NASHVILLE, TN
B	01/03/2001 - 08/24/2005	ALLSTATE FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC	CRD# 18272	LINCOLN, NE
B	04/29/1999 - 01/12/2001	AMERICAN EXPRESS FINANCIAL ADVISORS INC.	CRD# 6363	MINNEAPOLIS, MN
B	04/29/1999 - 01/12/2001	IDS LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	CRD# 6321	MINNEAPOLIS, MN

#### 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
09/2016 - Present	SunTrust Advisory Services	Advisor	Y	Atlanta, GA, United States
09/2007 - Present	SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	PFA	Y	ATLANTA, GA, 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.

POSITION: OWNER NATURE: WROTE A BOOK - WILL LIST IT FOR SALE AT AMAZON AND MAYBE A LOCAL BOOK RETAILER INVESTMENT RELATED: NO NUMBER OF HOURS: 1 INVESTMENT RELATED HOURS: 0 START DATE: 02/03/2015 ADDRESS: FRANKLIN TN DESCRIPTION: PUBLISHING AND LISTING THE BOOK FOR SALE

POSITION: Outside speaking engagements for fees NATURE: Outside speaking engagements for fees INVESTMENT RELATED: No NUMBER OF HOURS: 1 SECURITIES TRADING HOURS: 0 START DATE: 05/20/2016 ADDRESS: Nashville TN DESCRIPTION: Outside speaking engagements for fees.

CONDO RENTAL POSITION: owner NATURE: Will become involved in the management of a family beach condo in HH. A third party will be engaged to handle the day-to-day operations including bookings. Very little actual activity required. We have expanded and also have Condos in Snowshoe WV and are opening one in Nashville, Tn. All partners are still family members. INVESTMENT RELATED: No NUMBER OF HOURS: 1 SECURITIES TRADING HOURS: 0 START DATE: 10/12/2018 ADDRESS: Hilton Head SC, United States DESCRIPTION: Hire management company and pay the bills



## Registration & Employment History



### OTHER BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

#### PRIVATE DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

POSITION: Co-President NATURE: Not for profit education for Private directors INVESTMENT RELATED: No NUMBER OF HOURS: 10 SECURITIES TRADING HOURS: 1 START DATE: 09/30/2024

ADDRESS: Chicago IL, United States

DESCRIPTION: Organize meetings and educational components and committees.



## 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

### 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:** Individual

**Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:** SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

**Allegations:** THE CLIENT ALLEGED THAT THE VARIABLE ANNUITY WAS PRESENTED TO HIM AS "GUARANTEEING THAT YOU WILL NOT OUTLIVE YOUR MONEY" AND COMPLAINED ABOUT MARKET LOSSES IN THE ANNUITY SUB ACCOUNT. THE CLIENT RECEIVED EXTENSIVE WRITTEN AND VERBAL DISCLOSURES ABOUT THE RISKS OF THE ANNUITY.

**Product Type:** Annuity-Variable

**Alleged Damages:** \$90,000.00

**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:** 06/04/2009

**Complaint Pending?** No

**Status:** Denied

**Status Date:** 06/08/2009

**Settlement Amount:** \$0.00



**Individual Contribution Amount:** \$0.00



## End of Report

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