



## IAPD Report

# Rafael Alberto Cortez Bernal

CRD# 6712291

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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

### Rafael Alberto Cortez Bernal (CRD# 6712291)

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 **04/08/2026**.

### CURRENT EMPLOYERS

	Firm	CRD#	Registered Since
<b>B</b>	HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC.	CRD# 19585	10/17/2017
<b>IA</b>	HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC.	CRD# 19585	08/19/2019

### QUALIFICATIONS

This representative is currently registered in **14** SRO(s) and **53** 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>B</b>	INVESTACORP, INC.	7684	MIAMI, FL	06/15/2017 - 10/09/2017
<b>B</b>	AXA ADVISORS, LLC	6627	MIAMI, FL	12/14/2016 - 06/23/2017

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 **53** jurisdiction(s) and 14 SRO(s) through his or her employer(s).

#### Employment 1 of 1

Firm Name: **HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC.**  
Main Address: 66 HUDSDON BOULEVARD EAST  
NEW YORK, NY 10001  
Firm ID#: 19585

Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
<b>B</b> Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> Cboe Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> Investors' Exchange LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> NYSE American LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> NYSE Arca, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> Nasdaq ISE, LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> Nasdaq PHLX LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
<b>B</b> Nasdaq Texas, LLC	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017



## Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	New York Stock Exchange	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/17/2017
B	Alabama	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
IA	Alabama	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	05/03/2024
B	Alaska	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Arizona	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Arkansas	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	California	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Colorado	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Connecticut	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Delaware	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	District of Columbia	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Florida	Agent	Approved	10/17/2017
IA	Florida	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	08/19/2019
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Hawaii	Agent	Approved	04/12/2021
B	Idaho	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Illinois	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Indiana	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Iowa	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021



## Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	Kansas	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Kentucky	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Louisiana	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Maine	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Maryland	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Massachusetts	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
IA	Massachusetts	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	12/08/2021
B	Michigan	Agent	Approved	04/12/2021
B	Minnesota	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Mississippi	Agent	Approved	04/12/2021
B	Missouri	Agent	Approved	04/12/2021
B	Montana	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Nebraska	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Nevada	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	New Hampshire	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	New Jersey	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	New Mexico	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	New York	Agent	Approved	10/31/2017
IA	New York	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	12/08/2021



## Qualifications

	Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
B	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	08/15/2019
B	North Dakota	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Ohio	Agent	Approved	08/15/2019
B	Oklahoma	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Oregon	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Pennsylvania	Agent	Approved	12/17/2019
IA	Pennsylvania	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	12/17/2019
B	Puerto Rico	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
B	Rhode Island	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	South Carolina	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	South Dakota	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Tennessee	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Texas	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
IA	Texas	Investment Adviser Representative	Restricted Approval	12/12/2021
B	Utah	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Vermont	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Virgin Islands	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
B	Virginia	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018



### Qualifications

Regulator	Registration	Status	Date
<b>B</b> Washington	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
<b>B</b> West Virginia	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021
<b>B</b> Wisconsin	Agent	Approved	09/20/2018
<b>B</b> Wyoming	Agent	Approved	02/04/2021

### Branch Office Locations

**HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC.**  
Key Biscayne, FL

**HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC.**  
1441 Brickell Avenue  
16th Floor  
MIAMI, FL 33131



## 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, 2 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
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General Securities Representative Examination (S7)	Series 7	12/14/2016
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#### State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
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Uniform Combined State Law Examination (S66)	Series 66	04/16/2019
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Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination (S63)	Series 63	10/31/2017
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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
B	06/15/2017 - 10/09/2017	INVESTACORP, INC.	CRD# 7684	MIAMI, FL
B	12/14/2016 - 06/23/2017	AXA ADVISORS, LLC	CRD# 6627	MIAMI, FL

### 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
12/2020 - Present	HSBC Bank (USA) Inc.	Wealth Relationship Manager	Y	Miami, FL, United States
12/2020 - Present	HSBC Securities (USA) Inc.	Wealth Relationship Manager	Y	Miami, FL, United States
10/2017 - 12/2020	HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC.	Senior Premier Relationship Officer	Y	MIAMI, FL, United States
09/2017 - 12/2020	HSBC Bank USA National Association	Senior Premier Relationship Officer	Y	Miami, FL, United States
06/2017 - 09/2017	BRADY FINANCIAL	REGISTERED SALES ASSISTANT	Y	MIAMI, FL, United States
06/2017 - 09/2017	Investacorp, Inc.	REGISTERED SALES ASSISTANT	Y	Miami, FL, United States
10/2016 - 06/2017	AXA ADVISORS, LLC	REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE	Y	NEW YORK, NY, United States
02/2016 - 10/2016	SELF-EMPLOYED	SELF-EMPLOYED	N	MIAMI, 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.

1) Yes Dual hatted as a Bank Officer for HSBC Bank (USA) N.A., an affiliate of HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., engaging in the sale of bank related products and services. This position will be in conjunction with my current role as a registered representative with HSBC Securities (USA) Inc.

2) 1. The name of the other business - Rulecor Realty Invest. 1520 LLC

2. Whether the business is investment-related - No

3. The addresses of the other businesses: 170 Ocean Lane Dr. Apt 502 Key Biscayne FL 33149

4. The nature of the other business: Passive invest in a Real Estate Development

5. Your position: Owner



## Registration & Employment History



### OTHER BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

6. Title : Owner
7. Relationship with the other business: Owner
8. The start date of your relationship: 11/8/2024
9. The approximate number of hours/month you devote to the other business: 0
10. The number of hours you devote to the other business during securities trading hours: 0
11. Briefly describe your duties relating to the other business: (Information Required): I will have no active role with this entity. The company was incorporated to hold a real estate investment instead of investing under individual names.



## 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

<b>Reporting Source:</b>	Individual
<b>Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:</b>	HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC.
<b>Allegations:</b>	On November 18, 2022, the customer alleged that they requested to settle their funds in February 2022 and that a delay in response from the RR resulted in further losses. Client claims that the RR did not advise them within their risk profile.
<b>Product Type:</b>	Mutual Fund
<b>Alleged Damages:</b>	\$0.00
<b>Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):</b>	No specific damage amount was alleged by the customer. A good faith calculation of damages is \$212,577.36
<b>Is this an oral complaint?</b>	No
<b>Is this a written complaint?</b>	Yes
<b>Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?</b>	No

### Customer Complaint Information

<b>Date Complaint Received:</b>	11/18/2022
<b>Complaint Pending?</b>	No
<b>Status:</b>	Denied
<b>Status Date:</b>	12/12/2022



**Settlement Amount:**

**Individual Contribution  
Amount:**



## End of Report

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