

## **BrokerCheck Report**

## **VERITRUST FINANCIAL, LLC**

CRD# 106594

Section Title	Page(s)
Report Summary	1
Registration and Withdrawal	2
Firm Profile	3 - 6
Firm History	7
Firm Operations	8 - 12
Disclosure Events	13



When communicating online or investing with any professional, make sure you know who you're dealing with. <u>Imposters</u> might link to sites like BrokerCheck from <u>phishing</u> or similar scam websites, or through <u>social media</u>, trying to steal your personal information or your money.

Please contact FINRA with any concerns.

#### About BrokerCheck®



BrokerCheck offers information on all current, and many former, registered securities brokers, and all current and former registered securities firms. FINRA strongly encourages investors to use BrokerCheck to check the background of securities brokers and brokerage firms before deciding to conduct, or continue to conduct, business with them.

#### What is included in a BrokerCheck report?

- BrokerCheck reports for individual brokers include information such as employment history, professional qualifications, disciplinary actions, criminal convictions, civil judgments and arbitration awards. BrokerCheck reports for brokerage firms include information on a firm's profile, history, and operations, as well as many of the same disclosure events mentioned above.
- Please note that the information contained in a BrokerCheck 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 broker or brokerage firm, or concluded through a negotiated settlement with no admission or finding of wrongdoing.

#### • Where did this information come from?

- The information contained in BrokerCheck comes from FINRA's Central Registration Depository, or CRD® and is a combination of:
  - information FINRA and/or the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) require brokers and brokerage firms to submit as part of the registration and licensing process, and
  - o information that regulators report regarding disciplinary actions or allegations against firms or brokers.

#### How current is this information?

- Generally, active brokerage firms and brokers are required to update their professional and disciplinary information in CRD within 30 days. Under most circumstances, information reported by brokerage firms, brokers and regulators is available in BrokerCheck the next business day.
- What if I want to check the background of an investment adviser firm or investment adviser representative?
- To check the background of an investment adviser firm or representative, you can search for the firm or individual in BrokerCheck. If your search is successful, click on the link provided to view the available licensing and registration information in the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure (IAPD) website at https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. In the alternative, you may search the IAPD website directly or contact your state securities regulator at http://www.finra.org/Investors/ToolsCalculators/BrokerCheck/P455414.
- Are there other resources I can use to check the background of investment professionals?
- FINRA recommends that you learn as much as possible about an investment professional before
  deciding to work with them. Your state securities regulator can help you research brokers and investment adviser
  representatives doing business in your state.

Thank you for using FINRA BrokerCheck.



Using this site/information means that you accept the FINRA BrokerCheck Terms and Conditions. A complete list of Terms and Conditions can be found at brokercheck.finra.org



For additional information about the contents of this report, please refer to the User Guidance or www.finra.org/brokercheck. It provides a glossary of terms and a list of frequently asked questions, as well as additional resources. For more information about FINRA, visit www.finra.org.

www.finra.org/brokercheck
User Guidance

## **VERITRUST FINANCIAL, LLC**

CRD# 106594

SEC# 8-53006

#### **Main Office Location**

3755 CAPITAL OF TX HIGHWAY SOUTH SUITE 130 AUSTIN, TX 78704

## **Mailing Address**

3755 CAPITAL OF TX HIGHWAY SOUTH SUITE 130 AUSTIN, TX 78704

## **Business Telephone Number**

512-448-0647

## **Report Summary for this Firm**



Yes

This report summary provides an overview of the brokerage firm. Additional information for this firm can be found in the detailed report.

#### Firm Profile

This firm is classified as a limited liability company. This firm was formed in Texas on 10/10/2000. Its fiscal year ends in December.

### **Firm History**

Information relating to the brokerage firm's history such as other business names and successions (e.g., mergers, acquisitions) can be found in the detailed report.

## **Firm Operations**

This brokerage firm is no longer registered with FINRA or a national securities exchange.

#### **Disclosure Events**

Brokerage firms are required to disclose certain criminal matters, regulatory actions, civil judicial proceedings and financial matters in which the firm or one of its control affiliates has been involved.

Are there events disclosed about this firm?

The following types of disclosures have been reported:

Туре	Count	
Regulatory Event	4	
Arbitration	1	

## **Registration Withdrawal Information**

This section provides information relating to the date the brokerage firm ceased doing business and the firm's financial obligations to customers or other brokerage firms.



Date firm ceased business: 11/18/2013

Does this brokerage firm owe any money or securities to any customer or brokerage firm?

This firm is classified as a limited liability company.

This firm was formed in Texas on 10/10/2000.

Its fiscal year ends in December.

#### **Firm Names and Locations**

This section provides the brokerage firm's full legal name, "Doing Business As" name, business and mailing addresses, telephone number, and any alternate name by which the firm conducts business and where such name is used.

**CRD#** 106594

**SEC#** 8-53006

#### **Main Office Location**

3755 CAPITAL OF TX HIGHWAY SOUTH SUITE 130 AUSTIN, TX 78704

#### **Mailing Address**

3755 CAPITAL OF TX HIGHWAY SOUTH SUITE 130 AUSTIN, TX 78704

#### **Business Telephone Number**

512-448-0647



This section provides information relating to all direct owners and executive officers of the brokerage firm.



#### **Direct Owners and Executive Officers**

Legal Name & CRD# (if any): VFS FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC

Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?

**Domestic Entity** 

**Position** MEMBER

Position Start Date 09/2009

Percentage of Ownership 75% or more

Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?

Yes

Is this a public reporting company?

No

Legal Name & CRD# (if any):

BROWN, EDGAR ALLEN JR

Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?

Individual

Position

**Position Start Date** 

CCO 09/2013

Percentage of Ownership

Less than 5%

Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?

Yes

Is this a public reporting

company?

No

Legal Name & CRD# (if any):

BROWN, EDGAR ALLEN JR

1463057

Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?

Individual

Position

PRESIDENT/CEO/CFO/MANAGING MEMBER

Position Start Date

08/2005

**Percentage of Ownership** 

Less than 5%

User Guidance

**Direct Owners and Executive Officers (continued)** 

Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?

Yes

Is this a public reporting company?

No

Legal Name & CRD# (if any):

ZAWAIDEH, RENATA STANISLAWA

5926469

Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?

Individual

Position

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS PRINCIPAL

**Position Start Date** 

08/2011

**Percentage of Ownership** 

Less than 5%

Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?

No

Is this a public reporting

company?

No

This section provides information relating to any indirect owners of the brokerage firm.

# FINCA

### **Indirect Owners**

Legal Name & CRD# (if any): BROWN, EDGAR ALLEN JR

Is this a domestic or foreign entity or an individual?

Individual

Company through which indirect ownership is established

VFS FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC

Relationship to Direct Owner

OWNER

Relationship Established

09/2009

**Percentage of Ownership** 

75% or more

Does this owner direct the management or policies of the firm?

Yes

Is this a public reporting

No

company?

## **Firm History**

This section provides information relating to any successions (e.g., mergers, acquisitions) involving the firm.

FINCA

No information reported.

## Registrations

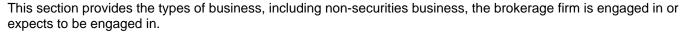
FINCA

This section provides information about the regulators (Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), self-regulatory organizations (SROs), and U.S. states and territories) with which the brokerage firm is currently registered and licensed, the date the license became effective, and certain information about the firm's SEC registration.

This firm is no longer registered.

The firm's registration was from 04/09/2001 to 01/23/2014.

## **Types of Business**



This firm currently conducts 13 types of businesses.

#### **Types of Business**

Broker or dealer retailing corporate equity securities over-the-counter

Broker or dealer selling corporate debt securities

Mutual fund retailer

U S. government securities dealer

U S. government securities broker

Municipal securities dealer

Municipal securities broker

Broker or dealer selling variable life insurance or annuities

Broker or dealer selling oil and gas interests

Put and call broker or dealer or option writer

Investment advisory services

Broker or dealer selling tax shelters or limited partnerships in primary distributions

Private placements of securities

### **Other Types of Business**

This firm does not effect transactions in commodities, commodity futures, or commodity options.

This firm does engage in other non-securities business.

Non-Securities Business Description: MARKETING OF EVERBANK'S BANKING SERVICES

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT OFFEERED ALSO





#### **Clearing Arrangements**

This firm does not hold or maintain funds or securities or provide clearing services for other broker-dealer(s).

#### **Introducing Arrangements**

This firm does refer or introduce customers to other brokers and dealers.

Name: PERSHING LLC

**CRD #**: 7560

Business Address: ONE PERSHING PLAZA

JERSEY CITY, NJ 07399

**Effective Date:** 05/23/2003

**Description:** PERSHING, LLC IS A CLEARING BROKER DEALER. PERSHING

FUNCTIONS TO CLEAR AND MAINTAIN CASH, MARGIN, OPTION, OR OTHER ACCOUNTS ("ACCOUNTS") FOR VERITRUST FINANCIAL, LLC OR

CUSTOMERS OF VERITRUST FINANCIAL, LLC.

Name: FIRST SOUTHWEST COMPANY

**CRD #**: 316

Business Address: 1700 PACIFIC AVENUE, SUITE 500

DALLAS, TX 75201

**Effective Date:** 01/16/2002

**Description:** FIRST SOUTHWEST COMPANY (FSWC) IS A CLEARING BROKER

DEALER. FSWC FUNCTIONS ARE TO CLEAR AND MAINTAIN CASH, MARGIN, OPTION, OR OTHER ACCOUNTS ("ACCOUNTS") FOR VERITRUST FINANCIAL, LLC OR CUSTOMERS OF VERITRUST

FINANCIAL, LLC.

## **Industry Arrangements**



This firm does not have books or records maintained by a third party.

This firm does not have accounts, funds, or securities maintained by a third party.

This firm does have customer accounts, funds, or securities maintained by a third party.

Name: PERSHING LLC

**CRD #:** 7560

Business Address: ONE PERSHING PLAZA

JERSEY CITY, NJ 07399

Effective Date: 05/23/2003

**Description:** PERSHING, LLC IS A CLEARING BROKER DEALER. PERSHING

FUNCTIONS TO CLEAR AND MAINTAIN CASH, MARGIN, OPTION, OR OTHER ACCOUNTS ("ACCOUNTS") FOR VERITRUST FINANCIAL, LLC OR

CUSTOMERS OF VERITRUST FINANCIAL, LLC.

Name: FIRST SOUTHWEST COMPANY

**CRD #**: 316

Business Address: 1700 PACIFIC AVENUE, SUITE 500

DALLAS, TX 75201

**Effective Date:** 01/16/2002

**Description:** FIRST SOUTHWEST COMPANY (FSWC) IS A CLEARING BROKER

DEALER. FSWC FUNCTIONS ARE TO CLEAR AND MAINTAIN CASH, MARGIN, OPTION, OR OTHER ACCOUNTS ("ACCOUNTS") FOR VERITRUST FINANCIAL, LLC OR CUSTOMERS OF VERITRUST

FINANCIAL, LLC.

#### **Control Persons/Financing**

This firm does not have individuals who control its management or policies through agreement.

This firm does not have individuals who wholly or partly finance the firm's business.

#### **Organization Affiliates**

FINCA

This section provides information on control relationships the firm has with other firms in the securities, investment advisory, or banking business.

#### This firm is not, directly or indirectly:

- · in control of
- · controlled by
- · or under common control with

the following partnerships, corporations, or other organizations engaged in the securities or investment advisory business.

#### This firm is not directly or indirectly, controlled by the following:

- · bank holding company
- · national bank
- · state member bank of the Federal Reserve System
- · state non-member bank
- · savings bank or association
- · credit union
- or foreign bank

### **Disclosure Events**



All firms registered to sell securities or provide investment advice are required to disclose regulatory actions, criminal or civil judicial proceedings, and certain financial matters in which the firm or one of its control affiliates has been involved. For your convenience, below is a matrix of the number and status of disclosure events involving this brokerage firm or one of its control affiliates. Further information regarding these events can be found in the subsequent pages of this report.

	Pending	Final	On Appeal
Regulatory Event	0	4	0
Arbitration	N/A	1	N/A



#### **Disclosure Event Details**

What you should know about reported disclosure events:

- 1. BrokerCheck provides details for any disclosure event that was reported in CRD. It also includes summary information regarding FINRA arbitration awards in cases where the brokerage firm was named as a respondent.
- 2. Certain thresholds must be met before an event is reported to CRD, for example:
  - A law enforcement agency must file formal charges before a brokerage firm is required to disclose a particular criminal event.
- 3. Disclosure events in BrokerCheck reports come from different sources:
  - Disclosure events for this brokerage firm were reported by the firm and/or regulators. When the firm and a regulator report information for the same event, both versions of the event will appear in the BrokerCheck report. The different versions will be separated by a solid line with the reporting source labeled.
- 4. There are different statuses and dispositions for disclosure events:
  - o A disclosure event may have a status of pending, on appeal, or final.
    - A "pending" event involves allegations that have not been proven or formally adjudicated.
    - An event that is "on appeal" involves allegations that have been adjudicated but are currently being appealed.
    - A "final" event has been concluded and its resolution is not subject to change.
  - o A final 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 involves an agreement by the parties to resolve the matter.
       Please note that firms may choose to settle customer disputes or regulatory matters for business or other reasons.
    - A "resolved" matter usually involves no payment to the customer and no finding of wrongdoing on the part of the individual broker. Such matters generally involve customer disputes.
- 5. You may wish to contact the brokerage firm to obtain further information regarding any of the disclosure events contained in this BrokerCheck report.

### Regulatory - Final

This type of disclosure event involves (1) a final, formal proceeding initiated by a regulatory authority (e.g., a state securities agency, self-regulatory organization, federal regulator such as the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, foreign financial regulatory body) for a violation of investment-related rules or regulations; or (2) a revocation or suspension of the authority of a brokerage firm or its control affiliate to act as an attorney, accountant or federal contractor.

#### Disclosure 1 of 4

Reporting Source: Regulator

Current Status: Final



#### Allegations:

SEC RULES 17A-3(A)(18), 17A-4, 17A-4(B)(1), FINRA BY-LAWS ARTICLE V, SECTION 3, NASD RULES 1120(B), 2110, 2210(B)(1)(A), 2210(B)(2)(A), 2210(C)(2)(A), 2210(D)(1)(A), 2210(D)(1)(B), 2210(D)(2)(B), 2210(D)(2)(C)(I), 2210(D)(3), 2210(E), 3010, 3012, 3013, 3070, 3110, 3110(D), AND INTERPRETATIVE MATERIAL-2210-4, MSRB RULE G-3: THE FIRM FAILED TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SUPERVISORY SYSTEM OR WRITTEN SUPERVISORY PROCEDURES THAT WERE REASONABLY DESIGNED TO DETECT AND PREVENT THE CHARGING OF EXCESSIVE COMMISSIONS ON MUTUAL FUND LIQUIDATION TRANSACTIONS. THE FIRM FAILED TO PUT IN PLACE ANY SUPERVISORY SYSTEMS OR PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT CUSTOMERS WERE NOT INADVERTENTLY CHARGED COMMISSIONS, IN ADDITION TO THE VARIOUS FEES DISCLOSED IN THE MUTUAL FUND PROSPECTUS. ON THEIR MUTUAL FUND LIQUIDATION TRANSACTIONS. THE FIRM'S FAILURE TO TAKE SUCH ACTION RESULTED IN COMMISSIONS BEING CHARGED ON 236 TRANSACTIONS IN 125 CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS: THE TRANSACTIONS GENERATED APPROXIMATELY \$64,110 IN COMMISSIONS FOR THE FIRM. THE FIRM HAD INADEQUATE SUPERVISORY SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT ALL EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE WAS RECEIVED BY A FIRM PRINCIPAL AND RETAINED BY THE FIRM FOR THE REQUISITE TIME PERIOD: THE FIRM FAILED TO REVIEW AND RETAIN SECURITIES-RELATED EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE SENT AND RECEIVED ON AT LEAST ONE REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE'S OUTSIDE EMAIL ACCOUNT. THE FIRM FAILED TO CONDUCT AN ANNUAL INSPECTION OF ALL OF ITS OFFICES OF SUPERVISORY JURISDICTION (OSJ) BRANCH OFFICES. THE FIRM FAILED TO COMPLY WITH VARIOUS FINRA ADVERTISING PROVISIONS IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS, INCLUDING WEBSITES, BILLBOARD AND NEWSLETTER. WEBSITES CONTAINED INFORMATION THAT WAS NOT FAIR AND BALANCED, DID NOT PROVIDE A SOUND BASIS FOR EVALUATING THE FACTS REPRESENTED, OR OMITTED MATERIAL FACTS. ADDITIONALLY, WEBSITES CONTAINED FALSE, EXAGGERATED, UNWARRANTED OR MISLEADING STATEMENTS: THE FIRM'S WEBSITES AND THE BILLBOARD DID NOT PROMINENTLY DISCLOSE THE FIRM'S NAME; A WEBSITE, IN CONNECTION WITH A DISCUSSION OF MUTUAL FUNDS, FAILED TO DISCLOSE STANDARDIZED PERFORMANCE DATA MANDATED BY SEC RULE 482(D)(3) AND (D)(5) AND RULE 34B-1 OF THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940. FAILED TO DISCLOSE THE MAXIMUM SALES CHARGE OR MAXIMUM DEFERRED SALES CHARGE AND FAILED TO IDENTIFY THE TOTAL ANNUAL FUND OPERATING EXPENSE RATIO; AND A WEBSITE, IN THE COMPARISON BETWEEN EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS (ETFS) AND MUTUAL FUNDS FAILED TO DISCLOSE ALL MATERIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO PRODUCTS. THE FIRM FAILED TO REPORT, OR TO TIMELY REPORT, CERTAIN CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS AS REQUIRED; THE FIRM ALSO FAILED TO TIMELY UPDATE A REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE'S FORM U5 TO DISCLOSE REQUIRE INFORMATION. THE FIRM ALSO FAILED



TO CREATE AND MAINTAIN A RECORD OF A CUSTOMER COMPLAINT AND RELATED RECORDS THAT INCLUDED THE COMPLAINANT'S NAME. ADDRESS, ACCOUNT NUMBER, DATE THE COMPLAINT WAS RECEIVED, NAME OF EACH ASSOCIATED PERSON IDENTIFIED IN THE COMPLAINT, DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE OF THE COMPLAINT, DISPOSITION OF THE COMPLAINT OR, ALTERNATIVELY, FAILED TO MAINTAIN A SEPARATE FILE THAT CONTAINED THESE INFORMATION. THE FIRM FAILED TO ENSURE THAT ALL COVERED PERSONS, INCLUDING THE FIRM'S PRESIDENT AND CEO, COMPLETED THE FIRM ELEMENT OF CONTINUING EDUCATION. THE FIRM FAILED TO COMPLY WITH NASD CONDUCT RULES 3012 AND 3013, IN THAT THE FIRM'S 3012 AND 3013 REPORTS WERE INADEQUATE. THE 3012 REPORT WAS INADEQUATE BECAUSE IT FAILED TO PROVIDE A RATIONALE FOR THE AREAS THAT WOULD BE TESTED; FAILED TO DETAILED THE MANNER AND METHOD FOR TESTING AND VERIFYING THAT THE FIRM'S SYSTEM OF SUPERVISORY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WERE DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS: DID NOT PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF THE TEST RESULTS AND GAPS FOUND; FAILED TO DETECT REPEAT VIOLATIONS INCLUDING, FAILURE TO CONDUCT ANNUAL OSJ BRANCH INSPECTIONS, ADVERTISING VIOLATIONS, CUSTOMER COMPLAINT REPORTING. AND ENSURING THAT ALL COVERED PERSONS PARTICIPATED IN THE FIRM ELEMENT OF CONTINUING **EDUCATION. (CONT. IN COMMENT)** 

Initiated By: FINRA

**Date Initiated:** 07/14/2011

**Docket/Case Number:** <u>2008011640802</u>

Principal Product Type: Mutual Fund(s)

Other Product Type(s):

Principal Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

Other Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

Resolution:

Other N/A

Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)

Resolution Date: 07/14/2011

Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or deceptive conduct?

No



Sanctions Ordered: Censure

Monetary/Fine \$90,000.00 Disgorgement/Restitution

Other Sanctions Ordered:

Sanction Details: WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE FINDINGS, THE FIRM CONSENTED

TO THE DESCRIBED SANCTIONS AND TO THE ENTRY OF FINDINGS, THEREFORE THE FIRM IS CENSURED AND FINED \$90,000 (\$2,500 OF WHICH PERTAINS TO THE VIOLATIONS OF MSRB RULE G-3). THE FIRM IS ALSO ORDERED TO PAY RESTITUTION TO THE CUSTOMERS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$34.105.40 PLUS INTEREST AT THE RATE SET FORTH IN

SECTION 6621(A)(2) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, 26 U.S.C.

6621(A)(2), FROM JULY 1, 2008, UNTIL THE DATE THIS AWC IS ACCEPTED BY

THE NAC. A REGISTERED PRINCIPAL ON BEHALF OF THE FIRM SHALL SUBMIT SATISFACTORY PROOF OF PAYMENT OF RESTITUTION OR OF REASONABLE AND DOCUMENTED EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN TO EFFECT RESTITUTION TO FINRA NO LATER THAN 120 DAYS AFTER ACCEPTANCE OF THE AWC. IF FOR ANY REASON RESPONDENT CANNOT LOCATE THE CUSTOMER AFTER REASONABLE AND DOCUMENTED EFFORTS WITHIN 120 DAYS FROM THE DATE THE AWC IS ACCEPTED, OR SUCH ADDITIONAL PERIOD AGREED TO BY FINRA IN WRITING, THE FIRM SHALL FORWARD ANY UNDISTRIBUTED RESTITUTION AND INTEREST TO THE APPROPRIATE ESCHEAT, UNCLAIMED PROPERTY, OR ABANDONED PROPERTY FUND FOR THE STATE IN WHICH THE CUSTOMER LAST RESIDED. THE FIRM SHALL PROVIDE SATISFACTORY PROOF OF SUCH ACTION TO FINRA WITHIN 14 DAYS OF FORWARDING THE UNDISTRIBUTED RESTITUTION AND INTEREST

TO THE APPROPRIATE STATE AUTHORITY.

Regulator Statement THE 3013 REPORT DID NOT DOCUMENT THE PROCESSES FOR

ESTABLISHING, MAINTAINING, REVIEWING, TESTING AND MODIFYING COMPLIANCE POLICIES TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE NASD RULES, MSRB RULES AND FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS; AND THE

MANNER AND FREQUENCY WITH WHICH THE PROCESSES ARE ADMINISTERED. THE FIRM ALSO FAILED TO ENFORCE ITS 3013 PROCEDURES REGARDING NOTIFICATION FROM CUSTOMERS

REGARDING ADDRESS CHANGES.

Reporting Source: Firm

Current Status: Final

Allegations: SEC RULES 17A-3(A)(18), 17A-4, 17A-4(B)(1), FINRA BY-LAWS ARTICLE V,

SECTION 3, NASD RULES 1120(B), 2110, 2210(B)(1)(A), 2210(B)(2)(A), 2210(C)(2)(A), 2210(D)(1)(A), 2210(D)(1)(B), 2210(D)(2)(B), 2210(D)(2)(C)(I),

2210(D)(3), 2210(E), 3010, 3012, 3013, 3070, 3110, 3110(D), AND



INTERPRETIVE MAT'L-2210-4, MSRB RULE G-3: THE FIRM FAILED TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SUPERVISORY SYSTEM OR WRITTEN SUPERVISORY PROCEDURES THAT WERE REASONABLY DESIGNED TO DETECT AND PREVENT CHARGING OF EXCESSIVE COMMISSIONS ON MUTUAL FUND LIQUIDATIONS. THE FIRM FAILED TO PUT IN PLACE SUPERVISORY SYSTEMS OR PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT CUSTOMERS WEREN'T INADVERTENTLY CHARGED COMMISSIONS, IN ADDITION TO THE VARIOUS FEES DISCLOSED IN THE PROSPECTUS, ON MUTUAL FUND LIQUIDATIONS. THIS RESULTED IN COMMISSIONS BEING CHARGED ON 236 TRANSACTIONS IN 125 CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS; THE TRANSACTIONS GENERATED APPROX \$64.110 IN COMMISSIONS FOR THE FIRM. THE FIRM HAD INADEQUATE SUPERVISORY SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT ALL EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE WAS REC'D BY A FIRM PRINCIPAL AND RETAINED BY THE FIRM FOR THE REQUIRED TIME PERIOD: FIRM FAILED TO REVIEW AND RETAIN SECURITIES-RELATED EMAIL SENT AND REC'D ON AT LEAST ONE REGISTERED REP'S OUTSIDE EMAIL ACCOUNT. FIRM FAILED TO CONDUCT AN ANNUAL AUDIT OF ALL OSJ BRANCH OFFICES. FIRM FAILED TO COMPLY WITH VARIOUS FINRA ADVERTISING PROVISIONS REGARDING CERTAIN PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS. INCLUDING WEBSITES, A BILLBOARD AND A NEWSLETTER. SOME WEBSITES CONTAINED INFORMATION THAT WAS NOT FAIR AND BALANCED, DID NOT PROVIDE A SOUND BASIS FOR EVALUATING THE FACTS REPRESENTED, OR OMITTED MATERIAL FACTS. SOME WEBSITES CONTAINED FALSE, EXAGGERATED, UNWARRANTED OR MISLEADING STATEMENTS; SOME WEBSITES AND A BILLBOARD DID NOT PROMINENTLY DISCLOSE THE FIRM'S NAME: A WEBSITE WITH A DISCUSSION OF MUTUAL FUNDS, FAILED TO DISCLOSE STANDARDIZED PERFORMANCE DATA MANDATED BY SEC RULE 482(D)(3) AND (D)(5) AND RULE 34B-1 OF THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940. FAILED TO DISCLOSE THE MAX SALES CHARGE OR MAX DEFERRED SALES CHARGE AND FAILED TO IDENTIFY THE TOTAL ANNUAL FUND OPERATING EXPENSE RATIO; A WEBSITE, THAT COMPARED EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS AND MUTUAL FUNDS FAILED TO DISCLOSE ALL MATERIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PRODUCTS. THE FIRM FAILED TO REPORT, OR TIMELY REPORT, CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS AS REQUIRED; THE FIRM FAILED TO TIMELY UPDATE A REGISTERED REP'S FORM U5 TO DISCLOSE REQ'D INFO. THE FIRM FAILED TO CREATE AND MAINTAIN A RECORD OF A CUSTOMER COMPLAINT AND RELATED RECORDS THAT INCLUDED THE COMPLAINANT'S NAME, ADDRESS, ACCOUNT NUMBER, DATE THE COMPLAINT WAS REC'D, NAME OF EACH ASSOCIATED PERSON IDENTIFIED IN THE COMPLAINT, DESC OF THE NATURE OF THE COMPLAINT, DISPOSITION OF THE COMPLAINT AND/OR FAILED TO MAINTAIN A SEPARATE FILE THAT CONTAINED THIS INFO. THE FIRM FAILED TO ENSURE THAT ALL COVERED PERSONS, INCL THE FIRM'S PRESIDENT/CEO, COMPLETED THE FIRM ELEMENT CONTINUING



EDUCATION (CE). THE FIRM FAILED TO COMPLY WITH NASD CONDUCT RULES 3012 AND 3013. IN THAT THE FIRM'S 3012 AND 3013 REPORTS WERE INADEQUATE. THE 3012 RPT FAILED TO PROVIDE A RATIONALE FOR THE

AREAS THAT WOULD BE TESTED; FAILED TO DETAIL THE

MANNER/METHOD FOR TESTING AND VERIFYING THAT THE FIRM'S SUPERVISORY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WERE DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE RULES AND LAWS; DID NOT PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF THE TEST RESULTS AND GAPS FOUND; FAILED TO DETECT REPEAT VIOLATIONS INCLUDING, FAILURE TO CONDUCT ANNUAL OSJ BRANCH AUDITS, ADVERTISING VIOLATIONS, CUSTOMER COMPLAINT REPORTING. AND ENSURING THAT ALL COVERED PERSONS PARTICIPATED IN FIRM ELEMENT CE. THE 3013 RPT DIDN'T DOCUMENT THE PROCESSES FOR ESTABLISHING, MAINTAINING, REVIEWING, TESTING AND MODIFYING COMPLIANCE POLICIES TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE NASD RULES, MSRB RULES AND FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS; AND THE MANNER AND FREQUENCY WITH WHICH THE PROCESSES ARE ADMINISTERED. THE FIRM ALSO FAILED TO ENFORCE ITS 3013 PROCEDURES REGARDING NOTIFICATION FROM CUSTOMERS ABOUT ADDRESS CHANGES.

**FINRA** Initiated By:

Date Initiated: 07/14/2011

**Docket/Case Number:** 2008011640802

**Principal Product Type:** Mutual Fund(s)

Other Product Type(s):

Principal Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

Other

Other Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

N/A

Resolution: Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)

**Resolution Date:** 07/14/2011

**Sanctions Ordered:** Censure

> Monetary/Fine \$90,000.00 Disgorgement/Restitution

Other Sanctions Ordered:

Sanction Details: WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE FINDINGS, THE FIRM CONSENTED

> TO THE DESCRIBED SANCTIONS AND TO THE ENTRY OF FINDINGS, THEREFORE THE FIRM IS CENSURED AND FINED \$90,000 (\$2,500 OF WHICH PERTAINS TO THE VIOLATIONS OF MSRB RULE G-3). THE FIRM IS



ALSO ORDERED TO PAY RESTITUTION TO THE CUSTOMERS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$34.105.40 PLUS INTEREST AT THE RATE SET FORTH IN SECTION 6621(A)(2) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, 26 U.S.C. 6621(A)(2), FROM JULY 1, 2008, UNTIL THE DATE THIS AWC IS ACCEPTED BY THE NAC. A REGISTERED PRINCIPAL ON BEHALF OF THE FIRM SHALL SUBMIT SATISFACTORY PROOF OF PAYMENT OF RESTITUTION OR OF REASONABLE AND DOCUMENTED EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN TO EFFECT RESTITUTION TO FINRA NO LATER THAN 120 DAYS AFTER ACCEPTANCE OF THE AWC. IF FOR ANY REASON RESPONDENT CANNOT LOCATE THE CUSTOMER AFTER REASONABLE AND DOCUMENTED EFFORTS WITHIN 120 DAYS FROM THE DATE THE AWC IS ACCEPTED. OR SUCH ADDITIONAL PERIOD AGREED TO BY FINRA IN WRITING, THE FIRM SHALL FORWARD ANY UNDISTRIBUTED RESTITUTION AND INTEREST TO THE APPROPRIATE ESCHEAT, UNCLAIMED PROPERTY, OR ABANDONED PROPERTY FUND FOR THE STATE IN WHICH THE CUSTOMER LAST RESIDED. THE FIRM SHALL PROVIDE SATISFACTORY PROOF OF SUCH ACTION TO FINRA WITHIN 14 DAYS OF FORWARDING THE UNDISTRIBUTED RESTITUTION AND INTEREST TO THE APPROPRIATE STATE AUTHORITY.

Firm Statement

WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE FINDINGS. THE FIRM EXECUTED AN AWC WITH FINRA FOR ITEMS BROUGHT TO THE FIRM'S ATTENTION DURING THE 2008 ROUTINE CYCLE EXAMINATION. THE FIRM DESIGNATED A NEW CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER IN 2008 AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE ONSITE EXAMINATION.

#### Disclosure 2 of 4

**Reporting Source:** Regulator

**Current Status:** Final

Allegations: SECTIONS 15 AND 17 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934,

SECTION 15(C) OF EXCHANGE ACT, AND SEC RULES 15C2-4, 15C3-1, 17A-3, 17A-5, 17A-11, THEREUNDER, NASD RULES 2110, 3010, 3070, ARTICLE V.

SECTIONS 2 AND 3 OF FINRA BY-LAWS - RESPONDENT MEMBER

CONDUCTED SECURITIES BUSINESS WHILE FAILING TO MAINTAIN ITS REQUIRED MINIMUM NET CAPITAL AND AS A RESULT THE FIRM'S ORIGINAL NET CAPITAL COMPUTATIONS AND FOCUS REPORTS WERE MATERIALLY INACCURATE. THE FINDINGS STATED THAT THE FIRM FAILED TO FILE NOTICE OF ITS NET CAPITAL DEFICIENCIES. THE FINDINGS ALSO STATED THAT. IN CONNECTION WITH BEST EFFORTS CONTINGENT PRIVATE PLACEMENT OFFERINGS, THE FIRM DEPOSITED INVESTOR FUNDS INTO SEPARATE ACCOUNTS AT AN ESCROW COMPANY WHICH PRIMARILY PROVIDED SERVICES FOR REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS, RATHER THAN

AT A BANK AS REQUIRED BY RULE 15C2-4. THE FINDINGS ALSO INCLUDED

THAT THE FIRM HAD INADEQUATE PROCEDURES REGARDING



CONTINGENT SECURITIES OFFERINGS. FINRA FOUND THAT THE FIRM FAILED TO REPORT DISCLOSURE EVENTS PURSUANT TO NASD RULE 3070 AND FAILED TO UPDATE, OR TO TIMELY UPDATE, UNIFORM APPLICATIONS FOR SECURITIES INDUSTRY REGISTRATION OR TRANSFER (FORMS U4) OR UNIFORM TERMINATION NOTICES FOR SECURITIES INDUSTRY REGISTRATION (FORMS U5) TO DISCLOSE REQUIRED INFORMATION.

**FINRA Initiated By:** 

**Date Initiated:** 10/12/2007

Docket/Case Number: 2005003230201

**Principal Product Type:** 

No Product

Other Product Type(s):

Principal Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

Other Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

Resolution: Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)

No

**Resolution Date:** 10/12/2007

Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or

regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or

deceptive conduct?

Sanctions Ordered: Censure

Monetary/Fine \$25,000.00

Other Sanctions Ordered:

**Sanction Details:** WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE FINDINGS, VERITRUST FINANCIAL,

LLC., CONSENTED TO THE DESCRIBED SANCTIONS AND TO THE ENTRY OF

FINDINGS, THEREFORE, THE FIRM WAS CENSURED AND FINED \$25,000.

**Reporting Source:** Firm

**Current Status:** Final

Allegations: VIOLATION OF NET CAPITAL AND RELATED BOOKS AND RECORDS;

> CONTINGENT PRIVATE PLACEMENT OFFERING ESCROW VIOLATIONS: INADEQUATE SUPERVISORY PROCEDURES RELATED TO CONTINGENT PRIVATE PLACEMENT OFFERINGS; AND FAILURE TO FILE 3070 REPORTS.



Initiated By: FINRA

**Date Initiated:** 10/12/2007

**Docket/Case Number:** 2005003230201

Principal Product Type:

No Product

Other Product Type(s):

Principal Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

Censure

Other Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

MONETARY FINE

**Resolution:** Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)

Resolution Date: 10/12/2007

Sanctions Ordered: Censure

Monetary/Fine \$25,000.00

**Other Sanctions Ordered:** 

Sanction Details: WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE ALLEGATIONS, VERITRUST

FINANCIAL CONSENTED TO THE DESCRIBED SANCTIONS AND TO THE ENTRY OF FINDINGS; THEREFORE, THE FIRM IS CENSURED AND FINED

\$25,000.

Disclosure 3 of 4

Reporting Source: Regulator

Current Status: Final

Allegations: SEC RULES 15C3-1, 17A-11, 17A-5, NASD RULE 2110 - VERITRUST

FINANCIAL, LLC ENGAGED IN A SECURITIES BUSINESS WHEN THE FIRM'S

NET CAPITAL WAS BELOW THE REQUIRED MINIMUM; FAILED AND NEGLECTED TO PROVIDE NOTIFCATION THAT ITS NET CAPITAL WAS BELOW THE REQUIRED MINIMUM; AND FAILED AND NEGLECTED TO FILE

AN ACCURATE FOCUS PART IIA REPORT FOR ONE MONTH.

Initiated By: NASD

**Date Initiated:** 04/12/2006

Docket/Case Number: E062004012002

**Principal Product Type:** 

No Product

Other Product Type(s):



Principal Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

Other Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

**Resolution:** Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)

Resolution Date: 04/12/2006

Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or

No

deceptive conduct?
Sanctions Ordered:

Censure

Monetary/Fine \$7,500.00

**Other Sanctions Ordered:** 

Sanction Details: WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE ALLEGATIONS, VERITRUST

FINANCIAL CONSENTED TO THE DESCRIBED SANCTIONS AND TO THE ENTRY OF FINDINGS: THEREFORE, THE FIRM IS CENSURED AND FINED

\$7,500.

Reporting Source: Firm

Current Status: Final

Allegations: SEC RULES 15C3-1, 17A-11, 17A5, NASD RULE 2110 -- ENGAGED IN

SECURITIES BUSINESS WHEN THE FIRM'S NET CAPITAL WAS BELOW THE REQUIRED MINIMUM; FAILED AND NEGLECTED TO PROVIDE NOTIFICATION THAT ITS NET CAPITAL WAS BELOW THE REQUIRED MINIMUM; AND FAILED AND NEGLECTED TO FILE AN ACCURATE FOCUS PART IIA REPORT FOR

ONE MONTH.

Initiated By: NASD

**Date Initiated:** 04/12/2006

Docket/Case Number: E062004012002

Principal Product Type:

No Product

Other Product Type(s):

Principal Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:



Other Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

**Resolution:** Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)

Resolution Date: 04/12/2006

Sanctions Ordered: Censure

Monetary/Fine \$7,500.00

**Other Sanctions Ordered:** 

Sanction Details: WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE ALLEGATIONS, VERITRUST

FINANCIAL CONSENTED TO THE DESCRIBED SANCTIONS AND TO THE ENTRY OF FINDINGS; THEREFORE, THE FIRM IS CENSURED AND FINED

\$7,500.

Firm Statement AS A RESULT OF A NASD AUDIT, AN ASSET AND RELATED LIABILITY WERE

RESTATED RESULTING IN A NET CAPITAL VIOLATION. UPON RESOLUTION OF THE MATTER WITH THE NASD, AN AMENDED FOCUS REPORT WAS FILED AND THE MINIMUM NET CAPITAL POSITION WAS RESTORED.

Disclosure 4 of 4

**Reporting Source:** Regulator

Current Status: Final

Allegations: NASD CONDUCT RULES 2110 AND 3010- RESPONDENT FIRM, ACTING

THROUGH AN INDIVIDUAL, FAILED TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SUPERVISORY SYSTEM REASONABLY DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE PROCESSING OF REQUESTS FOR DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS FROM

CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS.

Initiated By: NASD

**Date Initiated:** 12/28/2005

Docket/Case Number: E062004019502

Principal Product Type: No Product

Other Product Type(s):

Principal Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

Other Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

**Resolution:** Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)



Resolution Date: 12/28/2005

Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or

No

deceptive conduct?

Sanctions Ordered: Monetary/Fine \$5,000.00

**Other Sanctions Ordered:** 

Sanction Details: WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE ALLEGATIONS, RESPONDENT

CONSENTED TO THE DESCRIBED SANCTION AND TO THE ENTRY OF FINDINGS; THEREFORE, HE IS FINED \$5,000, JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY.

Reporting Source: Firm

Current Status: Final

Allegations: RESPONDENT FIRM, ACTING THROUGH AN INDIVIDUAL, FAILED TO

ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SUPERVISORY SYSTEM REASONABLY DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE PROCESSING OF REQUESTS FOR DISBURSEMENTS OF FUNDS FROM CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS.

Initiated By: NASD

**Date Initiated:** 12/28/2005

Docket/Case Number: E062004019502

Principal Product Type: No Product

Other Product Type(s):

Principal Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

Other Sanction(s)/Relief

Sought:

**Resolution:** Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)

Resolution Date: 12/28/2005

Sanctions Ordered: Monetary/Fine \$5,000.00

**Other Sanctions Ordered:** 

Sanction Details: WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE ALLEGATIONS, RESPONDENT

CONSENTED TO THE DESCRIBED SANCTION AND TO THE ENTRY OF



FINDINGS; THEREFORE, RESPONDENT IS FINED \$5,000, JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY.



#### Arbitration Award - Award / Judgment

Brokerage firms are not required to report arbitration claims filed against them by customers; however, BrokerCheck provides summary information regarding FINRA arbitration awards involving securities and commodities disputes between public customers and registered securities firms in this section of the report.

The full text of arbitration awards issued by FINRA is available at www.finra.org/awardsonline.

Disclosure 1 of 1

Reporting Source: Regulator

Type of Event: ARBITRATION

Allegations: ACCOUNT ACTIVITY-BRCH OF FIDUCIARY DT; ACCOUNT ACTIVITY-OTHER;

ACCOUNT RELATED-NEGLIGENCE; NO OTHER CONTROVERSY INVOLVED

Arbitration Forum: NASD

**Case Initiated:** 10/14/2003

**Case Number:** 03-06830

Disputed Product Type: NO OTHER TYPE OF SEC INVOLVE; UNKNOWN TYPE OF SECURITIES

Sum of All Relief Requested: \$400,000.00

**Disposition:** AWARD AGAINST PARTY

**Disposition Date:** 10/06/2004

Sum of All Relief Awarded: \$184,900.01

There may be a non-monetary award associated with this arbitration.

Please select the Case Number above to view more detailed information.

www.finra.org/brokercheck

# **End of Report**



This page is intentionally left blank.