

## BrokerCheck Report

**Stephen JON Pelleriti**

CRD# 1202950

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

Please contact FINRA with any concerns.

## 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
  - 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](http://brokercheck.finra.org)



For additional information about the contents of this report, please refer to the User Guidance or [www.finra.org/brokercheck](http://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](http://www.finra.org).



## Stephen J. Pelleriti

CRD# 1202950

### Currently employed by and registered with the following Firm(s):

**IA MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED**  
 45 WILLIAM ST  
 WELLESLEY HILLS, MA 02481  
 CRD# 7691  
 Registered with this firm since: 06/03/2016

**B MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED**  
 45 WILLIAM ST  
 WELLESLEY HILLS, MA 02481  
 CRD# 7691  
 Registered with this firm since: 03/31/2016

## Report Summary for this Broker

This report summary provides an overview of the broker's professional background and conduct. Additional information can be found in the detailed report.

### Broker Qualifications

#### This broker is registered with:

- 6 Self-Regulatory Organizations
- 4 U.S. states and territories

#### This broker has passed:

- 2 Principal/Supervisory Exams
- 4 General Industry/Product Exams
- 2 State Securities Law Exams

### Registration History

#### This broker was previously registered with the following securities firm(s):

- B WELLS FARGO SECURITIES, LLC**  
 CRD# 126292  
 BOSTON, MA  
 11/2012 - 08/2014
- B MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED**  
 CRD# 7691  
 BOSTON, MA  
 09/2010 - 04/2012
- B BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC**  
 CRD# 26091  
 BOSTON, MA  
 06/2004 - 11/2010

### Disclosure Events

All individuals registered to sell securities or provide investment advice are required to disclose customer complaints and arbitrations, regulatory actions, employment terminations, bankruptcy filings, and criminal or civil judicial proceedings.

Are there events disclosed about this broker? **Yes**

#### The following types of disclosures have been reported:

Type	Count
Customer Dispute	1



## Broker Qualifications

### Registrations

This section provides the self-regulatory organizations (SROs) and U.S. states/territories the broker is currently registered and licensed with, the category of each license, and the date on which it became effective. This section also provides, for every brokerage firm with which the broker is currently employed, the address of each branch where the broker works.

**This individual is currently registered with 6 SROs and is licensed in 4 U.S. states and territories through his or her employer.**

### Employment 1 of 1

Firm Name: **MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED**

Main Office Address: **ONE BRYANT PARK  
NEW YORK, NY 10036**

Firm CRD#: **7691**

	SRO	Category	Status	Date
B	Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Principal	Approved	03/31/2016
B	Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	03/31/2016
B	Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Principal	Approved	03/31/2016
B	Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	03/31/2016
B	Cboe Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	03/31/2016
B	Cboe Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Principal	Approved	07/06/2021
B	FINRA	General Securities Principal	Approved	03/31/2016
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	03/31/2016
B	FINRA	Investment Banking Representative	Approved	03/31/2016
B	FINRA	Investment Banking Principal	Approved	10/01/2018
B	Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Principal	Approved	03/31/2016
B	Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Representative	Approved	03/31/2016
B	New York Stock Exchange	General Securities Principal	Approved	03/31/2016
B	New York Stock Exchange	General Securities Representative	Approved	03/31/2016
B	New York Stock Exchange	Securities Manager	Approved	03/31/2016

## Broker Qualifications



### Employment 1 of 1, continued

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	Connecticut	Agent	Approved	06/03/2016
IA	Connecticut	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	06/03/2016
B	Florida	Agent	Approved	03/01/2017
IA	Florida	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	05/01/2023
B	Massachusetts	Agent	Approved	04/01/2016
B	New Hampshire	Agent	Approved	01/06/2025

### Branch Office Locations

#### MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED

45 WILLIAM ST  
WELLESLEY HILLS, MA 02481



## Broker Qualifications

### Industry Exams this Broker has Passed

This section includes all securities industry exams that the broker has passed. Under limited circumstances, a broker may attain a registration after receiving an exam waiver based on exams the broker has passed and/or qualifying work experience. Any exam waivers that the broker has received are not included below. A passed exam or exam waiver does not permit a broker to do business without an active SRO or state registration.

**This individual has passed 2 principal/supervisory exams, 4 general industry/product exams, and 2 state securities law exams.**

### Principal/Supervisory Exams

Exam	Category	Date
<b>B</b> General Securities Sales Supervisor - General Module Examination	Series 10	01/02/2023
<b>B</b> General Securities Principal Examination	Series 24	12/29/1989

### General Industry/Product Exams

Exam	Category	Date
<b>B</b> Investment Banking Registered Representative Examination	Series 79TO	01/02/2023
<b>B</b> Securities Industry Essentials Examination	SIE	10/01/2018
<b>B</b> General Securities Representative Examination	Series 7	07/18/1987
<b>B</b> Investment Company Products/Variable Contracts Representative Examination	Series 6	01/09/1984

### State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
<b>B</b> <b>IA</b> Uniform Combined State Law Examination	Series 66	06/01/2016
<b>B</b> Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination	Series 63	08/07/1987

Additional information about the above exams or other exams FINRA administers to brokers and other securities professionals can be found at [www.finra.org/brokerqualifications/registeredrep/](http://www.finra.org/brokerqualifications/registeredrep/).

## Broker Qualifications



## Professional Designations

This section details that the representative has reported **0** professional designation(s).

No information reported.



## Registration and Employment History

### Registration History

The broker previously was registered with the following firms:

Registration Dates	Firm Name	CRD#	Branch Location
<b>B</b> 11/2012 - 08/2014	WELLS FARGO SECURITIES, LLC	126292	BOSTON, MA
<b>B</b> 09/2010 - 04/2012	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	7691	BOSTON, MA
<b>B</b> 06/2004 - 11/2010	BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC	26091	BOSTON, MA
<b>B</b> 04/2001 - 06/2004	FLEET SECURITIES, INC.	13071	DALLAS, TX
<b>B</b> 01/2001 - 04/2001	QUICK & REILLY, INC.	11217	NEW YORK, NY
<b>B</b> 02/1998 - 01/2001	FLEET SECURITIES, INC.	13071	DALLAS, TX
<b>B</b> 07/1993 - 02/1998	FLEET SECURITIES INC.	7147	NEW YORK, NY
<b>B</b> 12/1991 - 07/1993	U.S. SECURITIES, INC.	14289	HARTFORD, CT
<b>B</b> 08/1990 - 11/1991	BNE CAPITAL MARKETS, INC.	22848	
<b>B</b> 09/1989 - 10/1990	NEW ENGLAND DISCOUNT BROKERAGE, INC.	17907	
<b>B</b> 05/1988 - 10/1988	SHEARSON LEHMAN HUTTON INC.	7506	
<b>B</b> 07/1987 - 05/1988	E. F. HUTTON & COMPANY INC	235	
<b>B</b> 01/1984 - 05/1984	THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES	4039	

### Employment History

This section provides up to 10 years of an individual broker's employment history as reported by the individual broker on the most recently filed Form U4.

**Please note that the broker is required to provide this information only while registered with FINRA or a national securities exchange and the information is not updated via Form U4 after the broker ceases to be registered. Therefore, an employment end date of "Present" may not reflect the broker's current employment status.**

Employment	Employer Name	Position	Investment Related	Employer Location
08/2016 - Present	BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.	Financial Advisor	Y	WELLESLEY HILLS, MA, United States





## Registration and Employment History

### Employment History, continued

Employment	Employer Name	Position	Investment Related	Employer Location
03/2016 - Present	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	Financial Advisor	Y	WELLESLEY HILLS, MA, United States
08/2014 - 02/2016	UNEMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	N	QUINCY, MA, United States

### Other Business Activities

This section includes information, if any, as provided by the broker regarding other business activities the broker is currently engaged in either as a proprietor, partner, officer, director, employee, trustee, agent or otherwise. This section does not include non-investment related activity that is exclusively charitable, civic, religious or fraternal and is recognized as tax exempt.

No information reported.

## Disclosure Events



### What you should know about reported disclosure events:

1. All individuals registered to sell securities or provide investment advice are required to disclose customer complaints and arbitrations, regulatory actions, employment terminations, bankruptcy filings, and criminal or civil judicial proceedings.
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 broker is required to disclose a particular criminal event.
  - A customer dispute must involve allegations that a broker engaged in activity that violates certain rules or conduct governing the industry and that the activity resulted in damages of at least \$5,000.
  -
3. **Disclosure events in BrokerCheck reports come from different sources:**
  - As mentioned at the beginning of this report, information contained in BrokerCheck comes from brokers, brokerage 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 BrokerCheck report. The different versions will be separated by a solid line with the reporting source labeled.
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4. **There are different statuses and dispositions for disclosure events:**
  - 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.
  - 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 brokers and brokerage 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.

For your convenience, below is a matrix of the number and status of disclosure events involving this broker. Further information regarding these events can be found in the subsequent pages of this report. You also may wish to contact the broker to obtain further information regarding these events.

	Pending	Final	On Appeal
Customer Dispute	0	1	N/A



## Disclosure Event Details

When evaluating this information, please keep in mind that a disclosure event may be pending or involve allegations that are contested and have not been resolved or proven. The matter may, in the end, be withdrawn, dismissed, resolved in favor of the broker, or concluded through a negotiated settlement for certain business reasons (e.g., to maintain customer relationships or to limit the litigation costs associated with disputing the allegations) with no admission or finding of wrongdoing.

This report provides the information exactly as it was reported to CRD and therefore some of the specific data fields contained in the report may be blank if the information was not provided to CRD.

### Customer Dispute - Settled

This type of disclosure event involves a consumer-initiated, investment-related complaint, arbitration proceeding or civil suit containing allegations of sale practice violations against the broker that resulted in a monetary settlement to the customer.

#### Disclosure 1 of 1

<b>Reporting Source:</b>	Broker
<b>Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:</b>	BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC
<b>Allegations:</b>	FAILED TO EXPLAIN THE CONCEPT OF A FAILED AUCTION AND THE RESULTING LIQUIDITY RISK ASSOCIATED WITH AUCTION RATE SECURITIES.
<b>Product Type:</b>	Other: AUCTION RATE SECURITIES
<b>Alleged Damages:</b>	\$0.00
<b>Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):</b>	UNSPECIFIED.
<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>	03/06/2008
<b>Complaint Pending?</b>	No
<b>Status:</b>	Evolved into Civil litigation (the individual is a named party)



**Status Date:** 10/23/2008

**Settlement Amount:**

**Individual Contribution Amount:**

### Civil Litigation Information

**Type of Court:** Federal Court

**Name of Court:** US DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NY

**Location of Court:** NEW YORK, NEW YORK

**Docket/Case #:** 08 CIV 9115

**Date Notice/Process Served:** 10/23/2008

**Litigation Pending?** No

**Disposition:** Settled

**Disposition Date:** 06/09/2009

**Monetary Compensation Amount:** \$4,975,000.00

**Individual Contribution Amount:** \$0.00

### Broker Statement

THIS MATTER INVOLVES THE SALE OF AUCTION RATE SECURITIES (ARS). THE TRANSACTION(S) AT ISSUE TOOK PLACE BEFORE MID-FEBRUARY 2008, WHEN THE ARS MARKET SUFFERED WIDESPREAD AUCTION FAILURES AND ILLIQUIDITY. THE SALES REPRESENTATIVE DID NOT CAUSE, CONTRIBUTE OR HAVE ANY CONTROL WHATSOEVER OVER THESE MARKET EVENTS. THE FIRM REACHED AGREEMENTS WITH CERTAIN OF ITS REGULATORS, PURSUANT TO WHICH IT REPURCHASED ARS FOR THEIR FULL PAR VALUE FROM CERTAIN CLIENTS, INCLUDING THE INSTANT CLIENT, WHETHER THEY COMPLAINED OR NOT. THE SALES REPRESENTATIVE WAS NOT A PARTY TO THAT AGREEMENT, DID NOT MAKE ANY PAYMENT TO THE CLIENT, AND WAS NOT ASKED TO AND DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE REPURCHASE AMOUNT. THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNT IN ITEM 11 ABOVE REFLECTS THE PAR VALUE OF THE REPURCHASED ARS, AS REQUIRED BY FINRA REGULATORY NOTICE 09-12.

RE NO. 6 ABOVE - DAMAGES NOT SPECIFIED NOTE: I HAD SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CLIENT SURROUNDING THE FAILED AUCTIONS THAT OCCURRED IN THE SUMMER OF 2007, POINTING OUT THAT SUCH FAILED AUCTIONS WERE A REASON FOR THE ABOVE AVERAGE RETURNS IN THE AUCTION RATE SECURITIES MARKET AT THAT TIME. THESE DISCUSSIONS BEGAN BEFORE THE FIRST INVESTMENT WAS MADE ON



OCTOBER 2, 2007. I EXPLAINED THAT THE AUCTION RATE MARKET WAS PRICING IN A HEIGHTENED RISK OF LIQUIDITY DUE TO THESE FAILED AUCTIONS. WHEN THEY THEN EXPRESSED INTEREST IN INVESTING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THEIR AFFILIATE, AND KNOWING THEIR CONCERNS SURROUNDING THE FAILED AUCTIONS FROM A FEW MONTHS EARLIER, I OFFERED TO HAVE A CONFERENCE CALL WITH THE CLIENT AND THE HEAD TRADER ON THE AUCTION RATE SECURITIES DESK AND A SENIOR BANKER IN THE PUBLIC FINANCE DEPARTMENT, WHICH OCCURRED ON NOVEMBER 2, 2007. DURING THE CALL, THE CLIENT ASKED MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LIQUIDITY AND CREDIT RISK IN THE ARS MARKET, AND ASKED DETAILED QUESTIONS AS TO THE STRUCTURE AND CREDITWORTHINESS OF STUDENT LOAN AUCTION RATE SECURITIES. WE PROVIDED DETAILED AND COMPLETE RESPONSES TO EACH QUESTION, INCLUDING A DESCRIPTION OF THE RISK OF AUCTION FAILURE AND THE RELATED LIQUIDITY IMPACT. AT NO POINT DID I, OR ANYONE PROMISE OR GUARANTEE LIQUIDITY TO ANY AUCTION RATE SECURITY, NOR IMPLY THAT THESE WERE CASH EQUIVALENT INVESTMENTS. FOLLOWING THIS CALL, THE CLIENT INSTRUCTED ME, AS THEY ALWAYS HAD WITH THIS SELF DIRECTED ACCOUNT, TO INVEST ADDITIONAL FUNDS IN AUCTION RATE SECURITIES. FURTHER, ON TWO OCCASIONS WITHOUT REQUEST, I SENT THE CLIENT OFFERING DOCUMENTS FOR A STUDENT LOAN AUCTION RATE ISSUE AND A MUNICIPAL BOND AUCTION RATE ISSUE, AND ALSO PROVIDED THEM WITH BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES' "AUCTION RATES SECURITIES PRACTICES" DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

## End of Report



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