BrokerCheck Report

BRUCE VICTOR ROBERTS

CRD# 1489110

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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.
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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.

BRUCE V. ROBERTS

CRD# 1489110

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

CAROFIN, LLC
100 Elks Club Road
Brevard, NC 28712
CRD# 298717
Registered with this firm since: 07/31/2019

CAROLINA FINANCIAL SECURITIES, LLC
100 Elks Club Rd.
BREVARD, NC 28712
CRD# 41970
Registered with this firm since: 02/19/1997

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:

- 1 Self-Regulatory Organization
- 20 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):

CS FIRST BOSTON CORPORATION
CRD# 816
NEW YORK, NY
03/1987 - 08/1995

DUPREE & COMPANY, INC.
CRD# 1697
05/1986 - 04/1987

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
Civil Event	1
Financial	2

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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 1 SRO and is licensed in 20 U.S. states and territories through his or her employer.

Employment 1 of 2

Firm Name: **CAROFIN, LLC**

Main Office Address: **100 ELKS CLUB RD.**
BREVARD, NC 28712

Firm CRD#: **298717**

	SRO	Category	Status	Date
B	FINRA	General Securities Principal	Approved	07/31/2019
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	07/31/2019
B	FINRA	Investment Banking Representative	Approved	07/31/2019
B	FINRA	Operations Professional	Approved	07/31/2019

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	California	Agent	Approved	02/04/2020
B	Colorado	Agent	Approved	05/20/2020
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	02/18/2020
B	Illinois	Agent	Approved	03/15/2021
B	Massachusetts	Agent	Approved	11/09/2021
B	New York	Agent	Approved	10/14/2020
B	Ohio	Agent	Approved	04/27/2020
B	South Carolina	Agent	Approved	08/17/2020
B	Texas	Agent	Approved	10/23/2019

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Broker Qualifications

Employment 1 of 2, continued

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	Utah	Agent	Approved	10/13/2023
B	Washington	Agent	Approved	04/28/2020

Branch Office Locations

CAROFIN, LLC
100 ELKS CLUB RD.
BREVARD, NC 28712

CAROFIN, LLC
100 Elks Club Road
Brevard, NC 28712

Employment 2 of 2

Firm Name: **CAROLINA FINANCIAL SECURITIES, LLC**

Main Office Address: **100 ELKS CLUB RD.**
BREVARD, NC 28712

Firm CRD#: **41970**

	SRO	Category	Status	Date
B	FINRA	General Securities Principal	Approved	02/19/1997
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	02/19/1997
B	FINRA	Investment Banking Representative	Approved	04/16/2010
B	FINRA	Operations Professional	Approved	12/16/2011
B	FINRA	Compliance Officer	Approved	10/01/2018
B	FINRA	Investment Banking Principal	Approved	10/01/2018

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Broker Qualifications

Employment 2 of 2, continued

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	California	Agent	Approved	02/12/1999
B	Colorado	Agent	Approved	02/20/1997
B	Connecticut	Agent	Approved	02/20/1997
B	Delaware	Agent	Approved	02/04/2008
B	District of Columbia	Agent	Approved	08/28/1998
B	Florida	Agent	Approved	08/06/1998
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	02/16/1999
B	Illinois	Agent	Approved	06/29/2007
B	Kentucky	Agent	Approved	08/11/1998
B	Massachusetts	Agent	Approved	02/19/1997
B	New Jersey	Agent	Approved	02/05/1999
B	New York	Agent	Approved	01/10/1997
B	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	02/20/1997
B	Ohio	Agent	Approved	09/01/1998
B	Pennsylvania	Agent	Approved	04/07/2000
B	South Carolina	Agent	Approved	04/05/2000
B	Texas	Agent	Approved	05/14/1997
B	Virginia	Agent	Approved	03/27/2000
B	Washington	Agent	Approved	02/28/2008

Branch Office Locations

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Broker Qualifications

Employment 2 of 2, continued

CAROLINA FINANCIAL SECURITIES, LLC
100 Elks Club Rd.
BREVARD, NC 28712

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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	Compliance Officer Examination	Series 14	01/02/2023
B	General Securities Principal Examination	Series 24	11/01/1996

General Industry/Product Exams

Exam		Category	Date
B	Operations Professional Examination	Series 99TO	01/02/2023
B	Investment Banking Registered Representative Examination	Series 79TO	01/02/2023
B	Securities Industry Essentials Examination	SIE	10/01/2018
B	General Securities Representative Examination	Series 7	05/17/1986

State Securities Law Exams

Exam		Category	Date
IA	Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination	Series 65	10/11/1995
B	Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination	Series 63	07/21/1986

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/.

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Broker Qualifications

Professional Designations

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

No information reported.

Only professional designations listed in Question 8 of the Form U4 will appear in this section if the appropriate box is checked and verified by the issuing organization at the time of the filing. Learn more about eligible designations at IARD and NASAA.

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Registration and Employment History

Registration History

The broker previously was registered with the following firms:

Registration Dates	Firm Name	CRD#	Branch Location
B 03/1987 - 08/1995	CS FIRST BOSTON CORPORATION	816	NEW YORK, NY
B 05/1986 - 04/1987	DUPREE & COMPANY, INC.	1697	

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
05/2018 - Present	Carofin, LLC	Chief Executive Officer	Y	Brevard, NC, United States
08/1996 - Present	CAROLINA FINANCIAL SECURITIES, LLC	PRESIDENT & CEO, PRINCIPAL	Y	BREVARD, NC, United States
06/1995 - Present	CAROLINA FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.	PRESIDENT AND CEO	N	BREVARD, NC, 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.

Carolina Financial Group (CFG), LLC related entities.100 Elks Club Rd, Brevard, NC 28712. Pres. of CFG Holdings, Inc. 6/1995; CEO of Carofin Holdings, Inc.12/2018 and CFG SPV Holdings Inc. 03/2026; Manager CFG 10/1997. Responsible for operations and strategic planning for CFG and related entities, not investment-related: Rehabilitation Support Services, LLC 2/2005, Salem Investment Partners III Funding 12/2011, IMG Funding LLC 2/2014, CFG Financial Services LLC 3/2013,
Miami NDT Delta Leasing I, LLC and Miami NDT Lease Mgmt, LLC 6/2015, Thunder Investment Partners LLC 7/2018, CAP-Ex LLC 6/2020, Dash 3 Funding LLC 3/2021, ABP Funding LLC 7/2021, Berry Capital Mgmt LLC 12/2021, Teardown Funding #1 LLC 5/2022, Berry Capital Mgmt II LLC 01/2023, Drop Zone Canopy Company, LLC 4/2023, Teardown Funding #2, LLC 5/2023, Long Beach 5 Star, LLC 1/2024, Empower Feeder Holdco, LLC 06/2024, DNP Leasing Company, LLC 06/2024, A320 Teardown, LLC 03/2026. I devote 160+ hrs./mo., during trading hours, to these entities. BPOE Investments, LLC. 100 Elks Club Rd, Brevard, NC. Start 09/2014. Acquire and manage owned real estate. Investment related-no. NC Aquarium Society, a non-profit org. supporting NC aquariums. Investment related-no. 3125 Poplarwood Ct, Ste 160, Raleigh, NC. Start 11/2015. Hrs/mo. is 4 outside trading hours. Board Member. I attend meetings. Lionfish International, LLC (LFI). Investment related-no. 1709 SE 26th Terrace, Cape Coral, FL 33904. LFI develops and commercially operates a method for harvesting lionfish. Board Member. Start 06/2017.

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Registration and Employment History

Other Business Activities, continued

Duties: attend board meetings and oversee the Company. Hrs/mo. is 4 during trading hrs. Ware, LLC. Investment related. 185 Taladu Ct, Brevard, NC. Sustainable housewares retailer. Start 3/2018. 1 hrs./mo. outside of trading hrs. Business advisor. Carofin, LLC, a FINRA registered BD. Investment related. 100 Elks Club Rd Brevard, NC. Created by CFG, and subsidiary of Carolina Financial Securities, LLC. Position is CEO. Start 05/2018. Duties: supervision of all registered reps. and final decision authority in all matters of the Firm. Hrs./mo. is 20 during trading hrs. Catalyst Resources, LLC and wholly owned subsidiary Covol Fuels No. 3, LLC, and Straight Creek Holding Co., LLC formed to hold all common membership units of Catalyst Resources, LLC. Investment related-no. 102 W Kentucky Ave., Ste 200 D Pineville, KY 40977. Coal mining. I am an "authorized person" with mgmt responsibility within Catalyst Resources, LLC and Covol Fuels No. 3, LLC. Authorized Person start date: 06/2021. I am the Executive Director of Straight Creek Holding Co., LLC (SCHC). Start 08/2021. Hrs./mo. is 10 hrs during trading hours. Duties: discretionary authority over the operating accounts for the companies. K-Island Resources, LLC. 100 Elks Club Rd Brevard, NC. Investment related. Duties: solicitation of investments, negotiation and structuring of the securities being offered to secure capital, and ongoing mgmt of the entity. Position CEO. Start 02/2022. Hrs./mo. is 10 hours during trading hrs. SnippetSentry, LLC. Investment related-no. 1400 Big Cedar Lane, Sebastopol, CA 95472. Communications surveillance compliance service. Board of Managers member. Start 8/2022. Duties: attend meetings and provide oversight of the company. Hrs./mo. devoted is 4 hrs during trading hrs. Virginia Carbon Products, LLC, managed by SCHC, 4318 Blackwood Rd, Norton, VA 24273. Investment related. Calcination facility. Duties: solicitation of investments, negotiation and structuring of the securities being offered to secure capital, and ongoing mgmt of the entity. Start 9/2022. Hrs./mo. devoted is 10 hrs. during trading hrs. Carofin Investment Advisors, LLC, Investment related-no. 100 Elks Club Road, Brevard, NC. Carofin Investment Advisors, LLC is a new entity with no current operations pursuing registration as an investment advisor. Position Manager. Start 01/2025.

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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.
   -
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
Civil Event	1	0	0
Financial	2	0	N/A

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Disclosure Event Details

When evaluating this information, please keep in mind that a discloure 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.

Civil - Pending

This type of disclosure event involves a pending civil court action that seeks an injunction in connection with any investment-related activity or alleges a violation of any investment-related statute or regulation.

Disclosure 1 of 1

Reporting Source:	Broker
Initiated By:	Smithline Family Trust II
Relief Sought:	Civil and Administrative Penalty(ies)/Fine(s)
Date Court Action Filed:	05/15/2026
Date Notice/Process Served:	08/15/2026
Product Type:	Promissory Note
Type of Court:	Federal Court
Name of Court:	United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina
Location of Court:	Middle District of North Carolina
Docket/Case #:	1:26-cv-453
Employing firm when activity occurred which led to the action:	Carolina Financial Securities, LLC and Carofin, LLC
Allegations:	On August 6th, 2026, the Smithline Family Trust II. Filed an amended complaint in the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina in the action titled Smithline Family Trust II v. Broyhill et al, case 1:26-cv-00453 adding Carolina Financial Securities, LLC, Carofin, LLC, CFG Financial Services, LLC, and Mr. Bruce Roberts (collectively the “CFG Parties”) as defendants in connection with certain loans made by the plaintiffs to Mr. J. Edgar Broyhill, II and affiliated parties to Mr. Broyhill (the “Broyhill Loans”). As it pertains to the CFG Parties, the complaint alleges that the CFG Parties made negligent misrepresentations in

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	connection with the offering of the Broyhill Loans. The CFG Parties dispute the allegations and intend to vigorously pursue their defense. The matter remains pending and no findings of liability have been made.
Current Status:	Pending
Limitations or Restrictions in Effect During Appeal:	Mr. Roberts disputes the allegations and intend to vigorously pursue his defense. The matter remains pending and no findings of liability have been made.
Broker Statement	On August 6th, 2026, the Smithline Family Trust II. Filed an amended complaint in the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina in the action titled Smithline Family Trust II v. Broyhill et al, case 1:26-cv-00453 adding Carolina Financial Securities, LLC, Carofin, LLC, CFG Financial Services, LLC, and Mr. Bruce Roberts (collectively the “CFG Parties”) as defendants in connection with certain loans made by the plaintiffs to Mr. J. Edgar Broyhill, II and affiliated parties to Mr. Broyhill (the “Broyhill Loans”). As it pertains to the CFG Parties, the complaint alleges that the CFG Parties made negligent misrepresentations in connection with the offering of the Broyhill Loans. The CFG Parties dispute the allegations and intend to vigorously pursue their defense. The matter remains pending and no findings of liability have been made.

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Financial - Pending

This type of disclosure event involves a pending bankruptcy, compromise with one or more creditors, or Securities Investor Protection Corporation liquidation involving the broker or an organization/brokerage firm the broker controlled that occurred within the last 10 years.

Disclosure 1 of 2

Reporting Source:	Broker
Action Type:	Bankruptcy
Bankruptcy:	Chapter 11
Action Date:	10/10/2025
Organization Name:	Berry Capital Management, LLC
Individual Position:	Authorized Person of its Manager, Carolina Financial Group, LLC
Organization Investment-Related?	No
Type of Court:	Federal Court
Name of Court:	Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina - Raleigh Division
Location of Court:	Greenville, North Carolina
Docket/Case #:	5:2025bk04002
Action Pending?	Yes

Disclosure 2 of 2

Reporting Source:	Broker
Action Type:	Bankruptcy
Bankruptcy:	Chapter 11
Action Date:	10/10/2025
Organization Name:	Berry Capital Management II, LLC
Individual Position:	Authorized Person for its Manager, Carolina Financial Group
Organization Investment-Related?	No
Type of Court:	Federal Court
Name of Court:	Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina - Raleigh Division

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Location of Court:	Greenville, North Carolina
Docket/Case #:	5:2025bk04003
Action Pending?	Yes

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End of Report

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