

BrokerCheck Report

ALFRED PONDER

CRD# 2315144

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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



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.



ALFRED PONDER

CRD# 2315144

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

IA AVANTAX ADVISORY SERVICES

2147 Beecher Road SW
Suite C
Atlanta, GA 30311
CRD# 104556
Registered with this firm since: 05/05/2016

B AVANTAX INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

2147 Beecher Road SW
Suite C
Atlanta, GA 30311
CRD# 13686
Registered with this firm since: 04/29/2016

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:

- 1 Self-Regulatory Organization
- 3 U.S. states and territories

This broker has passed:

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

Registration History

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

IA SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

CRD# 17499
ATLANTA, GA
08/2010 - 02/2016

B SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

CRD# 17499
DECATUR, GA
08/2010 - 02/2016

B WELLS FARGO ADVISORS, LLC

CRD# 19616
ATLANTA, GA
11/2004 - 08/2010

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 1 SRO and is licensed in 3 U.S. states and territories through his or her employer.

Employment 1 of 2

Firm Name: **AVANTAX ADVISORY SERVICES**

Main Office Address: **3200 OLYMPUS BLVD
SUITE 100
DALLAS, TX 75019**

Firm CRD#: **104556**

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
IA	Georgia	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	05/05/2016

Branch Office Locations

2147 Beecher Road SW
Suite C
Atlanta, GA 30311

Employment 2 of 2

Firm Name: **AVANTAX INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.**

Main Office Address: **3200 OLYMPUS BLVD
SUITE 100
DALLAS, TX 75019**

Firm CRD#: **13686**

	SRO	Category	Status	Date
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	04/29/2016



Broker Qualifications

Employment 2 of 2, continued

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	Alabama	Agent	Approved	08/04/2017
B	California	Agent	Approved	06/14/2024
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	04/29/2016

Branch Office Locations

AVANTAX INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.
2147 Beecher Road SW
Suite C
Atlanta, GA 30311



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 0 principal/supervisory exams, 2 general industry/product exams, and 2 state securities law exams.

Principal/Supervisory Exams

Exam	Category	Date
No information reported.		

General Industry/Product Exams

Exam	Category	Date
B Securities Industry Essentials Examination	SIE	10/01/2018
B General Securities Representative Examination	Series 7	04/20/1995

State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
IA Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination	Series 65	07/06/2001
B Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination	Series 63	05/11/1995

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/.

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
IA 08/2010 - 02/2016	SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	17499	DECATUR, GA
B 08/2010 - 02/2016	SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	17499	DECATUR, GA
B 11/2004 - 08/2010	WELLS FARGO ADVISORS, LLC	19616	ATLANTA, GA
IA 11/2004 - 08/2010	WELLS FARGO ADVISORS, LLC	19616	ATLANTA, GA
B 10/2004 - 11/2004	BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	16361	BOSTON, MA
IA 10/2004 - 11/2004	BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	16361	CHARLOTTE, NC
IA 01/2003 - 10/2004	QUICK & REILLY, INC.	11217	ATLANTA, GA
B 07/2002 - 10/2004	QUICK & REILLY, INC.	11217	NEW YORK, NY
B 03/2000 - 07/2002	ING FINANCIAL ADVISERS, LLC	34815	WINDSOR, CT
B 02/1999 - 03/2000	NATIONWIDE INVESTMENT SERVICES CORPORATION	7110	COLUMBUS, OH
B 10/1998 - 03/1999	EISNER SECURITIES, INC.	40585	ST. LOUIS, MO
B 05/1998 - 02/1999	NORWEST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	16100	MINNEAPOLIS, MN
B 09/1995 - 03/1998	OLDE DISCOUNT CORPORATION	5979	DETROIT, MI
B 04/1995 - 09/1995	BEAR, STEARNS & CO. INC.	79	NEW YORK, NY

Employment History



Registration and Employment History

Employment History, continued

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
04/2016 - Present	Avantax Advisory Services	Investment Adviser Representative	Y	Atlanta, GA, United States
04/2016 - Present	Avantax Insurance Agency, LLC	Insurance Agent	Y	Atlanta, GA, United States
04/2016 - Present	Avantax Investment Services, Inc.	Registered Representative	Y	Atlanta, GA, United States
04/2016 - Present	The Ponder Private Wealth Group	Managing Director	N	Atlanta, GA, United States
01/2016 - 04/2016	unemployed	unemployed	N	Atlanta, GA, United States
08/2010 - 01/2016	SUNTRUST INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	FINANCIAL ADVISOR	Y	ATLANTA, GA, 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.

1) Avantax Insurance Agency LLC; Investment related; Atlanta, GA; Insurance Agent; Insurance Sales Agent; 4/1/2016; 20hrs; 4hrs; I offer insurance solutions and annuity products as an insurance agent with Avantax Insurance Agency LLC

2) Rental Propert~'NIR'~2147 Beecher Rd SW~Atlanta~GA~30311~Real Estate, Owner/Sole Proprietor 8/1/1997~5hrs~0hrs~I own rental property at 2147 Beecher Rd SW Atlanta, GA 30311

3) THE PONDER PRIVATE WEALTH GROUP; POSITION: Managing Director NATURE: I do only the activities I am licensed to do as an independent advisor with Avantax Wealth Management. INVESTMENT RELATED: No NUMBER OF HOURS: 120 SECURITIES TRADING HOURS: 120 START DATE: 04/01/2016; ADDRESS: 2147 Beecher Road SW Suite C, Atlanta GA 30311, United States DESCRIPTION: I am a series 7 holder who gives financial advice on the stock market and wealth management strategies. I am a fully licensed and experienced advisor for insurance and annuities. I am also a registered investment advisor.

4) FINANCIAL ADVICE; POSITION: Financial Advisor NATURE: I simply do my Avantax Advisory business under the name The Ponder Private Wealth Group LLC.I also file my income received from Avantax as a single LLC. Which is the Ponder Private Wealth Group, LLC. INVESTMENT RELATED: Yes NUMBER OF HOURS: 2 SECURITIES TRADING HOURS: 60 START DATE: 04/01/2016; ADDRESS: 2147 Beecher Road SW, Suite C, Atlanta GA 30311, United States, DESCRIPTION: I service and give financial advice to my clients on the Avantax system.

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.
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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 - Closed-No Action / Withdrawn / Dismissed / Denied

This type of disclosure event involves (1) a consumer-initiated, investment-related arbitration or civil suit containing allegations of sales practice violations against the individual broker that was dismissed, withdrawn, or denied; or (2) a consumer-initiated, investment-related written complaint containing allegations that the broker engaged in sales practice violations resulting in compensatory damages of at least \$5,000, forgery, theft, or misappropriation, or conversion of funds or securities, which was closed without action, withdrawn, or denied.

Disclosure 1 of 1

Reporting Source:	Firm
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	SunTrust Investment Services, Inc.
Allegations:	Client alleges he was duped into purchasing an oil MLP which resulted in significant losses.
Product Type:	Mutual Fund
Alleged Damages:	\$32,641.00
Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):	Client does not specify damages. Approximate loss on position is \$32,641
Is this an oral complaint?	No
Is this a written complaint?	Yes
Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?	No

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:	08/30/2016
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Denied



Status Date: 08/31/2016

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: SunTrust Investment Services, Inc.

Allegations: Client alleges that he was duped into purchasing an oil MLP which resulted in significant losses.

Product Type: Mutual Fund

Alleged Damages: \$32,641.00

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact): Client does not specify damages. Approximate loss on position is \$32,641.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? Yes

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation? No

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 08/30/2016

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Denied

Status Date: 08/31/2016

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Broker Statement [REDACTED] is an experienced investor who signed a SunTrust Investments Services suitability switch letter prior to or shortly thereafter selling his MLP fund unsolicited. [REDACTED] stated that he was displeased with the performance of the MLP sector and believed more downside risk was ahead. The trade was



unsolicited and without a contingent deferred sales charge. He asked me to recommend another investment with the proceeds from the sale of his MLP mutual fund on 12/17/2015. Based on my recommendation, we purchased the Janus Global Life fund which was a top Lipper performer in the global healthcare sector. It is very strange that [REDACTED] would continue to solicit my advice for a subsequent investment idea if he thought he was "duped" into buying the first idea. I also found it odd that this complaint was put in writing on August 30, 2016 when he sold the MLP on or around December 15, 2015 and used the proceeds to purchase another mutual fund that I recommended.

End of Report



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