

## BrokerCheck Report

**ROBERT JOSEPH BINKELE**

CRD# 2393598

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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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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)



## ROBERT J. BINKELE

CRD# 2393598

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

**IA DST WEALTH MANAGEMENT LLC**  
 45110 CLUB DRIVE  
 SUITE B  
 INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210  
 CRD# 302110  
 Registered with this firm since: 09/03/2019

**B ASHTON STEWART & CO., INC.**  
 1395 BRICKELL AVE  
 SUITE 800  
 MIAMI, FL 33131  
 CRD# 112386  
 Registered with this firm since: 03/03/2025

## 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
- 1 U.S. state or territory

#### This broker has passed:

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

### Registration History

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

- B HB SECURITIES, LLC**  
 CRD# 140356  
 NEWPORT BEACH, CA  
 06/2021 - 03/2023
- IA CENTAURUS FINANCIAL, INC.**  
 CRD# 30833  
 ANAHEIM, CA  
 10/2015 - 08/2019
- B CENTAURUS FINANCIAL, INC.**  
 CRD# 30833  
 INDIAN WELLS, CA  
 10/2015 - 08/2019

### 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
Criminal	1
Customer Dispute	3
Termination	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 1 U.S. state or territory through his or her employer.**

### Employment 1 of 2

Firm Name: **ASHTON STEWART & CO., INC.**

Main Office Address: **1395 BRICKELL AVE  
SUITE 800  
MIAMI, FL 33131**

Firm CRD#: **112386**

	SRO	Category	Status	Date
B	FINRA	General Securities Principal	Approved	03/03/2025
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	03/03/2025

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	California	Agent	Approved	04/02/2025

### Branch Office Locations

**ASHTON STEWART & CO., INC.**  
1395 BRICKELL AVE  
SUITE 800  
MIAMI, FL 33131

### Employment 2 of 2

Firm Name: **DST WEALTH MANAGEMENT LLC**

Main Office Address: **45110 CLUB DRIVE  
SUITE B  
INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210**

Firm CRD#: **302110**



## Broker Qualifications

### Employment 2 of 2, continued

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
IA	California	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	09/03/2019

### Branch Office Locations

45110 CLUB DRIVE  
SUITE B  
INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210

45110 CLUB DRIVE  
SUITE B  
INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210

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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 1 principal/supervisory exam, 2 general industry/product exams, and 1 state securities law exam.**

### Principal/Supervisory Exams

Exam	Category	Date
<b>B</b> General Securities Principal Examination	Series 24	11/25/1998

### General Industry/Product Exams

Exam	Category	Date
<b>B</b> Securities Industry Essentials Examination	SIE	10/01/2018
<b>B</b> General Securities Representative Examination	Series 7	07/07/1994

### State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
<b>B</b> Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination	Series 63	10/21/1994

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.

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](#).



## 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> 06/2021 - 03/2023	HB SECURITIES, LLC	140356	NEWPORT BEACH, CA
<b>B</b> 10/2015 - 08/2019	CENTAURUS FINANCIAL, INC.	30833	INDIAN WELLS, CA
<b>IA</b> 10/2015 - 08/2019	CENTAURUS FINANCIAL, INC.	30833	INDIAN WELLS, CA
<b>IA</b> 07/2007 - 10/2015	J P TURNER & COMPANY CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC	124446	INDIAN WELLS, CA
<b>B</b> 07/2007 - 10/2015	J.P. TURNER & COMPANY, L.L.C.	43177	INDIAN WELLS, CA
<b>IA</b> 01/2003 - 07/2007	BROOKSTREET CAPITAL MANAGEMENT	14667	PALM DESERT, CA
<b>B</b> 01/2003 - 07/2007	BROOKSTREET SECURITIES CORPORATION	14667	PALM DESERT, CA
<b>IA</b> 08/2001 - 12/2002	RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL SERVICES	6694	PALM DESERT, CA
<b>B</b> 02/1998 - 12/2002	RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.	6694	ST. PETERSBURG, FL
<b>B</b> 12/1996 - 12/1997	SPELMAN & CO., INC.	10232	PHOENIX, AZ
<b>B</b> 12/1994 - 01/1997	ASH & CO. INCORPORATED	24990	GREAT NECK, NY

### 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
02/2025 - Present	ASHTON STEWART & CO., INC.	REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE	Y	MIAMI, FL, United States
08/2019 - Present	DST WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC	INVESTMENT ADVISOR REPRESENTATIVE	Y	INDIAN WELLS, CA, United States



## Registration and Employment History

### Employment History, continued

Employment	Employer Name	Position	Investment Related	Employer Location
05/2021 - 03/2023	HB Securities LLC	Consultant/rep	Y	Decatur, GA, United States
10/2015 - 08/2019	CENTAURUS FINANCIAL INC.	REGISTERED REP	Y	ANAHIEM, CA, 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.

DST WEALTH MANAGEMENT, INVESTMENT RELATED; CALIFORNIA; START DATE: 08/2019; INVESTMENT ADVISOR REPRESENTATIVE; REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISOR PROVIDING INVESTMENT ADVICE TO CLIENTS.

ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, NON-INVESTMENT RELATED, 45110 CLUB DRIVE, SUITE B, INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210, ROBERT BINKELE, AS OWNER AND CEO OF ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, WILL SELL A NON-EXCLUSIVE MARKETING SUB-LICENSE TO UNAFFILIATED THIRD PARTY BUYER CRAIG SZABO AND HIS AFFILIATED COMPANY, DST ADVISORS INC. THE SUB-LICENSE PERMITS BUYER TO PERFORM TRUSTEE AND/OR OTHER MARKETING RELATED SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEFERRED SALES TRUST PROGRAM AND SYSTEM, DEVOTED TIME IS 1 HOUR A MONTH. ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, NON-INVESTMENT RELATED, 45110 INDIAN WELLS DRIVE, SUITE B, INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210,

ROBERT BINKELE, AS OWNER AND CEO OF ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, NON-INVESTMENT RELATED, WILL SELL A NON-EXCLUSIVE MARKETING SUB-LICENSE TO UNAFFILIATED THIRD PARTY BUYER RYAN O'CONNELL AND HIS AFFILIATED COMPANY, NORTHWEST DST MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC, THE SUB-LICENSE PERMITS BUYER TO PERFORM TRUSTEE AND/OR OTHER MARKETING RELATED SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEFERRED SALES TRUST (TM) PROGRAM AND SYSTEM, PRESIDENT/CEO, SINCE 5/9/2018, DEVOTED TIME IS ONE HOUR A MONTH. ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, NON-INVESTMENT RELATED, 45110 INDIAN WELLS DRIVE, SUITE B, INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210,

ROBERT BINKELE, AS OWNER AND CEO OF ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, WILL SELL A NON-EXCLUSIVE MARKETING SUB-LICENSE TO UNAFFILIATED THIRD PARTY BUYER KENT LEFEVRE AND HIS AFFILIATED COMPANY, GUARDIAN DST SERVICES, LLC, THE SUB-LICENSE PERMITS BUYER TO PERFORM TRUSTEE AND/OR OTHER MARKETING RELATED SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEFERRED SALES TRUST (TM) PROGRAM AND SYSTEM, PRESIDENT/CEO, SINCE 10/1/2018, DEVOTED TIME IS ONE HOUR A MONTH. ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, NON-INVESTMENT RELATED, 45110 CLUB DRIVE, SUITE B, INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210,

ROBERT BINKELE, AS OWNER AND CEO OF ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, WILL SELL A NON-EXCLUSIVE MARKETING SUBLICENSE TO UNAFFILIATED THIRD PARTY BUYER GREGORY REESE AND HIS AFFILIATED COMPANY, REEFPOINT, LLC, THE SUB-LICENSE PERMITS BUYER TO PERFORM TRUSTEE AND/OR OTHER MARKETING RELATED SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEFERRED SALES TRUST (TM) PROGRAM AND SYSTEM, PRESIDENT/CEO, SINCE 1/9/2018, DEVOTED TIME IS ONE HOUR A MONTH. ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, NON-INVESTMENT REALTED, 45110 CLUB DRIVE, SUITE B, INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210, PROVIDES ADMINISTRATIVE, MARKETING AND SUPPORT SERVICES TO ASSIST ITS MEMBERS IN REFERRING CLIENTS FOR VARIOUS TYPES OF ESTATE AND TAX PLANNING PROGRAMS FOR THEIR CLIENTS,

FOUNDER/CEO, SINCE 01/2003, DEVOTED TIME IS 150 HOURS A MONTH. GENERAL AGENT, INVESTMENT RELATED, 45110 CLUB DRIVE, SUITE B, INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210, SELL FIXED ANNUITIES AND LIFE PRODUCTS, AGENT, SINCE 10/08/2002, DEVOTED TIME IS 25 HRS A MONTH.

TELIBRICK HOSPITALITY NETWORK, President, no compensation, 10 hrs a week. NON-INVESTMENT RELATED, 9120 DOUBLE DIAMOND PKWY., SUITE #1631, RENO, NV 89521, WHOLLY OWNS STOCKS OF ESTATE PLANNING TEAM, PRESIDENT, SINCE 2000, NO DUTIES.

## Registration and Employment History



### Other Business Activities, continued

B & N MINING, INC, INVESTMENT RELATED, 45110 CLUB DRIVE SUITE B, INDIAN WELLS, CA 92210, 10/01/2021 DEVOTED 8 HOURS A MONTH. 0 HOURS DURING TRADING HOURS. B&N MINING, INC OWNS AND CONTROLS 100% OF B&N MINING LLC AND B&N MINING INFRASTRUCTURE LLC, 10 HRS A WEEK, NO COMPENSATION, MANAGER, PRINCIPAL, CFO, AND 50% OWNER. MANAGER OF B&N MINING, LLC, OWNS 100% OF THE COMMON MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS THROUGH OWNERSHIP OF ITS OWNER. CONDUCTS A PRIVATE OFFERING PURSUANT TO THE EXEMPTION CONTAINED IN RULE 5069C) OF THE REGULATION D OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 FOR THIS LLC OF ITS PREFERRED MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$4,000,000 FOR WHICH ROBERT SHALL NOT RECEIVE ANY SELLING COMPENSATION MANAGER OF B&N MINING INFRASTRUCTURE, LLC AND RANDSBURG INN, LLC OWNS 100% OF THE MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS THROUGH THE OWNER OF THE OWNER, NO COMPENSATION.

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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.
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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
Criminal	0	1	0
Customer Dispute	1	2	N/A
Termination	N/A	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.

### Criminal - Final Disposition

This type of disclosure event involves a criminal charge against the broker that has resulted in a conviction, acquittal, dismissal, or plea. The criminal matter may pertain to any felony or certain misdemeanor offenses, including bribery, perjury, forgery, counterfeiting, extortion, fraud, and wrongful taking of property.

#### Disclosure 1 of 1

<b>Reporting Source:</b>	Broker
<b>Organization Name (if charge(s) were brought against an organization over which broker exercised control):</b>	N/A
<b>Court Details:</b>	SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT DOCKET # F-3500
<b>Charge Date:</b>	07/28/1981
<b>Charge Details:</b>	1. ONE COUNT. TRANSFER - SELLING NARCOTICS CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE. 2. FELONY 3. NOT GUILTY 4. N/A
<b>Felony?</b>	Yes
<b>Current Status:</b>	Final
<b>Status Date:</b>	12/19/1983
<b>Disposition Details:</b>	A. DISMISSED B. 12/19/1983 C. NONE D. NONE E. NONE F. NONE



G. NONE

**Broker Statement**

THE COURT FOUND THAT I WAS NOT GUILTY BECAUSE THE CHARGE WAS ONLY THE ASSOCIATION. THE OTHER GUILTY PARTIES DISMISSED ME AS NOT GUILTY.



## Customer Dispute - Award / Judgment

This type of disclosure event involves a final, consumer-initiated, investment-related arbitration or civil suit containing allegations of sales practice violations against the broker that resulted in an arbitration award or civil judgment for the customer.

### Disclosure 1 of 1

**Reporting Source:** Regulator

**Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:** ASH & CO., INC.

**Allegations:** MISREPRESENTATION

**Product Type:** Other

**Other Product Type(s):** UNKNOWN TYPE OF SECURITIES

**Alleged Damages:** \$7,732.62

### Arbitration Information

**Arbitration/Reparation Claim filed with and Docket/Case No.:** [NASD - CASE #98-03833](#)

**Date Notice/Process Served:** 10/14/1998

**Arbitration Pending?** No

**Disposition:** Award

**Disposition Date:** 01/10/2000

**Disposition Detail:** RESPONDENTS BINKELE AND ASH & COMPANY ARE HEREBY JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY LIABLE AND SHALL PAY TO THE CLAIMANT \$7,732.62 IN COMPENSATORY DAMAGES PLUS LOST PROFITS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,584.85, AND POST-JUDGMENT INTEREST AT THE RATE OF 10% PER ANNUM ACCRUING FROM THE DATE OF THE AWARD UNTIL THE AWARD IS PAID.

**Reporting Source:** Broker

**Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:** ASH & COMPANY

**Allegations:** [CUSTOMER] ALLEGES THAT MR. BINKELE SOLD A VIATICAL AND GUARANTEED RETURN WITHIN A SPECIFIC AMOUNT OF TIME.



**Product Type:** Insurance

**Alleged Damages:** \$7,500.00

**Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 10/29/1998

**Complaint Pending?** No

**Status:** Arbitration/Reparation

**Status Date:** 03/13/2000

**Settlement Amount:**

**Individual Contribution Amount:**

**Arbitration Information**

**Arbitration/Reparation Claim filed with and Docket/Case No.:** NASD #98-03833

**Date Notice/Process Served:** 11/17/1998

**Arbitration Pending?** No

**Disposition:** Award to Customer

**Disposition Date:** 03/13/2000

**Monetary Compensation Amount:** \$9,467.47

**Individual Contribution Amount:** \$0.00



## 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>	Firm
<b>Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:</b>	Centaurus Financial, Inc.
<b>Allegations:</b>	During the period May 2017 to present, the customer alleges that the Registered Representative was negligent and engaged in potentially fraudulent activity with respect to the investments made as a result of the creation of a deferred sales trust. She also alleges that he breached his fiduciary duty.
<b>Product Type:</b>	Promissory Note Other: Deferred Sales Trust
<b>Alleged Damages:</b>	\$0.00
<b>Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):</b>	Customer does not allege a specific compensatory damage amount. Rather, the customer requests "compensatory damages, according to proof." As such, the Firm has made a good faith determination that the compensatory damages potentially exceed \$5,000.

### Civil Litigation Information

<b>Type of Court:</b>	State Court
<b>Name of Court:</b>	Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles
<b>Location of Court:</b>	County of Los Angeles
<b>Docket/Case #:</b>	20STCV40403
<b>Date Notice/Process Served:</b>	10/22/2020
<b>Litigation Pending?</b>	No
<b>Disposition:</b>	Settled
<b>Disposition Date:</b>	07/18/2024
<b>Monetary Compensation Amount:</b>	\$358,333.00
<b>Individual Contribution Amount:</b>	\$0.00



**Reporting Source:** Broker

**Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:** CENTAURUS FINANCIAL, INC.

**Allegations:** In 2017, the customer sold real property that had appreciated in value. In order to defer paying the capital gains tax that would otherwise have been due upon that sale, the customer entered into an arrangement called a DST, or deferred sales trust, that resulted in the proceeds of the sale being placed in a trust. The trust then signed a promissory note agreeing to pay the customer the amount of the sale, plus interest. The customer now alleges that her decision to utilize the DST was the result of fraudulent representations and negligence, among other things.

**Product Type:** Other: Deferred Sales Trust

**Alleged Damages:** \$0.00

**Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):** \$0 (no specific amount is demanded in the Complaint)

**Is this an oral complaint?** No

**Is this a written complaint?** Yes

**Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?** Yes

**Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:** Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles

**Docket/Case #:** 20STCV40403

**Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation:** 01/18/2021

### Customer Complaint Information

**Date Complaint Received:** 06/01/2021

**Complaint Pending?** No

**Status:** Settled

**Status Date:** 07/18/2024

**Settlement Amount:** \$358,333.00

**Individual Contribution Amount:** \$0.00



## Civil Litigation Information

<b>Type of Court:</b>	State Court
<b>Name of Court:</b>	Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles
<b>Location of Court:</b>	Los Angeles
<b>Docket/Case #:</b>	20STCV40403
<b>Date Notice/Process Served:</b>	01/18/2021
<b>Litigation Pending?</b>	No
<b>Disposition:</b>	Settled
<b>Disposition Date:</b>	07/18/2024
<b>Monetary Compensation Amount:</b>	\$358,333.00
<b>Individual Contribution Amount:</b>	\$0.00
<b>Broker Statement</b>	The complaining customer is not, and has never been, a client of Mr. Binkele. Mr. Binkele intends to defend himself against the unfounded allegation that he acted negligently or that he owed or breached any duty to this individual. Neither EPT nor Mr. Binkele was required to contribute toward the settlement.



## Customer Dispute - Pending

This type of disclosure event involves (1) a pending consumer-initiated, investment-related arbitration or civil suit that contains allegations of sales practice violations against the broker; or (2) a pending, 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.

### Disclosure 1 of 1

**Reporting Source:** Broker

**Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:** DST WEALTH MANAGEMENT LLC

**Allegations:** MRS. [REDACTED], A FORMER INVESTMENT ADVISORY CLIENT, ALLEGES THAT PART OF HER PORTFOLIO BECAME MORE CONCENTRATED IN A PARTICULAR SECURITY THAN INTENDED, THAT TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING THE SECURITY, INCLUDING MARGIN USE, DID NOT ALIGN WITH HER UNDERSTANDING OF THE STRATEGY, AND THAT MY PERSONAL OWNERSHIP INTEREST WAS NOT ADEQUATELY DISCLOSED. I DISPUTE THESE ALLEGATIONS AND MAINTAIN THAT ALL RECOMMENDATIONS WERE SUITABLE, FULLY DISCLOSED, AND IMPLEMENTED WITH HER KNOWLEDGE AND APPROVAL.

**Product Type:** Equity Listed (Common & Preferred Stock)

**Alleged Damages:** \$2,500,000.00

### Arbitration Information

**Arbitration/CFTC reparation claim filed with (FINRA, AAA, CFTC, etc.):** AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION

**Docket/Case #:** 01-26-0000-7568

**Date Notice/Process Served:** 05/04/2026

**Arbitration Pending?** Yes

**Broker Statement** THE CLIENT ALLEGES ISSUES RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE OF HER ACCOUNT, INCLUDING THE CONCENTRATION OF CERTAIN INVESTMENTS, THE USE OF MARGIN, AND THE ADEQUACY OF DISCLOSURES. I CATEGORICALLY DENY ALL ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING. MY RECOMMENDATIONS WERE CONSISTENT WITH MRS. [REDACTED]'S STATED INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES, RISK TOLERANCE, AND OVERALL INVESTMENT PROFILE. SHE WAS PROVIDED WITH MATERIAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE INVESTMENTS AND ASSOCIATED RISKS, RECEIVED APPROPRIATE DISCLOSURES, AND



APPROVED TRANSACTIONS IN THE ACCOUNT, OFTEN IN CONSULTATION WITH HER SON. I DID NOT ENGAGE IN UNAUTHORIZED TRADING, NOR DID I FAIL TO DISCLOSE MATERIAL INFORMATION. THE PRIMARY FACTORS AFFECTING THE ACCOUNT WERE THE CLIENT'S SUBSTANTIAL WITHDRAWALS, WHICH WERE THE MAIN CAUSE OF THE ISSUES SHE NOW ALLEGES. ADDITIONALLY, THE CLIENT TRANSFERRED HER ACCOUNT WITH ALL OF HER ORIGINAL ASSETS INTACT. I BELIEVE THE CLAIMS ARE WITHOUT MERIT AND INTEND TO VIGOROUSLY DEFEND AGAINST THEM THROUGH THE ARBITRATION PROCESS.



## Employment Separation After Allegations

This type of disclosure event involves a situation where the broker voluntarily resigned, was discharged, or was permitted to resign after being accused of (1) violating investment-related statutes, regulations, rules or industry standards of conduct; (2) fraud or the wrongful taking of property; or (3) failure to supervise in connection with investment-related statutes, regulations, rules, or industry standards of conduct.

### Disclosure 1 of 1

<b>Reporting Source:</b>	Broker
<b>Employer Name:</b>	RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL
<b>Termination Type:</b>	Permitted to Resign
<b>Termination Date:</b>	12/31/2002
<b>Allegations:</b>	NO ACTUAL ALLEGATIONS. NUMBER OF CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS EXCEEDED FIRM POLICY. CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS NAMED MR. BINKELE AS BRANCH SUPERVISOR, ONLY.
<b>Product Type:</b>	No Product
<b>Other Product Types:</b>	
<b>Broker Statement</b>	NO ALLEGATIONS OR ADMITTANCE OF WRONGDOING. NUMBER OF CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS WHICH NAMED MR. BINKELE AS BRANCH SUPERVISOR NOT AS SALES REPRESENTATIVE.

## End of Report



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