

BrokerCheck Report

Charles Bonilla

CRD# 2572107

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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:

- o information FINRA and/or the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) require brokers and brokerage firms to submit as part of the registration and licensing process, and
- o information that regulators report regarding disciplinary actions or allegations against firms or brokers.

- **How current is this information?**

- Generally, active brokerage firms and brokers are required to update their professional and disciplinary information in CRD within 30 days. Under most circumstances, information reported by brokerage firms, brokers and regulators is available in BrokerCheck the next business day.

- **What if I want to check the background of an investment adviser firm or investment adviser representative?**

- To check the background of an investment adviser firm or representative, you can search for the firm or individual in BrokerCheck. If your search is successful, click on the link provided to view the available licensing and registration information in the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure (IAPD) website at <https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov>. In the alternative, you may search the IAPD website directly or contact your state securities regulator at <http://www.finra.org/Investors/ToolsCalculators/BrokerCheck/P455414>.

- **Are there other resources I can use to check the background of investment professionals?**

- FINRA recommends that you learn as much as possible about an investment professional before deciding to work with them. Your state securities regulator can help you research brokers and investment adviser representatives doing business in your state.

Thank you for using FINRA BrokerCheck.



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

brokercheck.finra.org



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

[For more information about FINRA, visit www.finra.org.](http://www.finra.org)

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This broker is not currently registered.

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 not currently registered.

This broker has passed:

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

Registration History

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

- B PRUCO SECURITIES, LLC.**
CRD# 5685
BOCA RATON, FL
05/2018 - 02/2019
- B DAVID LERNER ASSOCIATES, INC.**
CRD# 5397
BOCA RATON, FL
12/2015 - 05/2018
- B SCOTTRADE, INC.**
CRD# 8206
AVENTURA, FL
01/2008 - 01/2015

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 |
|------------------|-------|
| Regulatory Event | 1 |
| Termination | 1 |

Investment Adviser Representative Information

The information below represents the individual's record as a broker. For details on this individual's record as an investment adviser representative, visit the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure website at

<https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov>

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 broker is not currently registered.



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.

This individual has passed 2 principal/supervisory exams, 3 general industry/product exams, and 1 state securities law exam.

Principal/Supervisory Exams

| Exam | Category | Date |
|---|-----------|------------|
| B General Securities Sales Supervisor - General Module Examination | Series 10 | 08/23/2000 |
| B General Securities Sales Supervisor - Options Module Examination | Series 9 | 06/20/2000 |

General Industry/Product Exams

| Exam | Category | Date |
|--|----------|------------|
| B Securities Industry Essentials Examination | SIE | 10/01/2018 |
| B National Commodity Futures Examination | Series 3 | 08/25/2005 |
| B General Securities Representative Examination | Series 7 | 12/16/1994 |

State Securities Law Exams

| Exam | Category | Date |
|---|-----------|------------|
| B Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination | Series 63 | 09/02/2005 |

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 |
|----------------------------|---|-------|-------------------|
| B 05/2018 - 02/2019 | PRUCO SECURITIES, LLC. | 5685 | BOCA RATON, FL |
| B 12/2015 - 05/2018 | DAVID LERNER ASSOCIATES, INC. | 5397 | BOCA RATON, FL |
| B 01/2008 - 01/2015 | SCOTTRADE, INC. | 8206 | AVENTURA, FL |
| B 09/2007 - 10/2007 | T. ROWE PRICE INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC. | 8348 | BOCA RATON, FL |
| B 06/2006 - 06/2006 | ECHOTRADE LLC | 42239 | PHOENIX, AZ |
| B 08/2005 - 05/2006 | TRADESTATION SECURITIES, INC. | 39473 | PLANTATION, FL |
| B 04/1996 - 01/2005 | CHARLES SCHWAB & CO., INC. | 5393 | SAN FRANCISCO, CA |
| B 12/1994 - 04/1998 | NOBLE INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENTS, INC. | 15768 | BOCA RATON, FL |

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 | Pruco Securities, LLC | Registered Representative | Y | Boca Raton, FL, United States |
| 05/2018 - Present | The Prudential Insurance Company of America | Financial Professional | N | Boca Raton, FL, United States |
| 09/2015 - 04/2018 | DAVID LERNER ASSOCIATES,, INC | INVESTMENT COUNSELOR | Y | BOCA RATON, FL, United States |
| 09/2015 - 09/2015 | VACATION VILLAGE | SALES | N | WESTON, FL, United States |
| 12/2014 - 09/2015 | PEOLLA INTERNATIONAL | REAL ESTATE SALES | N | AVENTURA, FL, United States |



Registration and Employment History

Employment History, continued

| Employment | Employer Name | Position | Investment Related | Employer Location |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 12/2007 - 12/2014 | SCOTTRADE, INC. | STOCKBROKER | Y | AVENTURA, FL, 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.

Real Estate Sales Assoc~785 Verona Lake Dr, Weston, FL 33326~Real Estate Sales~N~Real Estate Sales Assoc~06/13/2011~0 hrs/mo~0 trading hrs/mo



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:**
 - o A law enforcement agency must file formal charges before a broker is required to disclose a particular criminal event.
 - o 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.
 - o
3. **Disclosure events in BrokerCheck reports come from different sources:**
 - o 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.
 - o
4. **There are different statuses and dispositions for disclosure events:**
 - o A disclosure event may have a status of *pending*, *on appeal*, or *final*.
 - § A "pending" event involves allegations that have not been proven or formally adjudicated.
 - § An event that is "on appeal" involves allegations that have been adjudicated but are currently being appealed.
 - § A "final" event has been concluded and its resolution is not subject to change.
 - o A final event generally has a disposition of *adjudicated*, *settled* or *otherwise resolved*.
 - § An "adjudicated" matter includes a disposition by (1) a court of law in a criminal or civil matter, or (2) an administrative panel in an action brought by a regulator that is contested by the party charged with some alleged wrongdoing.
 - § A "settled" matter generally involves an agreement by the parties to resolve the matter. Please note that 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 |
|------------------|---------|-------|-----------|
| Regulatory Event | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 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.

Regulatory - Final

This type of disclosure event may involve (1) a final, formal proceeding initiated by a regulatory authority (e.g., a state securities agency, self-regulatory organization, federal regulatory such as the Securities and Exchange Commission, foreign financial regulatory body) for a violation of investment-related rules or regulations; or (2) a revocation or suspension of a broker's authority to act as an attorney, accountant, or federal contractor.

Disclosure 1 of 1

Reporting Source: Regulator

Regulatory Action Initiated By: FINRA

Sanction(s) Sought:

Date Initiated: 02/08/2021

Docket/Case Number: [2020067626001](#)

Employing firm when activity occurred which led to the regulatory action: DAVID LERNER ASSOCIATES, INC.

Product Type: Mutual Fund

Allegations: Without admitting or denying the findings, Bonilla consented to the sanctions and to the entry of findings that he recommended that his customers invest in securities without having a reasonable basis to believe those investments were suitable. The findings stated that Bonilla recommended investments in a mutual fund created for customers of his member firm. Bonilla did not perform reasonable diligence on the fund prior to recommending it to customers. Bonilla could describe little about the fund's underlying holdings, beyond that some of the holdings were midstream energy companies. Bonilla did not know how the fund paid its monthly distributions or what, if any, diligence his firm performed on the fund or its holdings prior to offering shares of the funds to customers. Without sufficient understanding of these fundamental features or risks of the fund, Bonilla recommended that his



customers collectively invest over \$250,000 in the fund, for which he received \$4,355.72 in commissions. The fund's net asset value declined by more than 40%. Bonilla also recommended illiquid investments in a limited partnership sold to customers of his firm. Bonilla did not perform reasonable diligence on the partnership prior to recommending the investment to customers. Bonilla did not know how the partnership generated funds to pay investors monthly distributions or how the price of the common units reflected on customer account statements were calculated. Bonilla did not read the full prospectus nor did he review the partnership's financial statements. Without a sufficient understanding of fundamental features and risks of the partnership, Bonilla recommended that his customers collectively invest over \$650,000 in the partnership, for which he received \$18,061.31 in commissions. Later, the partnership notified its common unit holders that it was suspending distributions until further notice.

| | |
|---|---|
| Current Status: | Final |
| Resolution: | Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC) |
| Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or deceptive conduct? | No |
| Resolution Date: | 02/08/2021 |
| Sanctions Ordered: | Civil and Administrative Penalty(ies)/Fine(s) Disgorgement Suspension |
| If the regulator is the SEC, CFTC, or an SRO, did the action result in a finding of a willful violation or failure to supervise? | No |



(1) willfully violated any provision of the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Commodity Exchange Act, or any rule or regulation under any of such Acts, or any of the rules of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, or to have been unable to comply with any provision of such Act, rule or regulation?

(2) willfully aided, abetted, counseled, commanded, induced, or procured the violation by any person of any provision of the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Commodity Exchange Act, or any rule or regulation under any of such Acts, or any of the rules of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board? or



(3) failed reasonably to supervise another person subject to your supervision, with a view to preventing the violation by such person of any provision of the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Commodity Exchange Act, or any rule or regulation under any such Acts, or any of the rules of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board?

Sanction 1 of 1

Sanction Type: Suspension
Capacities Affected: All Capacities
Duration: 5 Months
Start Date: 02/16/2021
End Date: 07/15/2021

Monetary Sanction 1 of 2

Monetary Related Sanction: Disgorgement
Total Amount: \$22,417.03
Portion Levied against individual: \$22,417.03
Payment Plan: Deferred, plus interest
Is Payment Plan Current:
Date Paid by individual:
Was any portion of penalty waived? No

Amount Waived:

Monetary Sanction 2 of 2



| | |
|---|---|
| Monetary Related Sanction: | Civil and Administrative Penalty(ies)/Fine(s) |
| Total Amount: | \$5,000.00 |
| Portion Levied against individual: | \$5,000.00 |
| Payment Plan: | Deferred |
| Is Payment Plan Current: | |
| Date Paid by individual: | |
| Was any portion of penalty waived? | No |
| Amount Waived: | |



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

Reporting Source: Firm

Employer Name: SCOTTRADE INC.

Termination Type: Discharged

Termination Date: 12/18/2014

Allegations: MR. BONILLA WAS DISCHARGED AFTER THE FIRM DETERMINED HE ENGAGED IN A BUSINESS ACTIVITY WITHOUT RECEIVING PROPER APPROVAL PRIOR TO THE BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

Product Type: No Product

Reporting Source: Broker

Employer Name: SCOTTRADE INC.

Termination Type: Discharged

Termination Date: 12/18/2014

Allegations: MR. BONILLA WAS DISCHARGED AFTER THE FIRM DETERMINED HE ENGAGED IN A BUSINESS ACTIVITY WITHOUT RECEIVING PROPER APPROVAL PRIOR TO THE BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

Product Type: No Product

End of Report



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