

## **BrokerCheck Report**

# **ANGEL EDGARDO AQUINO-VELEZ**

CRD# 2687333

Section Title	Page(s)
Report Summary	1
Broker Qualifications	2 - 3
Registration and Employment History	5 - 6
Disclosure Events	7



Please be aware that fraudsters may link to BrokerCheck from phishing and similar scam websites, trying to steal your personal information or your money. Make sure you know who you're dealing with when investing, and contact FINRA with any concerns.

For more information read our <u>investor alert</u> on imposters.

#### 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.

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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



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.

www.finra.org/brokercheck User Guidance

#### **ANGEL E. AQUINO-VELEZ**

CRD# 2687333

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:

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

### **Registration History**

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

- B MORGAN STANLEY CRD# 149777 MIAMI, FL 02/2010 - 07/2017
- B MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED
  CRD# 7691
  GUAYNABO, PR
- 09/2006 09/2009 **UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.**CRD# 8174

MANATI, PR 05/2000 - 09/2006

#### **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:

Туре	Count	
Customer Dispute	26	

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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 broker is not currently registered.

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#### **Broker Qualifications**



**User Guidance** 

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

### **Principal/Supervisory Exams**

Exam	1	Category	Date		
	No information reported.				
Gene	General Industry/Product Exams				
Exam	1	Category	Date		
B	Securities Industry Essentials Examination	SIE	07/13/2017		
В	General Securities Representative Examination	Series 7	12/07/1996		
State	State Securities Law Exams				
Exam	1	Category	Date		
	No information reported.				

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.

### **Registration and Employment History**



### **Registration History**

The broker previously was registered with the following firms:

Reg	istration Dates	Firm Name	CRD#	Branch Location
B	02/2010 - 07/2017	MORGAN STANLEY	149777	MIAMI, FL
B	09/2006 - 09/2009	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	7691	GUAYNABO, PR
B	05/2000 - 09/2006	UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.	8174	MANATI, PR
B	05/2000 - 09/2006	UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INCORPORATED OF PUERTO RICO	13042	MANATI, PR
B	09/1997 - 05/2000	DORAL SECURITIES, INC.	40944	PUERTO NUEVO, PR
B	03/1997 - 08/1997	SANTANDER SECURITIES	41791	BOSTON, MA
B	12/1996 - 03/1997	CHUBB SECURITIES CORPORATION	3870	FORT WAYNE, IN

#### **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.

<b>Employment</b>	Employer Name	Position	Investment Related	<b>Employer Location</b>
01/2015 - Present	MORGAN STANLEY PRIVATE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION	FINANCIAL ADVISOR	Υ	NEW YORK, NY, United States
09/2006 - Present	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH	FINANCIAL ADVISOR	Υ	SAN JUAN, PR, 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.

NAME: AQUINO-VILLALOBOS, URB. MONTE OLIMPO CALLE ACROPOLIS # C-1, GUAYNABO PUERTO RICO POSTAL CODE 00969
REAL ESTATE, SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, OWNER

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## **Registration and Employment History**



### Other Business Activities, continued

START DATE:02-FEB-2004 HOW MANY HOURS PER MONTH WILL YOU DEVOTE TO THIS ACTIVITY (ESTIMATE IF NOT KNOWN)?\* 0 - 20 HOW MANY OF THESE HOURS WILL BE DURING SECURITIES TRADING HOURS?\* NONE

THIS IS A CORPORATION THAT I STARTED IN 2004 WITH MY OWN MONEY. I PURCHASE LAND, DEVELOP THE PROPERTY AND SELL IT OFF.

#### **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.
- 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:

- 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
Customer Dispute	0	26	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.

#### 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

activities occurred which led to the complaint:

...

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, LLC d/b/a Morgan Stanley

Allegations: Angel Edgardo Aquino-Velez was a subject of a customer's complaint against his

member firm that asserted the following causes of action:

breach of fiduciary duty; negligence; negligent supervision; fraud; breach of contract; breach of contract - third party beneficiary; violation of Sections 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 of the Securities and Exchange Commission; violation of the Florida Securities and Investor Protection Act; and

violation of the Puerto Rico Uniform Securities Act.

Product Type: Debt-Government

Other: closed-end bond funds, as well as the use of a securities-backed loan.

**Alleged Damages:** \$2,739,792.00

**Arbitration Information** 

Arbitration/Reparation Claim

filed with and Docket/Case No.:

FINRA - CASE #17-01908

Date Notice/Process Served: 07/19/2017

**Arbitration Pending?** No

**Disposition:** Award

**Disposition Date:** 07/16/2019



**Disposition Detail:** Angel Edgardo Aquino-Velez was a Subject Of the customers' complaint alleging

Angel Edgardo Aquino-Velez and his member firm caused sales practice

violations. Aquino-Velez's member firm is liable for and shall pay to Claimant the sum of \$261,420.63 in compensatory damages, plus interest, and the sum of

\$3,000,000.00 in monetary sanctions.

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Allegations:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Claimants alleged sales practice violations with respect to municipal bond and

closed end fund investments purchased or held between 2010 to 2017

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Other: closed-end bond funds, securities-backed loan

**Alleged Damages:** \$2,739,792.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC

reparation or civil litigation?

Arbitration/Reparation forum FINRA

or court name and location:

**Docket/Case #:** 17-01908

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

07/19/2017

Yes

### **Customer Complaint Information**

Date Complaint Received: 07/24/2017

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Arbitration Award/Monetary Judgment (for claimants/plaintiffs)

**Status Date:** 07/16/2019

Settlement Amount: \$261,420.63

Individual Contribution \$0.00

Amount:

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#### Firm Statement

The award was solely against the firm and included \$261,420.63 in compensatory damages and a \$3,000,000 discovery sanction. The compensatory damages award was a small portion of the damages sought. The registered representative was not a party to this action or the award and had nothing to with the discovery sanction. The Award was subject to a motion to vacate and an appeal which was denied.



#### **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 23

**Reporting Source:** Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Allegations:

Claimants allege, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico municipal

bonds- 2015 to 2017

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Alleged Damages: \$140,000.00

**Is this an oral complaint?** No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

**MSSB** 

Arbitration/Reparation forum

or court name and location:

FINRA

**Docket/Case #:** 19-02135

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

07/31/2019

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 08/01/2019

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 08/17/2020

Settlement Amount: \$15,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$15,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims asserted



#### by Claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 2 of 23

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated

Allegations: The customer alleges unsuitable investment recommendations

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Alleged Damages: \$90,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

FINRA

07/25/2019

Yes

**Docket/Case #:** 19-02058

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

Customer Complaint Information

**Date Complaint Received:** 07/29/2019

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

 Status Date:
 07/07/2021

 Settlement Amount:
 \$14,750.00

Individual Contribution

Amount:

\$0.00

Disclosure 3 of 23



to the complaint:

**MSSB** 

Allegations: Claimants allege, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico investments

**Product Type:** 

**Debt-Municipal** 

Other: Closed-End Funds

**Alleged Damages:** 

\$2,400,000.00

Is this an oral complaint?

No

Is this a written complaint?

No

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

**Arbitration/Reparation forum** 

FINRA

or court name and location:

Docket/Case #:

19-01420

Filing date of

05/21/2019

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 05/22/2019

**Complaint Pending?** 

No

Status:

Settled

Status Date:

05/18/2021

**Settlement Amount:** 

\$450,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

**Firm Statement** 

In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$450,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims

asserted by Claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 4 of 23

**Reporting Source:** 

Firm



Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

MSSB

Allegations: Claimant alleges unsuitable recommendations and over concentration in Puerto

Rico bonds and closed end funds. Claimant also alleges unsuitable use of

leverage.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Other: Closed-End Funds

Alleged Damages: \$200,000.00

**Is this an oral complaint?** No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #: 19-00230

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

01/17/2019

## **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 01/17/2019

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 05/29/2020

Settlement Amount: \$75,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$75,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims asserted

by Claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 5 of 23



to the complaint:

MSSB

Allegations: Claimants allege, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico bonds and

closed end funds - 2010 to 2017

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Other: Closed-End Funds

**Alleged Damages:** \$25,000,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum

or court name and location:

FINRA

**Docket/Case #:** 18-03973

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

11/19/2018

## **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 11/21/2018

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 01/29/2021

**Settlement Amount:** \$4,400,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$4,400,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims

asserted by Claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 6 of 23



to the complaint:

MSSB

Allegations:

Claimant alleges overconcentration in unsuitable Puerto Rico municipal bonds.

**Product Type:** 

**Debt-Municipal** 

Other: Closed-End Funds

**Alleged Damages:** 

\$5,000,000.00

Is this an oral complaint?

No

Is this a written complaint?

No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #:

18-03805

Filing date of

11/01/2018

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 

11/05/2018

**Complaint Pending?** 

No

Status:

Settled

Status Date:

07/02/2020

**Settlement Amount:** 

\$150,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

**Firm Statement** 

In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimant \$150,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims asserted

by Claimant in this proceeding.

Disclosure 7 of 23

**Reporting Source:** 

Firm



to the complaint:

MSSB

Allegations: Claimants alleged, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico Municipal

Bonds and Closed-end funds - 2010 to 2017

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Alleged Damages: \$500,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum

or court name and location:

FINRA

**Docket/Case #:** 18-02481

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

07/09/2018

#### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 07/12/2018

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 11/05/2019

Settlement Amount: \$105,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$105,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims

asserted by Claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 8 of 23



to the complaint:

MSSB

Allegations: Claimant alleges, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico investments

from July 2013 until May 2017

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Other: CLOSED END FUNDS

Alleged Damages: \$220,663.36

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum

or court name and location:

FINRA

**Docket/Case #:** 18-01760

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

05/07/2018

## **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 05/08/2018

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 12/18/2019

Settlement Amount: \$70,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimant \$70,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims asserted

by Claimant in this proceeding.

Disclosure 9 of 23



Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations:

Claimants alleged inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico investments-

from 2010 to 2017

**Product Type:** 

Debt-Municipal

Other: Closed End Funds

**Alleged Damages:** 

\$5,000,000.00

Is this an oral complaint?

No

Is this a written complaint?

No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #:

17-02590

Filing date of

09/28/2017

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received:

10/13/2017

**Complaint Pending?** 

Nο

Status:

Settled

**Status Date:** 

09/10/2019

**Settlement Amount:** 

\$575,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

\$0.00

Amount:

Firm Statement

24.In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley

agreed to pay Claimants \$575,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all

claims asserted by Claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 10 of 23



Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations:

Claimant alleged, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico investments -

2013 to 2017.

Product Type:

Debt-Corporate Debt-Municipal

Other: Closed End Funds

Alleged Damages:

\$1,300,000.00

Is this an oral complaint?

No

Is this a written complaint?

No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #:

17-02765

Filing date of

10/13/2017

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

Customer Complaint Information

**Date Complaint Received:** 

10/16/2017

**Complaint Pending?** 

No

Status:

Settled

**Status Date:** 

06/24/2019

**Settlement Amount:** 

\$350,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

\$0.00

Amount:

Firm Statement

24.In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley

agreed to pay Claimant \$350,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all

claims asserted by Claimant in this proceeding.

Disclosure 11 of 23

**Reporting Source:** 

Firm



to the complaint:

MSSB

Allegations: Claimant alleges, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico investments

from January 2013 to July 2017.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Other: Closed-End Funds

**Alleged Damages:** \$5,000,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum

or court name and location:

FINRA

**Docket/Case #:** 17-02574

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

09/27/2017

## **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 10/04/2017

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 01/22/2020

Settlement Amount: \$931,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimant \$931,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims asserted

by Claimant in this proceeding.

Disclosure 12 of 23



to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations: Claimants allege, inter alia, misrepresentation with respect to municipal bond

investments - 2015 to 2016.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Alleged Damages: \$600,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum

or court name and location:

FINRA

09/27/2017

**Docket/Case #:** 17-02575

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

Date Complaint Received: 10/03/2017

**Customer Complaint Information** 

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 11/29/2018

Settlement Amount: \$40,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$40,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims asserted

by Claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 13 of 23



Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations:

Claimants alleged inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico investments-

from 2010 to 2017.

**Product Type:** 

**Debt-Municipal** 

Other: Closed-End Funds

**Alleged Damages:** 

\$5,500,000,00

Is this an oral complaint?

No

Is this a written complaint?

No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #:

17-01837

Filing date of

07/12/2017

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

# Customer Complaint Information

**Date Complaint Received:** 07/26/2017

**Complaint Pending?** 

Nο

Status:

Settled

Status Date:

10/03/2019

**Settlement Amount:** 

\$2,000,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement

In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to pay Claimants \$2,000,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims

asserted by Claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 14 of 23



to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations:

Claimants alleged, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to Puerto Rico municipal

bond investments -2013 to 2017.

**Product Type:** 

**Debt-Municipal** 

**Alleged Damages:** 

\$4,500,000.00

Is this an oral complaint?

No

Is this a written complaint?

No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC

Yes

reparation or civil litigation?

**Arbitration/Reparation forum** 

or court name and location:

FINRA

Docket/Case #:

17-01854

Filing date of

07/13/2017

arbitration/CFTC reparation

**Customer Complaint Information** 

or civil litigation:

**Date Complaint Received:** 

07/21/2017

**Complaint Pending?** 

No

Status:

Settled

Status Date:

03/11/2019

**Settlement Amount:** 

\$625,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement

24. In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to pay Claimants \$625,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all

claims asserted by Claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 15 of 23

**Reporting Source:** 

Firm



to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations: Claimants alleged, inter alia, misrepresentation with respect to purchase of

municipal bonds in accounts - 2013 to 2014.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

**Alleged Damages:** \$365,000.00

Is this an oral complaint?

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum

or court name and location:

FINRA

**Docket/Case #:** 17-01191

Filing date of

05/09/2017

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

#### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 05/11/2017

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 08/08/2018

Settlement Amount: \$69,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement 24.In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley

agreed to pay Claimant \$69,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims

asserted by Claimants in this proceeding.

Reporting Source: Broker



to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations:

Claimants alleged, inter alia, misrepresentation with respect to purchase of

municipal bonds in accounts - 2013 to 2014.

**Product Type:** 

**Debt-Municipal** 

**Alleged Damages:** 

\$365,000.00

Is this an oral complaint?

No

Is this a written complaint?

No

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

**Arbitration/Reparation forum** 

FINRA

or court name and location:

Docket/Case #:

17-01191

Filing date of

05/09/2017

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

## **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 

05/11/2017

**Complaint Pending?** 

Yes

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

Disclosure 16 of 23

**Reporting Source:** 

Firm

**Employing firm when** 

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Allegations:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Claimants alleged, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to purchase of municipal

bonds in accounts - 2013 to 2017.

**Product Type: Debt-Municipal** 

**Alleged Damages:** \$594,000.00



Is this an oral complaint? No

**Is this a written complaint?** No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

**Docket/Case #:** 17-01157

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation:

05/05/2017

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 05/08/2017

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 03/28/2018

Settlement Amount: \$399,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$399,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims

asserted by Claimants in this proceeding.

**Reporting Source:** Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations: Claimants alleged, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to purchase of municipal

bonds in accounts - 2013 to 2017.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Alleged Damages: \$594,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No



**Is this a written complaint?** No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

FINRA

**Docket/Case #:** 17-01157

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

05/05/2017

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 05/08/2017

Complaint Pending?

Yes

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

Disclosure 17 of 23

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations: Claimants alleged, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to municipal bond

investments - 2012 to 2015.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Other: Closed-End Funds

**Alleged Damages:** \$6,992,048.00

**Is this an oral complaint?** No

**Is this a written complaint?** No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

FINRA

Docket/Case #:

16-03635



Filing date of

12/15/2016

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 12/19/2016

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 06/01/2018

**Settlement Amount:** \$2,690,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Firm Statement In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$2,690,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims

asserted by Claimants in this proceeding.

**Reporting Source:** Broker

Employing firm when

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations: Claimants alleged, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to municipal bond

investments - 2012 to 2015.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Other: Closed-End Funds

**Alleged Damages:** \$6,000,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC

reparation or civil litigation?

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

FINRA

Yes

Docket/Case #: 16-03635



Filing date of

12/15/2016

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 12/19/2016

Complaint Pending?

Yes

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

**Amount:** 

Disclosure 18 of 23

**Reporting Source:** Broker

Employing firm when

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations: Claimants alleged, inter alia, unsuitability with respect to the Puerto Rico closed-

end fund investment - 2012 to 2013.

**Product Type:** Other: Closed-End Fund

Alleged Damages: \$0.00

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not

exact):

Unspecified

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:

FINRA

**Docket/Case #:** 16-01945

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

07/07/2016



**Date Complaint Received:** 07/14/2016

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 01/10/2017

Settlement Amount: \$80,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

**Broker Statement** In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$80,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims asserted by Claimants in this proceeding. Mr. Aquino denies the customer's allegations,

and did not participate in the settlement of the matter.

Disclosure 19 of 23

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Allegations: Claimant alleged, inter alia, unsuitability and misrepresentation with respect to

purchases of municipal bonds in accounts - 2012 to 2015.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

**Alleged Damages:** \$2,036,911.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum

or court name and location:

FINRA

**Docket/Case #:** 15-02874

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

10/27/2015



**Date Complaint Received:** 11/02/2015

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 04/25/2017

**Settlement Amount:** \$1,875,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

**Broker Statement** In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimant \$1,875,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims

asserted by Claimant in this proceeding.

Disclosure 20 of 23

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY

Allegations: CLAIMANTS ALLEGE, INTER ALIA, UNSUITABILITY WITH RESPECT TO THE

RECOMMENDATION AND OVERCONCENTRATION OF MUNICIPAL BONDS IN

TRUST ACCOUNTS - 2012 TO 2014.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Alleged Damages: \$500,000.00

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:

**FINRA** 

**Docket/Case #:** 15-01923

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

07/27/2015



**Date Complaint Received:** 07/30/2015

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 03/03/2017

Settlement Amount: \$400,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

**Broker Statement** In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay claimants \$400,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims

asserted by claimants in this proceeding.

Disclosure 21 of 23

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY

Allegations: CLAIMANTS ALLEGE, INTER ALIA, MISREPRESENTATION WITH RESPECT TO

THE PURCHASES OF PUERTO RICO MUNICIPAL BONDS IN THEIR

ACCOUNTS - APRIL 2012 TO DECEMBER 2012.

Product Type: Debt-Municipal

Alleged Damages: \$200,000.00

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:

**FINRA** 

**Docket/Case #:** 14-010920

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

03/31/2014



**Date Complaint Received:** 04/17/2014

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

Status Date: 12/15/2016

**Settlement Amount:** \$65,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

**Broker Statement** In order to avoid the costs and uncertainties of litigation, Morgan Stanley agreed to

pay Claimants \$65,000.00 in full and final settlement of any and all claims asserted by Claimants in this proceeding. Mr. Aquino denies the customer's allegations,

and did not participate in the settlement of the matter

Disclosure 22 of 23

**Reporting Source:** Firm

**Employing firm when** activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

**UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC** 

Allegations: TIME FRAME: 2005-PRESENT

> CLAIMANT ALLEGES THT FAS RECOMMENDED A RECKLESS AND UNSUITABLE CONCENTRATION IN RISKY CLOSED-END FUNDS.

**Product Type:** Other: CLOSED END FUNDS

**Alleged Damages:** \$227,734.00

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:

**FINRA** 

04/11/2014

Docket/Case #: 14-01065

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:



**Date Complaint Received:** 04/11/2014

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 12/29/2016

Settlement Amount: \$80,000.00

Individual Contribution \$0.00

Amount:

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Allegations:

UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC

TIME FRAME: 2005-PRESENT CLAIMANT ALLEGES THT FAS

RECOMMENDED A RECKLESS AND UNSUITABLE CONCENTRATION IN

RISKY CLOSED-END FUNDS.

Product Type: Other: CLOSED END FUNDS

Alleged Damages: \$227,734.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? Yes

Is this an arbitration/CFTC

reparation or civil litigation?

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

Yes

**Docket/Case #:** 14-01065

**Filing date of** 04/11/2014

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 04/11/2014

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled



Status Date: 12/29/2016 **Settlement Amount:** \$80,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

**Broker Statement** FA CATEGORICALLY DENIES ANY WRONGDOING AND THAT ALL

RECOMMENDATIONS WERE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CLIENT.

Disclosure 23 of 23

**Reporting Source:** Firm

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

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED

Allegations: THE CUSTOMERS ALLEGE UNSUITABLE INVESTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

AND MISREPRESENTATION AND OMISSION OF MATERIAL FACTS FROM

MARCH 2007 TO SEPTEMBER 2009.

**Product Type:** Other: CLOSED END FUNDS

**Alleged Damages:** \$4,940,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

**Arbitration/Reparation forum** or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #: 14-01102

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

04/07/2014

## **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 06/20/2014

**Complaint Pending?** Nο

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 09/21/2015



Settlement Amount: \$363,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

\$0.00

Amount:

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

**UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC** 

to the complaint:
Allegations:

TIME FRAME: 2004-PRESENT

CLAIMANT ALLEGES THAT FAS RECOMMENDED OVERLY-CONCENTRATED HOLDINGS IN CLOSED-END FUNDS AND MISREPRESENTED THE RISKS OF

THE INVESTMENTS.

Product Type: Other: CLOSED END FUNDS

**Alleged Damages:** \$4,940,000.00

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:

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #:

14-01102

Filing date of

06/20/2014

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

**Customer Complaint Information** 

Date Complaint Received: 06/20/2014

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 08/02/2015

Settlement Amount: \$23,250.00

**Individual Contribution** 

**Amount:** 

\$0.00



Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED

Allegations:

THE CUSTOMERS ALLEGE UNSUITABLE INVESTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND MISREPRESENTATION AND OMISSION OF MATERIAL FACTS FROM

MARCH 2007 TO SEPTEMBER 2009.

Product Type: Other: CLOSED END FUNDS

**Alleged Damages:** \$4,940,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #:

Filing date of 04/07/2014

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

14-01102

### **Customer Complaint Information**

Date Complaint Received: 06/20/2014

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 09/21/2015

Settlement Amount: \$363,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Broker Statement FA CATEGORICALLY DENIES ANY WRONGDOING AND THAT ALL

RECOMMENDATIONS WERE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CLIENT. The

settlement was made by Merrill Lynch without my involvement or input.

Merrill Lynch settled arbitration #14-01102 on 09/21/2015 for \$363,000.00.



#### 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 2

**Reporting Source:** Firm

**Employing firm when** activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Allegations:

UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.

Claimant alleges unsuitable overconcentration and misrepresentations concerning

closed-end funds. Time frame: unspecified.

**Product Type:** Other: Closed End Funds

**Alleged Damages:** \$300,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? No

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

**Arbitration/Reparation forum** 

or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

11/04/2015

Docket/Case #: 15-02915

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

## **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 11/04/2015

**Complaint Pending?** No

Withdrawn Status:

Status Date: 02/22/2016

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:



Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.

to the complaint:

Allegations:

Claimant alleges unsuitable overconcentration and misrepresentations concerning

closed-end funds. Time frame: unspecified.

**Product Type:** Other: Closed End Funds

Alleged Damages: \$300,000.00

**Is this an oral complaint?** No

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum

or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

**Docket/Case #**: 15-02915

Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

11/04/2015

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 11/04/2015

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Withdrawn
Status Date: 02/22/2016

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

Disclosure 2 of 2

Reporting Source: Broker



Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

UBS PAINEWEBBER INC.

Allegations:

CLIENTS, THROUGH THEIR ATTORNEY, ALLEGE TRANSACTIONS WERE

MADE IN THEIR ACCOUNT WITHOUT THEIR AUTHORIZATION. TIME PERIOD

UNSPECIFIED. DAMAGES CLAIMED: \$33,905-\$35,000

Product Type: Equity - OTC

Alleged Damages: \$35,000.00

**Customer Complaint Information** 

Date Complaint Received: 02/05/2001

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Denied

**Status Date:** 04/02/2001

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

www.finra.org/brokercheck
User Guidance

# **End of Report**



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