

# **BrokerCheck Report**

# **SAMUEL HUGHES BUTTERWORTH III**

CRD# 2793567

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When communicating online or investing with any professional, make sure you know who you're dealing with. <u>Imposters</u> might link to sites like BrokerCheck from <u>phishing</u> or similar scam websites, or through <u>social media</u>, 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:
  - 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.

www.finra.org/brokercheck
User Guidance

### **SAMUEL H. BUTTERWORTH III**

CRD# 2793567

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

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED

3700 N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY AUSTIN, TX 78746 CRD# 7691

Registered with this firm since: 10/23/2009

B MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED

3700 N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY AUSTIN, TX 78746 CRD# 7691

Registered with this firm since: 10/23/2009

# **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:

- 6 Self-Regulatory Organizations
- 27 U.S. states and territories

### This broker has passed:

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

### **Registration History**

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

A BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

CRD# 16361 BOSTON, MA 11/2002 - 10/2009

BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

CRD# 16361 AUSTIN, TX 11/2002 - 10/2009

MERRILL LYNCH PIERCE FENNER & SMITH INC.

CRD# 7691 NEW YORK, NY 11/1996 - 11/2002

### **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	6

### **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 6 SROs and is licensed in 27 U.S. states and territories through his or her employer.

## **Employment 1 of 1**

Firm Name: MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED

Main Office Address: ONE BRYANT PARK

NEW YORK, NY 10036

Firm CRD#: **7691** 

	SRO	Category	Status	Date
B	Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	05/13/2014
B	Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	05/13/2014
B	Cboe Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/26/2009
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/23/2009
B	Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/26/2009
B	New York Stock Exchange	General Securities Representative	Approved	10/26/2009
	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	Alabama	Agent	Approved	11/17/2021
B B	Alabama Arizona	Agent Agent	Approved Approved	11/17/2021 03/16/2016
		-		
В	Arizona	Agent	Approved	03/16/2016
B B	Arizona Arkansas	Agent Agent	Approved  Approved	03/16/2016 01/08/2018
B B	Arizona Arkansas California	Agent Agent Agent	Approved Approved	03/16/2016 01/08/2018 10/23/2009
B B	Arizona Arkansas California Colorado	Agent Agent Agent Agent	Approved Approved Approved Approved	03/16/2016 01/08/2018 10/23/2009 04/15/2013

# **Broker Qualifications**



# **Employment 1 of 1, continued**

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
В	Indiana	Agent	Approved	07/10/2024
B	Kentucky	Agent	Approved	05/26/2015
B	Maine	Agent	Approved	01/05/2023
B	Maryland	Agent	Approved	10/23/2009
B	Mississippi	Agent	Approved	03/07/2023
B	Montana	Agent	Approved	04/01/2019
B	Nevada	Agent	Approved	05/16/2025
B	New Jersey	Agent	Approved	09/04/2018
B	New Mexico	Agent	Approved	09/08/2023
B	New York	Agent	Approved	10/23/2009
В	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	04/15/2013
B	Ohio	Agent	Approved	12/20/2017
В	Oklahoma	Agent	Approved	01/12/2017
B	Oregon	Agent	Approved	09/11/2020
B	Pennsylvania	Agent	Approved	08/31/2023
B	South Carolina	Agent	Approved	05/04/2018
B	Tennessee	Agent	Approved	06/29/2017
В	Texas	Agent	Approved	10/23/2009
IA	Texas	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	10/23/2009
B	Vermont	Agent	Approved	10/12/2021
B	Virginia	Agent	Approved	07/08/2014

www.finra.org/brokercheck

# **Broker Qualifications**



**Employment 1 of 1, continued** 

**Branch Office Locations** 

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED 3700 N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY AUSTIN, TX 78746

### **Broker Qualifications**



### **Industry Exams this Broker has Passed**

This section includes all securities industry exams that the broker has passed. Under limited circumstances, a broker may attain a registration after receiving an exam waiver based on exams the broker has passed and/or qualifying work experience. Any exam waivers that the broker has received are not included below. A passed exam or exam waiver does not permit a broker to do business without an active SRO or state registration.

This individual has passed 0 principal/supervisory exams, 2 general industry/product exams, and 2 state securities law exams.

## **Principal/Supervisory Exams**

Exam		Category	Date
	No information reported.		

# **General Industry/Product Exams**

Exam		Category	Date
B	Securities Industry Essentials Examination	SIE	10/01/2018
B	General Securities Representative Examination	Series 7	10/09/1996

# **State Securities Law Exams**

Exam		Category	Date
IA	Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination	Series 65	11/13/1996
В	Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination	Series 63	11/01/1996

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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User Guidance

# **Broker Qualifications**

# FINCA

# **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
В	11/2002 - 10/2009	BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	16361	AUSTIN, TX
IA	11/2002 - 10/2009	BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.	16361	AUSTIN, TX
IA	11/1996 - 11/2002	MERRILL LYNCH PIERCE FENNER & SMITH INC.	7691	LAKEWAY, TX
B	10/1996 - 11/2002	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	7691	NEW YORK, 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.

<b>Employment</b>	Employer Name	Position	Investment Related	<b>Employer Location</b>
05/2011 - Present	Bank of America, N.A.	Wealth Management Advisor	Υ	AUSTIN, TX, United States
10/2009 - Present	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	Mass Transfer	Υ	AUSTIN, TX, 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.

No information reported.

### **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	1	5	N/A



### **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 - 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.

BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

Disclosure 1 of 4

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Allegations:

SUITABILITY

Product Type: Other: AUCTION RATE SECURITIES-MUNICIPAL DEBT

Alleged Damages: \$0.00

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not

explanation (if amou

exact):

UNSPECIFIED

Is this an oral complaint? No

Is this a written complaint? Yes

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

No

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 06/09/2009

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 06/09/2009



**Settlement Amount:** \$2,100,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

**Broker Statement** 

THIS MATTER INVOLVES THE SALE OF AUCTION RATE SECURITIES (ARS). THE TRANSACTION(S) AT ISSUE TOOK PLACE BEFORE MID-FEBRUARY 2008, WHEN THE ARS MARKET SUFFERED WIDESPREAD AUCTION FAILURES AND ILLIQUIDITY. THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR DID NOT CAUSE. CONTRIBUTE OR HAVE ANY CONTROL WHATSOEVER OVER THESE MARKET EVENTS. THE FIRM REACHED AGREEMENT WITH CERTAIN OF ITS REGULATORS, PURSUANT TO WHICH IT REPURCHASED ARS FOR THEIR

FULL PAR VALUE FROM CERTAIN CLIENTS, INCLUDING THE INSTANT CLIENT, WHERE THEY COMPLAINED OR NOT. THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR WAS NOT A PARTY TO THAT AGREEMENT, DID NOT MAKE ANY PAYMENT TO THE CLIENT, AND WAS NOT ASKED TO AND DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE REPURCHASE AMOUNT. THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNT IN ITEM 11 ABOVE REFLECTS THE PAR VALUE OF THE REPURCHASED ARS, AS REQUIRED BY

FINRA REGULATORY NOTICE 09-12.

Disclosure 2 of 4

**Reporting Source:** Broker

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

BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

Allegations:

MISREPRESENTATION

**Product Type:** 

Other: AUCTION RATE SECURITIES- MUNICIPAL DEBT

**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? No

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 06/09/2009



**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 06/09/2009

Settlement Amount: \$225,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Broker Statement THIS MATTER INVOLVES THE SALE OF AUCTION RATE SECURITIES (ARS).

THE TRANSACTION(S) AT ISSUE TOOK PLACE BEFORE MID-FEBRUARY 2008, WHEN THE ARS MARKET SUFFERED WIDESPREAD AUCTION FAILURES AND ILLIQUIDITY. THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR DID NOT CAUSE, CONTRIBUTE OR HAVE ANY CONTROL WHATSOEVER OVER THESE

MARKET EVENTS. THE FIRM REACHED AGREEMENT WITH CERTAIN OF ITS REGULATORS, PURSUANT TO WHICH IT REPURCHASED ARS FOR THEIR FULL PAR VALUE FROM CERTAIN CLIENTS, INCLUDING THE INSTANT CLIENT, WHERE THEY COMPLAINED OR NOT. THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR WAS NOT A PARTY TO THAT AGREEMENT, DID NOT MAKE ANY PAYMENT TO THE CLIENT, AND WAS NOT ASKED TO AND DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE REPURCHASE AMOUNT. THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNT IN ITEM 11 ABOVE REFLECTS THE PAR VALUE OF THE REPURCHASED ARS, AS REQUIRED BY

FINRA REGULATORY NOTICE 09-12.

Disclosure 3 of 4

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

Allegations: CLAIMANT ALLEGES MISREPRESENTATION OF INVESTMENTS IN AUCTION

RATE SECURITIES IN 2001. ALLEGED DAMAGES UNSPECIFIED.

Product Type: Other: AUCTION RATE SECURITIES- CLOSED-END FUNDS

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?

No

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 09/12/2008

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Evolved into Arbitration/CFTC reparation (the individual is a named party)

**Status Date:** 09/12/2008

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

**Amount:** 

**Arbitration Information** 

Arbitration/CFTC reparation

claim filed with (FINRA, AAA,

CFTC, etc.):

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #: FINRA-DR 08-03134

Date Notice/Process Served: 09/12/2008

**Arbitration Pending?** No

**Disposition:** Settled

**Disposition Date:** 12/11/2008

**Monetary Compensation** 

**Amount:** 

\$1,525,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

**Amount:** 

\$0.00

Broker Statement THIS MATTER INVOLVES THE SALE OF AUCTION RATE SECURITIES (ARS).

THE TRANSACTION(S) AT ISSUE TOOK PLACE BEFORE MID-FEBRUARY 2008, WHEN THE ARS MARKET SUFFERED WIDESPREAD AUCTION FAILURES AND ILLIQUIDITY. THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR DID NOT CAUSE, CONTRIBUTE OR HAVE ANY CONTROL WHATSOEVER OVER THESE

MARKET EVENTS. THE FIRM REACHED AGREEMENT WITH CERTAIN OF ITS REGULATORS, PURSUANT TO WHICH IT REPURCHASED ARS FOR THEIR FULL PAR VALUE FROM CERTAIN CLIENTS, INCLUDING THE INSTANT CLIENT, WHERE THEY COMPLAINED OR NOT. THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR WAS NOT A PARTY TO THAT AGREEMENT, DID NOT MAKE ANY PAYMENT TO THE CLIENT, AND WAS NOT ASKED TO AND DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE REPURCHASE AMOUNT. THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNT IN ITEM 11 ABOVE



REFLECTS THE PAR VALUE OF THE REPURCHASED ARS, AS REQUIRED BY FINRA REGULATORY NOTICE 09-12.

Disclosure 4 of 4

Reporting Source: Broker

**Employing firm when** 

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

Allegations: ATTORNEY FOR CLIENT ALLEGES THAT FINANCIAL ADVISOR DID NOT

ADHERE TO CLIENT'S DEMAND THAT MONEY BE INVESTED IN TAX FREE MONEY MARKETS. HAD TO REPORT ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX FOR THE

TAX YEAR 2007. ALLEGED DAMAGES OF \$754,000.

Product Type: Mutual Fund

Alleged Damages: \$754,000.00

Is this an oral complaint? No

**Is this a written complaint?** Yes

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

No

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 05/15/2008

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 07/08/2008

**Settlement Amount:** \$2,775,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

**Amount:** 

\$0.00

Broker Statement THIS MATTER INVOLVES THE SALE OF AUCTION RATE SECURITIES (ARS).

THE TRANSACTION(S) AT ISSUE TOOK PLACE BEFORE MID-FEBRUARY 2008, WHEN THE ARS MARKET SUFFERED WIDESPREAD AUCTION FAILURES AND ILLIQUIDITY. THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR DID NOT CAUSE, CONTRIBUTE OR HAVE ANY CONTROL WHATSOEVER OVER THESE

MARKET EVENTS. THE FIRM REACHED AGREEMENT WITH CERTAIN OF ITS REGULATORS, PURSUANT TO WHICH IT REPURCHASED ARS FOR THEIR FULL PAR VALUE FROM CERTAIN CLIENTS, INCLUDING THE INSTANT



CLIENT, WHERE THEY COMPLAINED OR NOT. THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR WAS NOT A PARTY TO THAT AGREEMENT, DID NOT MAKE ANY PAYMENT TO THE CLIENT, AND WAS NOT ASKED TO AND DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE REPURCHASE AMOUNT. THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNT IN ITEM 11 ABOVE REFLECTS THE PAR VALUE OF THE REPURCHASED ARS, AS REQUIRED BY FINRA REGULATORY NOTICE 09-12.

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### Customer Dispute - Closed-No Action / Withdrawn / Dismissed / Denied

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:

Allegations:

CLIENT ALLEGES THAT FINANCIAL ADVISOR FAILED TO FOLLOW HIS

BANC OF AMERICA INVESTMENT SERVICES, INC.

INSTRUCTIONS BY NOT ENSURING THAT HE WAS INVESTED IN TAX FREE MONEY MARKETS FOR THE TAX YEAR 2007, THUS RESULTING IN AN ADDITIONAL TAX LIABILITY OF \$100,000. ALLEGED DAMAGES OF \$100,000.

Product Type: Mutual Fund(s)

Alleged Damages: \$100,000.00

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 05/14/2008

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Denied

**Status Date:** 06/16/2008

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:



### **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:

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED

Allegations: The customers allege unsuitable investment recommendations and

misrepresentations.

**Product Type:** Debt-Government

Alleged Damages: \$100,000.00

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):

Damages are alleged to be in excess of \$100,000.

Is this an oral complaint?

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

No

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

**Docket/Case #:** 24-02642

**Filing date of** 12/17/2024

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

## **Customer Complaint Information**

Date Complaint Received: 12/18/2024

Complaint Pending? Yes

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

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# **End of Report**



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