

BrokerCheck Report

CHARLES AUSTIN STEPHENS

CRD# 2960614

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When communicating online or investing with any professional, make sure you know who you're dealing with. [Imposters](#) might link to sites like BrokerCheck from [phishing](#) or similar scam websites, or through [social media](#), trying to steal your personal information or your money.

Please contact FINRA with any concerns.

About BrokerCheck®

BrokerCheck offers information on all current, and many former, registered securities brokers, and all current and former registered securities firms. FINRA strongly encourages investors to use BrokerCheck to check the background of securities brokers and brokerage firms before deciding to conduct, or continue to conduct, business with them.

- **What is included in a BrokerCheck report?**

- BrokerCheck reports for individual brokers include information such as employment history, professional qualifications, disciplinary actions, criminal convictions, civil judgments and arbitration awards. BrokerCheck reports for brokerage firms include information on a firm's profile, history, and operations, as well as many of the same disclosure events mentioned above.
- Please note that the information contained in a BrokerCheck report may include pending actions or allegations that may be contested, unresolved or unproven. In the end, these actions or allegations may be resolved in favor of the broker or brokerage firm, or concluded through a negotiated settlement with no admission or finding of wrongdoing.

- **Where did this information come from?**

- The information contained in BrokerCheck comes from FINRA's Central Registration Depository, or CRD® and is a combination of:
 - information FINRA and/or the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) require brokers and brokerage firms to submit as part of the registration and licensing process, and
 - information that regulators report regarding disciplinary actions or allegations against firms or brokers.

- **How current is this information?**

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you for using FINRA BrokerCheck.



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

brokercheck.finra.org



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

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

CHARLES A. STEPHENS

CRD# 2960614

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

IA MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED
 3455 PEACHTREE RD NE
 ATLANTA, GA 30326
 CRD# 7691
 Registered with this firm since: 05/27/1999

B MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED
 3455 PEACHTREE RD NE
 ATLANTA, GA 30326
 CRD# 7691
 Registered with this firm since: 12/02/1997

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
- 53 U.S. states and territories

This broker has passed:

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

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

No information reported.

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? **No**



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 53 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	05/16/2014
B Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	05/16/2014
B Cboe Exchange, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	12/02/1997
B FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	12/02/1997
B Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Representative	Approved	07/12/2006
B New York Stock Exchange	General Securities Representative	Approved	01/28/1998

U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B Alabama	Agent	Approved	05/26/1999
B Alaska	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007
B Arizona	Agent	Approved	06/02/2004
B Arkansas	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007
B California	Agent	Approved	01/28/1999
B Colorado	Agent	Approved	05/26/1999
B Connecticut	Agent	Approved	05/26/1999



Broker Qualifications

Employment 1 of 1, continued

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	Delaware	Agent	Approved	07/23/2003
B	District of Columbia	Agent	Approved	05/28/1999
B	Florida	Agent	Approved	01/29/1999
IA	Florida	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	12/09/2020
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	06/01/1998
IA	Georgia	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	04/07/2004
B	Hawaii	Agent	Approved	02/02/2007
B	Idaho	Agent	Approved	03/10/2005
B	Illinois	Agent	Approved	05/26/1999
B	Indiana	Agent	Approved	01/17/2007
B	Iowa	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007
B	Kansas	Agent	Approved	03/10/2005
B	Kentucky	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007
B	Louisiana	Agent	Approved	06/02/2004
B	Maine	Agent	Approved	01/12/2006
B	Maryland	Agent	Approved	01/28/1999
B	Massachusetts	Agent	Approved	05/26/1999
B	Michigan	Agent	Approved	10/01/2007
B	Minnesota	Agent	Approved	03/10/2005
B	Mississippi	Agent	Approved	04/14/2004
B	Missouri	Agent	Approved	03/12/2004



Broker Qualifications

Employment 1 of 1, continued

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	Montana	Agent	Approved	05/27/1999
B	Nebraska	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007
B	Nevada	Agent	Approved	06/02/2004
B	New Hampshire	Agent	Approved	05/26/1999
B	New Jersey	Agent	Approved	05/27/1999
B	New Mexico	Agent	Approved	02/11/2002
B	New York	Agent	Approved	02/11/2002
B	North Carolina	Agent	Approved	05/27/1999
IA	North Carolina	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	12/09/2020
B	North Dakota	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007
B	Ohio	Agent	Approved	10/25/2007
B	Oklahoma	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007
B	Oregon	Agent	Approved	01/22/2003
B	Pennsylvania	Agent	Approved	01/28/1999
B	Puerto Rico	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007
B	Rhode Island	Agent	Approved	06/02/2004
B	South Carolina	Agent	Approved	05/27/1999
B	South Dakota	Agent	Approved	11/03/2003
B	Tennessee	Agent	Approved	02/01/1999
B	Texas	Agent	Approved	05/27/1999
IA	Texas	Investment Adviser Representative	Restricted Approval	05/27/1999



Broker Qualifications

Employment 1 of 1, continued

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	Utah	Agent	Approved	06/02/2004
B	Vermont	Agent	Approved	06/02/2004
B	Virgin Islands	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007
B	Virginia	Agent	Approved	01/29/1999
B	Washington	Agent	Approved	04/06/2006
B	West Virginia	Agent	Approved	06/02/2004
B	Wisconsin	Agent	Approved	01/17/2007
B	Wyoming	Agent	Approved	10/24/2007

Branch Office Locations

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED
 3455 PEACHTREE RD NE
 ATLANTA, GA 30326



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 1 state securities law exam.

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	12/01/1997

State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
B IA Uniform Combined State Law Examination	Series 66	05/30/1998

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
No information reported.			

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
12/2009 - Present	BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.	PRIVATE WEALTH ADVISOR	Y	ATLANTA, GA, United States
10/1997 - Present	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	PRIVATE WEALTH ADVISOR	Y	ATLANTA, GA, United States

Other Business Activities

This section includes information, if any, as provided by the broker regarding other business activities the broker is currently engaged in either as a proprietor, partner, officer, director, employee, trustee, agent or otherwise. This section does not include non-investment related activity that is exclusively charitable, civic, religious or fraternal and is recognized as tax exempt.

I*113161FOR PROFIT OR NOT FOR PROFIT: FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONNAME OF OUTSIDE BUSINESS ORGANIZATION: VENTURA AIR, LLCINVESTMENT RELATED: NADDRESS OF BUSINESS:ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30327NATURE OF BUSINESS: LLC,POSITION, TITLE, ASSOCIATION: OWNER, START DATE OF RELATIONSHIP: 12/1/2001NUMBER OF HOURS DEVOTED: 1 HOUR(S) MONTHLYNUMBER OF HOURS DEVOTED DURING TRADING HOURS: 0DUTIES: THE LLC OWNS AN AIRPLANE

I*27207For profit or not for profit: For-Profit OrganizationName of outside business organization: RAWCAS, LLCInvestment related: NAddress of business:Atlanta, Georgia 30326Nature of business: LLC,Ownership of AirplanePosition, title, association: Limited Partner, Start date of relationship: 3/1/2006Number of hours devoted: 2 hour(s) MonthlyNumber of hours devoted during trading hours: 0Duties: member no specific duty

I*27211FOR PROFIT OR NOT FOR PROFIT: FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONNAME OF OUTSIDE BUSINESS ORGANIZATION: SHELBY LAKES FARMINVESTMENT RELATED: NADDRESS OF BUSINESS: JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32224NATURE OF BUSINESS: LLC,POSITION, TITLE, ASSOCIATION: START DATE OF RELATIONSHIP: 01/01/0001NUMBER OF HOURS DEVOTED: 1 HOUR(S) MONTHLYNUMBER OF HOURS DEVOTED DURING TRADING HOURS: 0DUTIES: CO-OWNER MEMBER



Registration and Employment History

Other Business Activities, continued

I*73290 FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONGOLFFOXROTZYANKEE LLCNJACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32224LLC,OWNER, 7/7/20141 HOUR(S) ANNUALLY0SINGLE MEMBER LLC TO OWN AN AIRPLANE

I*72341NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONTHE WESTMINSTER SCHOOLSNTLANTA, GEORGIA 30327CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION,TRUSTEE, 6/30/20148 HOUR(S) QUARTERLY0LOCAL PRIVATE SCHOOL. BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

I*103870FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONSTEPHENS'S WAREHOUSENJACKSONVILLE, GEORGIA 30269CORPORATION,OFFICER, 3/1/20171 HOUR(S) ANNUALLY0VP OF FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS; WAREHOUSE FOR LEASE

I*105557Non-Profit OrganizationPATH FoundationNAtlanta, Georgia 30309Charitable Organization,Advisory Board Member, 5/15/20178 hour(s) Annually6Board Member

I*103869FOR PROFIT OR NOT FOR PROFIT: FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONNAME OF OUTSIDE BUSINESS ORGANIZATION: MIAMI 1ST & 8TH LLCINVESTMENT RELATED: NADDRESS OF BUSINESS: JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32224NATURE OF BUSINESS: LLC,POSITION, TITLE, ASSOCIATION: OFFICER, START DATE OF RELATIONSHIP: 3/15/2017NUMBER OF HOURS DEVOTED: 5 HOUR(S) ANNUALLYNUMBER OF HOURS DEVOTED DURING TRADING HOURS: 0DUTIES: LLC HOLDING CO WITH LAND WITH DIRT FOR SALE

I*128642For profit or not for profit: For-Profit OrganizationName of outside business organization: Albula Vulpes BahamasInvestment related: NAddress of business:Atlanta, Georgia 30328Nature of business: S-Corp,Position, title, association: Owner, Start date of relationship: 12/18/2019Number of hours devoted: 1 hour(s) MonthlyNumber of hours devoted during trading hours: 0Duties: S Corp that owns a house at Normans Cay in the Bahamas

I*2891277Entity Type: CharitableName of OBA: PATH FOUNDATIONAddress:Atlanta GeorgiaInvestment Related:NoPosition, Title, Association:OtherStart Date:09/22/2025No Hours: 4 MonthlyNo Hours during trading:0 MonthlyDuties:PATH FDN builds off-road trails in and around the Atlanta metro area for walkers, runners, skaters and cyclistsChairman - review agenda's for meetings, support Executive Director, attend fund raising events but I do not solicit any funds from our clients nor will I from any future clients

I*4469270, Entity Type: , Name of OBA: S D S, Address: Atlanta, Georgia, 30350, Investment Related: N, Position, Title, Association: Power of Attorney, Employee Start Date: 04/27/2026, No Hours: 1 Monthly, No Hours during Trading: 1 Monthly, Duties:

End of Report



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