

BrokerCheck Report

MICHAEL RAY HOWELL

CRD# 3014660

<u>Section Title</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>
Report Summary	1
Broker Qualifications	2 - 5
Registration and Employment History	7 - 8
Disclosure Events	9



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.

MICHAEL R. HOWELL

CRD# 3014660

Currently employed by and registered with the following Firm(s):**IA LPL FINANCIAL LLC**1101 N MARKET ST
SPARTA, IL 62286
CRD# 6413

Registered with this firm since: 08/04/1998

B LPL FINANCIAL LLC1101 N MARKET ST
SPARTA, IL 62286
CRD# 6413

Registered with this firm since: 06/08/1998

Report Summary for this Broker

This report summary provides an overview of the broker's professional background and conduct. Additional information can be found in the detailed report.

Broker Qualifications**This broker is registered with:**

- 1 Self-Regulatory Organization
- 36 U.S. states and territories

This broker has passed:

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

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? **Yes**

The following types of disclosures have been reported:

Type	Count
Customer Dispute	2

Broker Qualifications



Registrations

This section provides the self-regulatory organizations (SROs) and U.S. states/territories the broker is currently registered and licensed with, the category of each license, and the date on which it became effective. This section also provides, for every brokerage firm with which the broker is currently employed, the address of each branch where the broker works.

This individual is currently registered with 1 SRO and is licensed in 36 U.S. states and territories through his or her employer.

Employment 1 of 1

Firm Name: **LPL FINANCIAL LLC**

Main Office Address: **1055 LPL WAY
FORT MILL, SC 29715**

Firm CRD#: **6413**

SRO	Category	Status	Date
B FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	06/08/1998
B FINRA	General Securities Principal	Approved	12/13/1999

U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B Alabama	Agent	Approved	05/15/2013
B Arizona	Agent	Approved	08/06/2003
B Arkansas	Agent	Approved	11/28/2008
B California	Agent	Approved	03/25/2013
B Colorado	Agent	Approved	07/28/2004
B Florida	Agent	Approved	04/13/1999
B Georgia	Agent	Approved	05/31/2017
B Hawaii	Agent	Approved	04/19/2006
B Illinois	Agent	Approved	06/08/1998
IA Illinois	Investment Adviser Representative	Approved	08/04/1998
B Indiana	Agent	Approved	06/04/2014

Broker Qualifications



Employment 1 of 1, continued

U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B Kansas	Agent	Approved	11/28/2008
B Kentucky	Agent	Approved	06/23/2015
B Louisiana	Agent	Approved	10/31/2017
B Massachusetts	Agent	Approved	11/25/2013
B Minnesota	Agent	Approved	05/03/2007
B Mississippi	Agent	Approved	05/19/2011
B Missouri	Agent	Approved	06/10/1998
B Montana	Agent	Approved	08/28/2019
B Nebraska	Agent	Approved	08/31/2018
B Nevada	Agent	Approved	07/05/2022
B New Hampshire	Agent	Approved	08/29/2019
B New Mexico	Agent	Approved	08/26/2021
B New York	Agent	Approved	07/10/2019
B North Carolina	Agent	Approved	07/17/2007
B North Dakota	Agent	Approved	07/25/2025
B Ohio	Agent	Approved	02/20/2019
B Oklahoma	Agent	Approved	11/12/2007
B Oregon	Agent	Approved	07/24/2001
B South Carolina	Agent	Approved	10/21/2019
B South Dakota	Agent	Approved	07/29/2022
B Tennessee	Agent	Approved	10/28/2011

Broker Qualifications



Employment 1 of 1, continued

U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B Texas	Agent	Approved	01/25/2002
IA Texas	Investment Adviser Representative	Restricted Approval	03/04/2013
B Utah	Agent	Approved	04/24/2024
B Virginia	Agent	Approved	01/05/2010
B Washington	Agent	Approved	03/18/1999
B Wisconsin	Agent	Approved	07/16/2012

Branch Office Locations

LPL FINANCIAL LLC
1101 N MARKET ST
SPARTA, IL 62286

LPL FINANCIAL LLC
400 W. BROADWAY
STEELEVILLE, IL 62288

LPL FINANCIAL LLC
SPARTA, IL

Broker Qualifications



Industry Exams this Broker has Passed

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

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

Principal/Supervisory Exams

Exam	Category	Date
B General Securities Principal Examination	Series 24	12/10/1999

General Industry/Product Exams

Exam	Category	Date
B Securities Industry Essentials Examination	SIE	10/01/2018
B General Securities Representative Examination	Series 7	04/24/1998

State Securities Law Exams

Exam	Category	Date
B Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination	Series 63	05/13/1998
IA Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination	Series 65	02/06/1998

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
05/1998 - Present	LPL FINANCIAL LLC	REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE	Y	SPARTA, IL, United States
03/1998 - Present	HOWELL FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.	OTHER - PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER	N	SPARTA, IL, United States
07/1989 - Present	MICHAEL R. HOWELL CPA/ATTORNEY	OTHER - ACCOUNTING/LAW PRACTICE	N	SPARTA, IL, 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.

1. 10/21/2005: HOWELL FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC - DBA FOR LPL BUSINESS (ENTITY FOR LPL BUSINESS) - INV REL - AT REPORTED BUSINESS LOCATION(S)
2. 01/26/2006: HOWELL FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC - INV REL - TAX PREP / ACCOUNTING / BOOKKEEPING - 10% OF TIME SPENT - PREPARATION OF TAX RETURNS FOR CLIENTS, PAYROLL RECORDS ETC
3. 09/15/2006: JACKSON SQUARE PARTNERSHIP - REAL ESTATE RENTAL - START 1992 - 1% OF TIME SPENT - COMMERCIAL 3 UNIT RENTAL PROPERTY - CO-OWNER
4. 08/02/2007: HILLCREST LAND COMPANY - INV REL - REAL ESTATE RENTAL - NO TIME SPENT - CO-OWNER

Registration and Employment History



Other Business Activities, continued

5. 08/02/2007: SITCO HOLDINGS, INC - TRANSPORTATION - 3% OF TIME SPENT - MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS & INVESTOR IN A TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

6. 11/09/2012: HOWELL BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC - TAX PREP / ACCOUNTING / BOOKKEEPING - 5% OF TIME SPENT - ACCOUNTING AND RELATED SERVICES FOR BUSINESS (BOOKKEEPING)

7. 09/29/2014: NO BUSINESS NAME - NOT INV REL - AT REPORTED BUSINESS LOCATION(S) - NOTARY PUBLIC - START 09/26/2014 - 1 HR/MO NONE DURING SECS TRDG HRS - PROVIDE NOTARY SERVICES

8. 05/11/2015: AMATEUR TRAPSHOOTING ASSOCIATION (A NOT FOR PROFIT ENTITY) - INV REL - AT REPORTED BUSINESS LOCATION(S) - CONTROLLER - START 10/01/2012 - 4 HR/MO NONE DURING SECS TRDG HRS

9. 09/11/2015 - Michael R. Howell Attorney at Law - 1101 North Market Sparta, Illinois 62286 - Attorney - START 06/01/1998 - 8 HOURS PER MONTH Attorney at Law

10. 11/16/2015 - Michael R. Howell - INV REL - Law - START 05/01/1998 - 15 HOURS PER MONTH, 1 DURING TRADING - Attorney. Providing advice on Edler law, estate planning. Hourly rate. No employees.

11. 04/26/2017 - Howell Holdings LLC - Investment Related - 1115 Birch Lane, Sparta, Illinois 62286 - Family Business - Manager of LLC for office building owned by my two daughters - Started 04/17/2017 - 1 Hour Per Month/0 Hours During Securities Trading.

12. 6/14/2017 - Risley Properties LLC - Investment Related - Perry County Illinois - Real Estate Rental - Started 12/15/2016 - 1 Hour Per Month/0 Hours During Securities Trading - Hunting Farm Property for lease.

13. 6/15/2017 - Trapshooting Hall of Fame - Investment Related - Sparta Illinois - Other-Controller - 1 Hour Per Month During Securities Trading - Assist not for profit in preparation of financial statements.

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
Customer Dispute	0	2	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.

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 2

Reporting Source:	Broker
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	LPL FINANCIAL, LLC
Allegations:	POOR PERFORMANCE, SUITABILITY. ACTIVITY PERIOD IS 6/24/00 TO 8/18/15.
Product Type:	Equity Listed (Common & Preferred Stock)
Alleged Damages:	\$325,000.00
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:	08/28/2015
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Settled
Status Date:	12/21/2016
Settlement Amount:	\$43,000.00
Individual Contribution Amount:	\$0.00

**Broker Statement**

THE REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE DENIES ANY AND ALL WRONGDOING WITH RESPECT TO THIS MATTER AND MAINTAINS THAT HE PROVIDED THE CUSTOMERS WITH INVESTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AS PART OF THEIR OVERALL PORTFOLIO THAT WERE SUITABLE IN ALL RESPECTS BASED ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES DISCLOSED BY THE CUSTOMERS AT THE TIME OF PURCHASE AND CONSISTENT WITH THEIR STATED INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES. OUT OF CLAIMED DAMAGES TOTALING \$325,000, THIS MATTER WAS RESOLVED FOR \$43,000 WITH NO CONTRIBUTION FROM THE REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE. THIS MATTER WAS RESOLVED WITHOUT ANY ADMISSION OF LIABILITY (WHICH WAS AND REMAINS DENIED) AND SOLELY AS A BUSINESS DECISION IN ORDER TO BRING THIS MATTER TO CLOSURE.

Disclosure 2 of 2

Reporting Source:	Broker
Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:	LPL FINANCIAL LLC
Allegations:	A LONG-TERM CUSTOMER OF THE ADVISOR ALLEGES THAT TWO SECURITIES PURCHASED IN HER ACCOUNT WERE UNSUITABLE.
Product Type:	Equity Listed (Common & Preferred Stock)
Alleged Damages:	\$100,000.00
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:	10/14/2014
Complaint Pending?	No
Status:	Settled
Status Date:	10/29/2014
Settlement Amount:	\$38,000.00
Individual Contribution Amount:	\$25,000.00

**Broker Statement**

LPL SETTLED THIS MATTER SOLELY AS AN ACCOMMODATION AND BUSINESS DECISION TO AVOID POTENTIALLY COSTLY LITIGATION WITHOUT FINDING OF LIABILITY WHATSOEVER ON THE PART OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISOR. THE CUSTOMER MENTIONED TO LPL AND THE ADVISOR THAT THE LETTER WAS NOT MEANT TO BE A COMPLAINT AND THAT SHE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE SERVICES HE PROVIDED OVER THE YEARS.

End of Report



This page is intentionally left blank.