

# **BrokerCheck Report**

# YIMIN GE

CRD# 4891755

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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

## **YIMIN GE**

CRD# 4891755

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
- 1 General Industry/Product Exam
- 1 State Securities Law Exam

### **Registration History**

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

- B SG AMERICAS SECURITIES, LLC CRD# 128351 NEW YORK, NY 05/2011 - 07/2014
- B MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED

  CRD# 7691

  NEW YORK, NY

  11/2010 05/2011
- BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC CRD# 26091 NEW YORK, NY 01/2009 - 11/2010

#### **Disclosure Events**

This broker has been involved in one or more disclosure events involving certain final criminal matters, regulatory actions, civil judicial proceedings, or arbitrations or civil litigations.

Are there events disclosed about this broker? Yes

The following types of disclosures have been reported:

Type Count Regulatory Event 2

# Investment Adviser Representative Information

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

https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov

www.finra.org/brokercheck
User Guidance

#### **Broker Qualifications**



## Registrations

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

This broker is not currently registered.

#### **Broker Qualifications**



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

This section includes all securities industry exams that the broker has passed. Under limited circumstances, a broker may attain a registration after receiving an exam waiver based on exams the broker has passed and/or qualifying work experience. Any exam waivers that the broker has received are not included below. 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, 1 general industry/product exam, and 1 state securities law exam.

# **Principal/Supervisory Exams**

Exam		Category	Date
	No information reported.		
Gene	ral Industry/Product Exams		
Exam		Category	Date
B	General Securities Representative Examination	Series 7	01/31/2005
State	Securities Law Exams		
Exam		Category	Date
BIA	Uniform Combined State Law Examination	Series 66	12/09/2005

Additional information about the above exams or other exams FINRA administers to brokers and other securities professionals can be found at www.finra.org/brokerqualifications/registeredrep/.

www.finra.org/brokercheck
User Guidance

# **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 securities firms:

Reg	istration Dates	Firm Name	CRD#	Branch Location
B	05/2011 - 07/2014	SG AMERICAS SECURITIES, LLC	128351	NEW YORK, NY
В	11/2010 - 05/2011	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	7691	NEW YORK, NY
B	01/2009 - 11/2010	BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC	26091	NEW YORK, NY
B	02/2005 - 01/2009	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	SG AMERICAS SECURITIES, LLC	SR. TRADER	Υ	NEW YORK, NY, United States
11/2010 - Present	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED	Mass Transfer	Υ	NEW YORK, NY, United States
07/2002 - Present	MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED : 7691	ASSOCIATE	Υ	JERSEY CITY, NJ, United States

#### **Disclosure Events**



What you should know about reported disclosure events:

- 1. Disclosure events in BrokerCheck reports come from different sources:
  - As mentioned at the beginning of this report, information contained in BrokerCheck comes from brokers, their employing firms, and regulators. When more than one source reports information for the same disclosure event, all versions of the event will appear in the BrokerCheck report. The different versions are separated by a solid line with the reporting source labeled.

For your convenience, below is a matrix of the number and status of regulatory 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.

	Final	On Appeal
Regulatory Event	2	0



#### **Disclosure Event Details**

This report provides the information exactly as it was reported to CRD and therefore some of the specific data fields contained in the report may be blank if the information was not provided to CRD.

#### **Regulatory - Final**

This type of disclosure event involves a final, formal proceeding initiated by a regulatory authority (e.g., a state securities agency, self-regulatory organization, federal regulator such as the Securities and Exchange Commission, foreign financial regulatory body) for a violation of investment-related rules or regulations.

Disclosure 1 of 2

Reporting Source: Regulator

Regulatory Action Initiated

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

By:

Sanction(s) Sought: Other: n/a

**Date Initiated:** 12/22/2015

Docket/Case Number: 3-17017

Employing firm when activity occurred which led to the regulatory action:

SG Americas Securities LLC

**Product Type:** Other: fixed-income securities

Allegations: SEC Admin Releases 33-9999, 34-76730/Investment Company Act Release

31948: December 22, 2015: The Securities and Exchange Commission (Commission) deems it appropriate and in the public interest that public

administrative and cease-and-desist proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted pursuant to Section 8A of the Securities Act of 1933 (Securities Act), Sections 15(b)(6) and 21C of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Exchange Act), and Section 9(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (Investment Company Act) against Yimin Ge. From October 2011 to June 2013, Ge, then a trader at a

registered broker-dealer, engaged in a series of unlawful prearranged purchases of fixed-income securities and sales back to two different registered investment advisers. From December 2011 through March 2012, Ge agreed on six separate occasions to buy and then resell bonds with a portfolio manager/trader employed by one of the registered investment advisers. The arrangement was that Ge's broker-dealer firm would temporarily hold or "park" the bonds before reselling them back to one of the registered investment advisers. Ge agreed to purchase the bonds at prices proposed by the portfolio manager, with the agreement and understanding that the portfolio manager's registered investment adviser would repurchase the positions at slight markups within a few days, thus insulating Ge's broker-dealer from market risk. In accordance with this understanding, instead of



offering the bonds to the market, Ge reoffered the bonds back to the registered investment adviser at a price slightly above the initial purchase price paid by the broker-dealer. As a result, Ge willfully aided and abetted and caused the portfolio manager's violations of Sections 17(a)(1) and 17(a)(3) of the Securities Act and Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rules 10b-5(a) and (c) thereunder. From October 2011 through June 2013, Ge agreed on 14 occasions to similar unlawful prearranged trades at the request of a trader at the other registered investment adviser. Because each relevant purchase from the two registered investment advisers was recorded in her broker-dealer's books and records without any reference to the resale or reoffer arrangement, the broker-dealer's books and records were inaccurate. Accordingly, Ge willfully aided and abetted and caused the broker-dealer's violations of Section 17(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 17a-3(a)(2) thereunder.

Current Status: Final

Resolution: Order

Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or deceptive conduct?

Yes

Resolution Date: 12/22/2015

Sanctions Ordered: Bar (Permanent)

Cease and Desist

Civil and Administrative Penalty(ies)/Fine(s)

Prohibition

If the regulator is the SEC, CFTC, or an SRO, did the action result in a finding of a willful violation or failure to supervise? Yes



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

No

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

Yes



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

No

Sanction 1 of 2

Sanction Type: Bar (Permanent)

Capacities Affected: participating in any offering of a penny stock

**Duration:** see comments

**Start Date:** 12/22/2015

**End Date:** 

Sanction 2 of 2

Sanction Type: Bar (Permanent)

Capacities Affected: see comments

**Duration:** see comments

**Start Date:** 12/22/2015

**End Date:** 

**Monetary Sanction 1 of 1** 

**Monetary Related Sanction:** Civil and Administrative Penalty(ies)/Fine(s)

**Total Amount:** \$25,000.00

**Portion Levied against** 

individual:

\$25,000.00



**Payment Plan:** 

**Is Payment Plan Current:** 

Date Paid by individual:

Was any portion of penalty waived?

No

**Amount Waived:** 

**Regulator Statement** 

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Ge has submitted her Offer of Settlement which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, and without admitting or denying the findings herein, except as to the Commission's jurisdiction over them and the subject matter of these proceedings, which are admitted, Ge consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative and Cease-and-Desist Proceedings Pursuant to Section 8A of the Securities Act of 1933, Sections 15(b) and 21C of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and Section 9(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, Making Findings, and Imposing Remedial Sanctions and a Cease-and-Desist Order. In determining to accept Ge's Offer, the Commission considered Ge's cooperation with the Commission staff in its investigation. In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate, in the public interest and for the protection of investors to impose the sanctions agreed to in Ge's Offer. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 8A of the Securities Act, Sections 15(b)(6) and 21C of the Exchange Act, and Section 9(b) of the Investment Company Act with respect to Ge, it is hereby ordered that: Ge cease and desist from committing or causing any violations and any future violations of Sections 17(a)(1) and (3) of the Securities Act, Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rules 10b-5(a) and (c) thereunder, and Section 17(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 17a3(a)(2) thereunder. Ge be, and hereby is: barred from association with any broker, dealer, investment adviser, municipal securities dealer, municipal advisor, transfer agent, or nationally recognized statistical rating organization; prohibited from serving or acting as an employee, officer, director, member of an advisory board, investment adviser or depositor of, or principal underwriter for, a registered investment company or affiliated person of such investment adviser, depositor, or principal underwriter; and barred from participating in any offering of a penny stock, including: acting as a promoter, finder, consultant, agent or other person who engages in activities with a broker, dealer or issuer for purposes of the issuance or trading in any penny stock, or inducing or attempting to induce the purchase or sale of any penny stock, all with the right to apply for reentry after three years to the appropriate self-regulatory organization, or if there is none, to the Commission. Ge shall pay a civil money penalty of \$25,000 to the Commission for transfer to the general fund of the United States Treasury. Ge acknowledges that the Commission is not imposing a civil penalty in excess of \$25,000 based upon her cooperation in a Commission investigation.



Disclosure 2 of 2

Regulatory Action Initiated FINRA

By:

Sanction(s) Sought: Other: N/A

Date Initiated: 10/27/2014

**Docket/Case Number:** 2014041901701

Employing firm when activity occurred which led to the regulatory action:

SG AMERICAS SECURITIES, LLC

Product Type: Other: UNSPECIFIED SECURITIES

Allegations: WITHOUT ADMITTING OR DENYING THE FINDINGS, GE CONSENTED TO

THE SANCTION AND TO THE ENTRY OF FINDINGS THAT SHE ENTERED INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH COUNTERPARTIES AT OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO ENGAGE IN PRE-ARRANGED TRADING IN WILLFUL VIOLATION OF SECTION 10(B) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 AND RULE 10B-5 PROMULGATED THEREUNDER. THE FINDINGS STATED THAT THESE PRE¬ARRANGED TRANSACTIONS ARTIFICIALLY INFLUENCED THE NATURAL FORCES OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND IN THE MARKET FOR THE RELEVANT SECURITIES.

Current Status: Final

**Resolution:** Acceptance, Waiver & Consent(AWC)

Does the order constitute a final order based on violations of any laws or regulations that prohibit fraudulent, manipulative, or

Yes

deceptive conduct?

Resolution Date: 10/27/2014

Sanctions Ordered: Bar (Permanent)



If the regulator is the SEC, CFTC, or an SRO, did the action result in a finding of a willful violation or failure to supervise? Yes

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

Yes

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

No



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

Sanction 1 of 1

Sanction Type: Bar (Permanent)

Nο

Capacities Affected: All Capacities

**Duration:** 

**Start Date:** 10/27/2014

**End Date:** 

# **End of Report**



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