

## BrokerCheck Report

**BENJAMIN PAUL BURKLEY**

CRD# 5189154

| <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:
  - 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](http://brokercheck.finra.org)



For additional information about the contents of this report, please refer to the User Guidance or [www.finra.org/brokercheck](http://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).

**BENJAMIN P. BURKLEY**

CRD# 5189154

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

**IA LPL FINANCIAL LLC**  
 101 E DIAMOND ST STE 220  
 BUTLER, PA 16001  
 CRD# 6413  
 Registered with this firm since: 08/15/2023

**IA STRATOS WEALTH PARTNERS, LTD**  
 2200 Georgetown Drive  
 Suite 200  
 Sewickley, PA 15143  
 CRD# 153184  
 Registered with this firm since: 10/05/2017

**B LPL FINANCIAL LLC**  
 101 E DIAMOND ST STE 220  
 BUTLER, PA 16001  
 CRD# 6413  
 Registered with this firm since: 10/05/2017

**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
- 20 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):**

**B HEFREN-TILLOTSON, INC.**  
 CRD# 53  
 WEXFORD, PA  
 10/2015 - 08/2017

**IA HEFREN-TILLOTSON, INC.**  
 CRD# 53  
 PITTSBURGH, PA  
 10/2015 - 08/2017

**IA ABSOLUTE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC**  
 CRD# 121484  
 PITTSBURGH, PA  
 06/2014 - 10/2015

**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 | 1     |

## 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 20 U.S. states and territories through his or her employer.**

### Employment 1 of 2

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 | 10/05/2017 |

|   | U.S. State/ Territory | Category | Status   | Date       |
|---|-----------------------|----------|----------|------------|
| B | Alaska                | Agent    | Approved | 09/10/2024 |
| B | Arkansas              | Agent    | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B | California            | Agent    | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B | Delaware              | Agent    | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B | Florida               | Agent    | Approved | 10/27/2023 |
| B | Georgia               | Agent    | Approved | 06/12/2026 |
| B | Illinois              | Agent    | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B | Indiana               | Agent    | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B | Louisiana             | Agent    | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B | Maryland              | Agent    | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B | Michigan              | Agent    | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B | Mississippi           | Agent    | Approved | 05/12/2021 |

## Broker Qualifications



### Employment 1 of 2, continued

|    | U.S. State/ Territory | Category                          | Status   | Date       |
|----|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|------------|
| B  | New Jersey            | Agent                             | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B  | New York              | Agent                             | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B  | North Carolina        | Agent                             | Approved | 10/30/2023 |
| B  | Ohio                  | Agent                             | Approved | 02/14/2024 |
| B  | Pennsylvania          | Agent                             | Approved | 10/05/2017 |
| IA | Pennsylvania          | Investment Adviser Representative | Approved | 08/15/2023 |
| B  | South Carolina        | Agent                             | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B  | Texas                 | Agent                             | Approved | 02/13/2024 |
| B  | Virginia              | Agent                             | Approved | 02/13/2024 |

### Branch Office Locations

#### LPL FINANCIAL LLC

101 E DIAMOND ST STE 220  
BUTLER, PA 16001

#### LPL FINANCIAL LLC

2200 GEORGETOWN DR STE 200  
SEWICKLEY, PA 15143

#### LPL FINANCIAL LLC

107 BRECKENRIDGE PL STE 3  
GROVE CITY, PA 16127

### Employment 2 of 2

Firm Name: **STRATOS WEALTH PARTNERS, LTD**

Main Office Address: **3750 PARK EAST DR  
STE 200  
BEACHWOOD, OH 44122**

Firm CRD#: **153184**

## Broker Qualifications



### Employment 2 of 2, continued

|    | U.S. State/ Territory | Category                          | Status              | Date       |
|----|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| IA | Louisiana             | Investment Adviser Representative | Approved            | 10/05/2017 |
| IA | Pennsylvania          | Investment Adviser Representative | Approved            | 10/05/2017 |
| IA | Texas                 | Investment Adviser Representative | Restricted Approval | 10/06/2017 |

### Branch Office Locations

2200 Georgetown Drive  
Suite 200  
Sewickley, PA 15143

107 Breckenridge Street Suite 3  
Grove City, PA 16127

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## 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>B</b> Securities Industry Essentials Examination    | SIE      | 10/01/2018 |
| <b>B</b> General Securities Representative Examination | Series 7 | 08/29/2007 |

### State Securities Law Exams

| Exam                                               | Category  | Date       |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>B IA</b> Uniform Combined State Law Examination | Series 66 | 09/14/2007 |

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/](http://www.finra.org/brokerqualifications/registeredrep/).

## Broker Qualifications



## Professional Designations

This section details that the representative has reported **0** professional designation(s).

No information reported.

Only professional designations listed in Question 8 of the Form U4 will appear in this section if the appropriate box is checked and verified by the issuing organization at the time of the filing. Learn more about eligible designations at [IARD](#) and [NASAA](#).



## Registration and Employment History

### Registration History

The broker previously was registered with the following firms:

| Registration Dates          | Firm Name                                      | CRD#   | Branch Location |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| <b>B</b> 10/2015 - 08/2017  | HEFREN-TILLOTSON, INC.                         | 53     | WEXFORD, PA     |
| <b>IA</b> 10/2015 - 08/2017 | HEFREN-TILLOTSON, INC.                         | 53     | WEXFORD, PA     |
| <b>IA</b> 06/2014 - 10/2015 | ABSOLUTE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC               | 121484 | PITTSBURGH, PA  |
| <b>IA</b> 04/2011 - 11/2013 | FEDERATED GLOBAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT CORP.   | 106277 | NEW YORK, NY    |
| <b>IA</b> 01/2011 - 11/2013 | MDT ADVISERS, A DIVISION OF FEDERATED MDTA LLC | 109355 | BOSTON, MA      |
| <b>IA</b> 03/2010 - 11/2013 | FEDERATED INVESTMENT COUNSELING                | 105325 | PITTSBURGH, PA  |
| <b>IA</b> 03/2010 - 11/2013 | FEDERATED SECURITIES CORP.                     | 5009   | PITTSBURGH, PA  |
| <b>B</b> 12/2009 - 11/2013  | FEDERATED SECURITIES CORP.                     | 5009   | PITTSBURGH, PA  |
| <b>B</b> 09/2008 - 12/2008  | NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL INVESTMENT SERVICES, LLC   | 2881   | PITTSBURGH, PA  |
| <b>IA</b> 09/2007 - 04/2008 | EDWARD JONES                                   | 250    | TARENTUM, PA    |
| <b>B</b> 08/2007 - 04/2008  | EDWARD JONES                                   | 250    | TARENTUM, PA    |

### 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             |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 10/2017 - Present | LPL Financial, LLC           | Registered Representative         | Y                  | PITTSBURGH, PA, United States |
| 10/2017 - Present | Stratos Wealth Partners, LTD | Investment Adviser Representative | Y                  | PITTSBURGH, PA, United States |



## Registration and Employment History

### Employment History, continued

| Employment        | Employer Name          | Position          | Investment Related | Employer Location             |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 10/2015 - 08/2017 | HEFREN-TILLOTSON, INC. | FINANCIAL ADVISOR | Y                  | PITTSBURGH, PA, 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. 10/02/2017 - LPL Financial, LLC (Registered Representative) - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location (s) - 100% time spent between LPL Financial, LLC and Stratos Wealth Partners, Ltd.
2. 10/05/2017 - STRATOS WEALTH PARTNERS/ DBA FOR LPL BUSINESS (ENTITY FOR LPL BUSINESS)/ 100%/ SEWICKLEY, PA
3. 12/21/2017 - Stratos Wealth Partners, LTD. - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - Registered Investment Advisor Hybrid - Start Date 09/13/2017 - 160 Hours Per Month / 8 Hours During Trading - 100% Time Spent - I provide investment advisory services through Stratos Wealth Partners, LTD., an independent investment advisor firm. I started this business activity in 09/2017. I expect to spend approximately 160 hours per month on this activity. Please see the advisory firm's Form ADV for more information about its address, the nature of its business, its owners, and its services at <http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov/IAPD>. The firm is separate from and independent of LPL Financial.
4. 01/08/2024 - Butson Financial Advisors LLC - DBA for LPL Business (entity for LPL business) - Investment Related - At Reported Business Location(s) - Start Date 10/01/2023 - 160 Hours Per Month/ During Trading

## 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 | 1       | 0     | 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 - 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

|                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Reporting Source:</b>                                                   | Broker                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:</b> | LPL Financial LLC & Stratos Wealth Partners, LTD                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Allegations:</b>                                                        | Claimant alleges that the registered representatives advised him to liquidate an annuity and invest the proceeds in other investments, causing detrimental tax consequences and lost income from the liquidated annuity. |
| <b>Product Type:</b>                                                       | Annuity-Variable                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Alleged Damages:</b>                                                    | \$750,000.00                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

### Arbitration Information

**Arbitration/CFTC reparation claim filed with (FINRA, AAA, CFTC, etc.):** FINRA

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Docket/Case #:</b>              | 26-01230   |
| <b>Date Notice/Process Served:</b> | 06/16/2026 |
| <b>Arbitration Pending?</b>        | Yes        |

### Civil Litigation Information

|                       |                                                              |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Type of Court:</b> | State Court                                                  |
| <b>Name of Court:</b> | In the Court of Common Pleas of Indiana County, Pennsylvania |



|                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Location of Court:</b>          | Indiana County, Pennsylvania |
| <b>Docket/Case #:</b>              | 10266-CD-2024                |
| <b>Date Notice/Process Served:</b> | 09/19/2025                   |
| <b>Litigation Pending?</b>         | Yes                          |

## End of Report



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