

## **BrokerCheck Report**

## MICHAEL GIOKAS

CRD# 1398674

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#### 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

## **MICHAEL GIOKAS**

CRD# 1398674

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:

- 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):

#### FORTUNE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

CRD# 42150 Clarence, NY 02/2013 - 10/2017

# COMPREHENSIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT AND SERVICING, INC.

CRD# 43814 WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 03/2002 - 02/2013

## SECURITIES SERVICE NETWORK, INC.

CRD# 13318 KNOXVILLE, TN 03/1999 - 10/2001

#### **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	4	
Termination	1	

www.finra.org/brokercheck
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## **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 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.

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
Investment Company Products/Variable Contracts Principal Examination	Series 26	01/15/1993

## **General Industry/Product Exams**

Exam	Category	Date
Investment Company Products/Variable Contracts Representative Examination	Series 6	06/06/1986
Direct Participation Programs Representative Examination	Series 22	11/03/1986

## **State Securities Law Exams**

Exam	Category	Date
Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination	Series 63	05/30/1986
Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination	Series 65	09/29/2015

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/.

## **Registration and Employment History**



## **Registration History**

The broker previously was registered with the following firms:

Registration Dates	Firm Name	CRD#	Branch Location
02/2013 - 10/2017	FORTUNE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.	42150	Clarence, NY
03/2002 - 02/2013	COMPREHENSIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT AND SERVICING, INC.	43814	WILLIAMSVILLE, NY
03/1999 - 10/2001	SECURITIES SERVICE NETWORK, INC.	13318	KNOXVILLE, TN
09/1992 - 03/1999	LINSCO/PRIVATE LEDGER CORP.	6413	BOSTON, MA
08/1991 - 09/1992	GUARDIAN INVESTOR SERVICES CORPORATION	6635	NEW YORK, NY
12/1987 - 05/1991	FSC SECURITIES CORPORATION	7461	ATLANTA, GA
06/1986 - 12/1987	CIGNA SECURITIES, INC.	145	

## **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 Dates</b>	Employer Name	Employer Location
02/2013 - Present	FORTUNE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC	NEW BRIGHTON, PA
03/2010 - Present	GIOKAS WEALTH ADVISORS	WILLIAMSVILLE, NY
02/2002 - 02/2013	COMPREHENSIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT & SERVICING, IN	WILLIAMSVILLE, NY
03/1992 - 02/2010	GIOKAS FINANCIAL SERVICES	WILLIAMSVILLE, NY

## **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.

MAIN GENISIS CORP. 01/2001, NON-INVESTMENT RELATED, REAL ESTATE HOLDING, BUFFALO, NY;

## **Registration and Employment History**



## Other Business Activities, continued

GIOKAS WEALTH ADVISORS, 10/1987, OWNER, INVESTMENT RELATED, INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, BUFFALO, NY; 25% STOCKHOLDER IN MAIN GENESIS GROUP LLC WHICH HOLDS REAL ESTATE ASSETS AND OPERATING AS A PASSIVE ACTIVITY.

Rep is an RIA DBA Giokas Wealth Advisors. He is president of the company owns Wellspring Divorce Advisors: fee based divorce planning advisor

## **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:

- 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.

0

#### 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.

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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	0	4	N/A



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Termination N/A 1 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.

SECURITIES SERVICE NETWORK, INC.

Disclosure 1 of 2

**Reporting Source:** Broker

**Employing firm when** 

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Allegations: CLIENT ALLEGES THE REPRESENTATIVE MADE UNSUITABLE

RECOMMENDATIONS INVOLVING 1035 EXCHANGES OF VARIABLE

ANNUITIES AND THE PURCHASE OF B-SHARE MUTUAL FUNDS.

**Product Type:** Annuity(ies) - Variable

Other Product Type(s): **MUTUAL FUNDS** 

Alleged Damages: \$5,000.00

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 01/03/2001

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

Status Date: 04/18/2001

**Settlement Amount:** \$21,236,34

Individual Contribution \$21,236.34

Amount:



Broker Statement THE REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE VIGOROUSLY DENIES THESE

ALLEGATIONS. THE VARIABLE ANNUITIES AND MUTUAL FUNDS WERE SUITABLE GIVEN THE CLIENTS' UNIQUE FINANCIAL SITUATION, RISK

TOLERANCE AND INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES.

Disclosure 2 of 2

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Allegations: FAILURE TO DISCLOSE SURRENDER CHARGES

LINSCO PRIVATE LEDGER

**Product Type:** Annuity(ies) - Variable

Other Product Type(s): N/A

Alleged Damages: \$14,122.62

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 04/19/2000

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 08/02/2000

Settlement Amount: \$14,122.62

**Individual Contribution** 

\$14,122.62

Broker Statement

Amount:

MATTER WAS SETTLED BY REPRESENTATIVE TO AVOID THE NUISANCE OF

DEFENDING HIMSELF AGAINST THE UNSUBSTANTIATED CLAIMS OF THESE

CLIENTS.



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

This type of disclosure event involves (1) a consumer-initiated, investment-related arbitration or civil suit containing allegations of sales practice violations against the individual broker that was dismissed, withdrawn, or denied; or (2) a 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, which was closed without action, withdrawn, or denied.

Disclosure 1 of 2

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led

LINSCO / PRIVATE LEDGER CORP.

to the complaint:

Allegations: CUSTOMERS ALLEGE THAT MR. GIOKAS RECOMMENDED VARIABLE

ANNUITIES THAT WERE UNSUITABLE AND THAT SURRENDER CHARGES WERE NOT DISCLOSED. ALLEGED COMPENSATORY DAMAGE AMOUNTS

WERE UNSPECIFIED.

**Product Type:** Annuity(ies) - Variable

Alleged Damages: \$0.00

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 01/29/2002

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Denied

**Status Date:** 03/12/2002

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

Firm Statement THE CLAIM HAS BEEN DENIED BY LINSCO / PRIVATE LEDGER CORP.

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

SECURITIES SERVICE NETWORK, INC.

Allegations: CLIENT ALLEGES THAT MR. GIOKAS RECOMMENDED A VARIABLE ANNUITY

THAT WAS NOT SUITABLE AND THAT MR. GIOKAS FAILED TO DISCLOSE

THE SURRENDER CHARGES.



**Product Type:** Annuity(ies) - Variable

Alleged Damages: \$5,000.00

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 01/14/2002

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Denied

**Status Date:** 01/24/2002

**Settlement Amount:** 

Individual Contribution

Amount:

Firm Statement THE COMPLAINT WAS DENIED BY SECURITIES SERVICE NETWORK, INC.

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Allegations: CLIENT ALLEGES THAT RECOMMENDATIONS TO A VARIABLE ANNUITY

SECURITIES SERVICE NETWORK, INC.

WERE NOT SUITABLE AND THAT WE FAILED TO DISCLOSE THE

SURRENDER CHARGES

**Product Type:** Annuity(ies) - Variable

Alleged Damages: \$5,000.00

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 01/29/2002

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Denied

**Status Date:** 01/24/2002

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:



Disclosure 2 of 2

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

LINSCO PRIVATE LEDGER

Allegations:

CLIENT ALLEGES REPRESENTATIVE PROVIDED UNSUITABLE

RECOMMENDATIONS INVOLVING THE PURCHASE OF VARIABLE ANNUITIES

IN THE CLIENT'S QUALIFIED ACCOUNTS.

**Product Type:** Annuity(ies) - Variable

Other Product Type(s): N/A

Alleged Damages: \$5,000.00

**Customer Complaint Information** 

Date Complaint Received: 01/08/2001

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Closed/No Action

**Status Date:** 10/30/2001

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

Broker Statement THE REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE VIGOROUSLY DENIES THESE

ALLEGATIONS. THE VARIABLE ANNUITIES RECOMMENDED WERE SUITABLE GIVEN THE CLIENT'S UNIQUE FINANCIAL SITUATION, RISK

TOLERANCE AND INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES.



## **Employment Separation After Allegations**

This type of disclosure event involves a situation where the broker voluntarily resigned, was discharged, or was permitted to resign after being accused of (1) violating investment-related statutes, regulations, rules or industry standards of conduct; (2) fraud or the wrongful taking of property; or (3) failure to supervise in connection with investment-related statutes, regulations, rules, or industry standards of conduct.

Disclosure 1 of 1

**Reporting Source:** Broker

**Employer Name:** FSC SECURITIES

**Termination Type:** Permitted to Resign

Termination Date: 05/03/1991

Allegations: VIOLATION OF FIRM POLICY REGARDING AN INSURANCE RELATED BANK

ACCOUNT.

Product Type: No Product

**Other Product Types:** 

Broker Statement CHECKING ACCOUNT WAS OPENED WHICH INSURANCE PREMIUMS WERE

PROCESSED. THIS ACTIVITY WAS NOT ALLOWED PURSUANT TO FIRM PROCEDURES. NO SERIOUS FUNDS WERE INVOLVED, NO CONVERSION

OF CUSTOMER FUNDS WAS DETERMINED.

## **End of Report**



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