

BrokerCheck Report

PRANAV V PATEL

CRD# 5391213

| <u>Section Title</u> | <u>Page(s)</u> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Report Summary | 1 |
| Broker Qualifications | 2 - 3 |
| Registration and Employment History | 4 - 5 |
| Disclosure Events | 6 |

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)

PRANAV V. PATEL

CRD# 5391213

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):

DAWSON JAMES SECURITIES, INC.

CRD# 130645
BOCA RATON, FL
01/2015 - 12/2015

COLUMBUS ADVISORY GROUP, LTD.

CRD# 126331
NEW YORK, NY
03/2014 - 12/2014

NATIONAL SECURITIES CORPORATION

CRD# 7569
MIAMI, FL
05/2013 - 03/2014

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 |
|------------------|-------|
| Criminal | 1 |
| Civil Event | 1 |
| Customer Dispute | 3 |



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 0 principal/supervisory exams, 1 general industry/product exam, and 1 state securities law exam.

Principal/Supervisory Exams

| Exam | Category | Date |
|--------------------------|----------|------|
| No information reported. | | |

General Industry/Product Exams

| Exam | Category | Date |
|---|----------|------------|
| General Securities Representative Examination | Series 7 | 10/04/2007 |

State Securities Law Exams

| Exam | Category | Date |
|--|-----------|------------|
| Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination | Series 63 | 10/20/2007 |

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/.



Registration and Employment History

Registration History

The broker previously was registered with the following firms:

| Registration Dates | Firm Name | CRD# | Branch Location |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------|---------------------|
| 01/2015 - 12/2015 | DAWSON JAMES SECURITIES, INC. | 130645 | BOCA RATON, FL |
| 03/2014 - 12/2014 | COLUMBUS ADVISORY GROUP, LTD. | 126331 | NEW YORK, NY |
| 05/2013 - 03/2014 | NATIONAL SECURITIES CORPORATION | 7569 | MIAMI, FL |
| 11/2012 - 05/2013 | NSM SECURITIES, INC. | 134357 | WEST PALM BEACH, FL |
| 09/2009 - 09/2012 | CBG FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. | 6578 | BOCA RATON, FL |
| 10/2007 - 10/2009 | GUNN ALLEN FINANCIAL, INC | 17609 | BOCA RATON, FL |

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 Dates | Employer Name | Employer Location |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 01/2015 - Present | DAWSON JAMES SECURITIES | BOCA RATON, FL |
| 12/2014 - 12/2014 | UNEMPLOYED | TAMARAC, FL |
| 03/2014 - 12/2014 | COLUMBUS ADVISORY GROUP, LTD. | NEW YORK, NY |
| 05/2013 - 02/2014 | NATIONAL SECURITIES CORP | MIAMI, FL |
| 11/2012 - 05/2013 | NSM SECURITIES, INC. | WEST PALM BEACH, FL |
| 09/2012 - 11/2012 | UNEMPLOYED | BOCA RATON, FL |
| 10/2009 - 09/2012 | CBG FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. | BOCA RATON, FL |
| 07/2007 - 10/2009 | GUNN ALLEN FINANCIAL | BOCA RATON, FL |

Registration and Employment History



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.

No information reported.



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.
 - 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.
 -
3. **Disclosure events in BrokerCheck reports come from different sources:**
 - 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.
 -
4. **There are different statuses and dispositions for disclosure events:**
 - 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.
 - 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 |
|----------|---------|-------|-----------|
| Criminal | 1 | 0 | 0 |



| | | | |
|------------------|---|---|-----|
| Civil Event | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Customer Dispute | 2 | 1 | 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.

Criminal - Pending Charge

This type of disclosure event involves a formal charge for a crime involving a felony or certain misdemeanor offenses, including bribery, perjury, forgery, counterfeiting, extortion, fraud, and wrongful taking of property that is currently pending.

Disclosure 1 of 1

| | |
|--|--|
| Reporting Source: | Regulator |
| Formal Charges were brought in: | Federal Court |
| Name of Court: | U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York |
| Location of Court: | New York |
| Docket/Case #: | 16-cr-00234 |
| Charge Date: | 05/02/2016 |
| Charge(s) 1 of 4 | |
| Formal Charge(s)/Description: | Conspiracy to Commit Securities Fraud |
| No of Counts: | 1 |
| Felony or Misdemeanor: | Felony |
| Plea for each charge: | n/a |
| Disposition of charge: | |
| Charge(s) 2 of 4 | |
| Formal Charge(s)/Description: | Securities Fraud |
| No of Counts: | 1 |



Felony or Misdemeanor: Felony
Plea for each charge: n/a
Disposition of charge:
Charge(s) 3 of 4
Formal Charge(s)/Description: Money Laundering Conspiracy
No of Counts: 1
Felony or Misdemeanor: Felony
Plea for each charge: n/a
Disposition of charge:
Charge(s) 4 of 4
Formal Charge(s)/Description: Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud
No of Counts: 1
Felony or Misdemeanor: Felony
Plea for each charge: n/a
Disposition of charge:
Current Status: Pending
Status Date:

Regulator Statement

As alleged, each of the defendants played a role in their scheme to defraud investors of a company's stock by using their positions as a stock promoter, brokers, or investor relations to push stock. The scheme ended up costing investors approximately \$131 million in losses. As alleged in the indictment and other court filings, between December 2009 and April 2015, the defendants, together with others, engaged in a scheme to defraud investors in the company, a purported worldwide distributor and provider of LED lighting products and solutions, by artificially controlling the price and volume of traded shares of the company through, among other means: (1) using nominees to purchase and sell the stock without disclosing this information to investors and potential investors; (2) orchestrating the trading of the stock to create the appearance of genuine trading volume and interest in the stock; and (3) concealing payments to stock promoters and broker dealers who promoted and sold the stock to investors and potential investors while claiming to be independent of the company.



Civil - Pending

This type of disclosure event involves a pending civil court action that seeks an injunction in connection with any investment-related activity or alleges a violation of any investment-related statute or regulation.

Disclosure 1 of 1

| | |
|---|---|
| Reporting Source: | Regulator |
| Initiated By: | UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION |
| Relief Sought: | Civil and Administrative Penalty(ies)/Fine(s) Disgorgement Injunction Monetary Penalty other than Fines |
| Date Court Action Filed: | 05/03/2016 |
| Product Type: | Equity Listed (Common & Preferred Stock) |
| Type of Court: | Federal Court |
| Name of Court: | U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York |
| Location of Court: | New York |
| Docket/Case #: | 16-cv-02193 |
| Employing firm when activity occurred which led to the action: | Dawson James Securities, Inc. |
| Allegations: | SEC Litigation Release 23529/May 3, 2016: The Securities and Exchange Commission announced fraud charges against 10 individuals, one of them being Pranav Patel, involved in schemes to trick investors into buying shares of a particular company stock. The schemes were allegedly fraught with cash bribes and other kickbacks to registered representatives and unregistered brokers who solicited investors to buy stock in a company. The SEC alleges that investors were unaware those soliciting them were being paid by a ringleader -the company's then-chairman of the board- to steer them to the stock, and that some of the perpetrators attempted to evade law enforcement by going so far as to communicate with prepaid disposable "burner" phones and encrypted, content-expiring text messages. Patel received cash bribes from other defendants. The complaint charges Patel with violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5 thereunder. |
| Current Status: | Pending |
| Limitations or Restrictions in Effect During Appeal: | n/a |



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 1

| | |
|--|---|
| Reporting Source: | Firm |
| Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: | CBG FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. |
| Allegations: | CLIENT ALLEGED MISREPRESENTATION, UNSUITABLE RECOMMENDATIONS, AND BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTIES. |
| Product Type: | Equity-OTC |
| Alleged Damages: | \$450,000.00 |

Arbitration Information

| | |
|---|---|
| Arbitration/CFTC reparation claim filed with (FINRA, AAA, CFTC, etc.): | FINRA DISPUTE RESOLUTION, INC., ATLANTA, GA |
| Docket/Case #: | 11-03722 |
| Date Notice/Process Served: | 10/03/2011 |
| Arbitration Pending? | No |
| Disposition: | Settled |
| Disposition Date: | 08/27/2012 |
| Monetary Compensation Amount: | \$75,000.00 |
| Individual Contribution Amount: | \$50,000.00 |

| | |
|--|---|
| Reporting Source: | Broker |
| Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: | CBG FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. |
| Allegations: | CLIENT ALLEGED MISREPRESENTATION, UNSUITABLE RECOMMENDATIONS, AND BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTIES. |



Product Type: Equity-OTC
Alleged Damages: \$450,000.00
Is this an oral complaint? No
Is this a written complaint? No
Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation? Yes
Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location: FINRA DISPUTE RESOLUTION, INC., ATLANTA, GA
Docket/Case #: 11-02277
Filing date of arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation: 09/21/2011

Customer Complaint Information

Date Complaint Received: 10/03/2011
Complaint Pending? No
Status: Evolved into Arbitration/CFTC reparation (the individual is a named party)
Status Date: 08/27/2012
Settlement Amount: \$75,000.00
Individual Contribution Amount: \$50,000.00

Arbitration Information

Arbitration/CFTC reparation claim filed with (FINRA, AAA, CFTC, etc.): FINRA DISPUTE RESOLUTION, INC., ATLANTA, GA
Docket/Case #: 11-03722
Date Notice/Process Served: 10/03/2011
Arbitration Pending? No
Disposition: Settled
Disposition Date: 08/27/2012
Monetary Compensation Amount: \$75,000.00



Individual Contribution Amount: \$50,000.00



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 2

| | |
|--|---|
| Reporting Source: | Firm |
| Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: | Dawson James Securities, Inc. |
| Allegations: | The civil filing alleges that Mr. Patel sold \$62,855 of ForceField Energy Inc. to a total of 5 clients and was subsequently compensated \$2144 away from the Firm by the agents of the issuer. |
| Product Type: | Equity-OTC |
| Alleged Damages: | \$62,855.00 |
| Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact): | This is the amount pertaining to Mr. Patel. There are multiple defendants unaffiliated with the Firm so the overall claim number may be significantly higher. |

Civil Litigation Information

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Type of Court: | Federal Court |
| Name of Court: | US District Court |
| Location of Court: | Southern District of New York |
| Docket/Case #: | Civil Action No. 15 Civ. 3020 (NRB) |
| Date Notice/Process Served: | 06/06/2016 |
| Litigation Pending? | Yes |

Disclosure 2 of 2

| | |
|--|--|
| Reporting Source: | Firm |
| Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: | GUNNALLEN FINANCIAL |
| Allegations: | UNAUTHORIZED TRADING |
| Product Type: | Equity Listed (Common & Preferred Stock) |



Alleged Damages: \$5,000.00

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact): UNSPECIFIED DAMAGES BUT OVER 5,000.00.

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: 09/29/2009

Complaint Pending? Yes

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint: GUNN ALLEN FINANCIAL

Allegations: CLIENT ALLEGES UNAUTHORIZED TRADING ACTIVITY

Product Type: Equity Listed (Common & Preferred Stock)

Alleged Damages: \$1,960.73

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact): CLIENT PURCHASED 100 SHARES OF EL PASO IN JULY 2008 AND REMITTED A CHECK FOR PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1960.73. CLIENT HAS NOT RENDERED ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDS INTO THIS ACCOUNT. CLIENT WAS ADVISED ON EACH TRADE THAT OCCURRED IN THE ACCOUNT. CLEARING ALSO REMITTED CONFIRMATIONS AND STATEMENTS TO THE CLIENT'S ADDRESS OF RECORD.

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: 03/05/2010

Complaint Pending? Yes

Settlement Amount:

Individual Contribution Amount:

Broker Statement

CLIENT ON THE FIRST TRADE WAS CHARGED A ZERO COMMISSION ON THE PURCHASE AND SALE. OTHER COMMISSIONS CHARGED WAS APPROXIMATELY \$75 PER TRADE. AGAIN, THIS CLIENT ONLY INFUSED THE ACCOUNT WITH \$1,960.73.

End of Report



This page is intentionally left blank.