

# **BrokerCheck Report**

# **ALVERY ANTHONY BARTLETT JR**

CRD# 13975

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Please be aware that fraudsters may link to BrokerCheck from phishing and similar scam websites, trying to steal your personal information or your money. Make sure you know who you're dealing with when investing, and contact FINRA with any concerns.

For more information read our <u>investor alert</u> on imposters.

#### **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.

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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

### **ALVERY A. BARTLETT JR**

CRD# 13975

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

B AEGIS CAPITAL CORP.
8000 MARYLAND AVE.
SUITE 1031
CLAYTON, MO 63105
CRD# 15007
Registered with this firm since: 06/16/2020

# **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:

- 3 Self-Regulatory Organizations
- 20 U.S. states and territories

### This broker has passed:

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

### **Registration History**

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

- B ARETE WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC CRD# 44856 Clayton, MO 08/2016 - 06/2020
- BERTHEL, FISHER & COMPANY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.
  CRD# 13609

ST. LOUIS, MO 01/1992 - 08/2016

B THE BARTLETT FUND MANAGEMENT CO. CRD# 27273 09/1990 - 08/1992

#### **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	6	

### **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 3 SROs and is licensed in 20 U.S. states and territories through his or her employer.

# Employment 1 of 1

Firm Name: AEGIS CAPITAL CORP.

Main Office Address: 1345 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS

27TH FLOOR

NEW YORK, NY 10105

Firm CRD#: **15007** 

	SRO	Category	Status	Date
B	FINRA	General Securities Principal	Approved	06/16/2020
B	FINRA	General Securities Representative	Approved	06/16/2020
B	FINRA	Registered Options Principal	Approved	06/16/2020
B	NYSE Arca, Inc.	General Securities Principal	Approved	06/16/2020
B	NYSE Arca, Inc.	General Securities Representative	Approved	06/16/2020
B	NYSE Arca, Inc.	Registered Options Principal	Approved	06/16/2020
B	Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Principal	Approved	06/16/2020
B	Nasdaq Stock Market	General Securities Representative	Approved	06/16/2020
B	Nasdaq Stock Market	Registered Options Principal	Approved	06/16/2020
	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	Arizona	Agent	Approved	10/22/2020
B B	Arizona California	Agent Agent	Approved Approved	10/22/2020 06/16/2020
		•	• •	

# **Broker Qualifications**



# **Employment 1 of 1, continued**

	U.S. State/ Territory	Category	Status	Date
B	Georgia	Agent	Approved	06/16/2020
В	Illinois	Agent	Approved	04/06/2021
В	Kansas	Agent	Approved	06/16/2020
В	Louisiana	Agent	Approved	09/23/2020
В	Maryland	Agent	Approved	06/16/2020
В	Michigan	Agent	Approved	06/16/2020
B	Missouri	Agent	Approved	09/01/2020
В	Nevada	Agent	Approved	10/07/2020
B	New Jersey	Agent	Approved	09/04/2020
B	New York	Agent	Approved	06/16/2020
B	Ohio	Agent	Approved	09/01/2020
B	Pennsylvania	Agent	Approved	05/07/2021
B	Texas	Agent	Approved	05/19/2021
В	Utah	Agent	Approved	11/05/2020
B	Virginia	Agent	Approved	01/04/2021
B	West Virginia	Agent	Approved	05/03/2021

# **Branch Office Locations**

AEGIS CAPITAL CORP. 8000 MARYLAND AVE. SUITE 1031 CLAYTON, MO 63105

### **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 2 principal/supervisory exams, 4 general industry/product exams, and 1 state securities law exam.

# **Principal/Supervisory Exams**

Exam		Category	Date
B	Registered Options Principal Examination	Series 4	01/02/2023
В	General Securities Principal Examination	Series 24	07/30/1984

# **General Industry/Product Exams**

Exam		Category	Date
B	General Securities Representative Examination	Series 7TO	01/02/2023
B	Securities Industry Essentials Examination	SIE	10/01/2018
В	Interest Rate Options Examination	Series 5	11/16/1981
В	Registered Representative Examination	Series 1	10/25/1968

### **State Securities Law Exams**

Exam	ı	Category	Date
В	Uniform Securities Agent State Law Examination	Series 63	09/21/1992

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 firms:

Reg	istration Dates	Firm Name	CRD#	Branch Location
B	08/2016 - 06/2020	ARETE WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC	44856	Clayton, MO
B	01/1992 - 08/2016	BERTHEL, FISHER & COMPANY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.	13609	ST. LOUIS, MO
B	09/1990 - 08/1992	THE BARTLETT FUND MANAGEMENT CO.	27273	
B	03/1990 - 12/1991	MARK TWAIN BROKERAGE SERVICES, INC.	16925	
B	06/1990 - 08/1990	DERAND/PENNINGTON/BASS, INC.	4679	
В	12/1983 - 05/1990	ALVERY BARTLETT BROKERAGE CO.	13487	
В	12/1981 - 11/1982	CLAYTON BROKERAGE CO. OF ST. LOUIS, INC.	6577	

### **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>
06/2020 - Present	Aegis Capital Corp	Registered Representative	Υ	Clayton, MO, United States
08/2016 - 06/2020	Arete Wealth Management LLC	Registered Representative	Υ	Chicago, IL, United States
01/1992 - 08/2016	BERTHEL, FISHER & COMPANY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.	REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE	Υ	ST. LOUIS, MO, 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.

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# **Registration and Employment History**



### Other Business Activities, continued

- 1. ALVERY BARTLETT FUND MANAGEMENT COMPANY INCLUDING MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR INFLATION FUND LLC: 8000 MARYLAND AVENUE, SUITE 1030, ST. LOUIS, MO 63105; RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT OF PRIVATE FUND IDEAS; PRESIDENT; 09/1998; 80+ HOURS/MONTH.
- 2. ALVERY BARTLETT FUND DISTRIBUTION COMPANY; 8000 MARYLAND AVENUE, SUITE 1030, ST LOUIS, MO 63105; DISTRIBUTE PRIVATE FUNDS OF ABFM; PRESIDENT; 07/1986; 0+ HOURS/MONTH.
- 3. ALVERY BARTLETT GROUP: 8000 MARYLAND AVENUE, SUITE 1031, ST. LOUIS, MO 63105; DBA; REGISTERED PRESENTATIVE; 05/2007; 80+ HOURS/MONTH.
- 4. ALVERY A. BARTLETT, JR INSURANCE: 8000 MARYLAND AVENUE, SUITE 1031, ST. LOUIS, MO 63105; PROSPECT & SELL INSURANCE PRODUCTS; 07/1992; 10+ HOURS/MONTH.
- 5. PURSBART ASSOCIATES, LLC. 511 TRAGARON PL. ST LOUIS MO; INVESTMENT RELATED; FAMILY PARTNERSHIP WITH SPOUSE; NO DUTIES, MINORITY OWNER; START DATE: 2006; 0 HOURS PER MONTH DEVOTED TO BUSINESS; 0 HOURS DURING SECURITIES TRADING HOURS.

### **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.
- 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:

- 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	2	4	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.

Disclosure 1 of 4

**Reporting Source:** Firm

**Employing firm when** activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Berthel Fisher and Company Financial Services, Inc.

Allegations: The clients allege the representative made a series of recommendations of illiquid,

> high-commission investments from 2009 to 2016 which were unsuitable and resulted in over-concentration of these products in their portfolio. In addition the clients alleges the firm failed to conduct adequate due diligence relating to United

Development Funding and was negligent.

Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests **Product Type:** 

Oil & Gas

Real Estate Security

Other: Business Development Company

**Alleged Damages:** \$0.00

**Alleged Damages Amount Explanation** (if amount not exact):

The firm has made a good faith determination that the damages from the alleged

conduct would be more than \$5,000.00.

Is this an oral complaint? Nο 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

or court manne and location

**Docket/Case #:** 20-01791

Filing date of

06/05/2020

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

**Customer Complaint Information** 

**Date Complaint Received:** 06/08/2020

Complaint Pending? No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 05/11/2022

Settlement Amount: \$52,500.00

**Individual Contribution** 

\$0.00

Amount:

Firm Statement The Firm, solely to compromise and settle disputed claims, agreed to settle an

arbitration with the Claimants.

Reporting Source: Broker

**Employing firm when** 

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

Berthel Fisher and Company Financial Services, Inc.

Allegations: The clients allege the representative made a series of recommendations of illiquid,

high-commission

investments from 2009 to 2016 which were unsuitable and resulted in over-

concentration of these

products in their portfolio. In addition the clients alleges the firm failed to conduct

adequate due

diligence relating to United Development Funding and was negligent.

**Product Type:** Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests

Oil & Gas

Real Estate Security

Other: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Alleged Damages: \$0.00

Alleged Damages Amount The firm has made a good faith determination that the damages from the alleged



**Explanation (if amount not** 

exact):

conduct would be more than \$5,000.00.

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

Docket/Case #:

20-01791

Filing date of

00/05/000

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

06/05/2020

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 06/08/2020

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 05/11/2022

Settlement Amount: \$52,500.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$0.00

Broker Statement The Firm, solely to compromise and settle disputed claims, agreed to settle an

arbitration with the Claimants.

Disclosure 2 of 4

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Berthel Fisher and Company Financial Services, Inc.

Allegations: The client alleges the investments he purchased in 2008-2012 were unsuitable

and misrepresented to him by the representative. The client also alleges the firm failed to supervise the actions of the representative and conduct adequate due

diligence.

**Product Type:** Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests



Oil & Gas

Real Estate Security

Other: Business Development Company

Alleged Damages: \$0.00

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):

The alleged damages are between \$1,700,000.00 and \$3,000,000.00.

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

FINRA

or court name and location:

Docket/Case #:

19-01943

Filing date of

07/13/2019

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 07/16/2019

Complaint Pending?

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 11/20/2020

Settlement Amount: \$325,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

**Amount:** 

\$0.00

No

Firm Statement The Firm, solely to compromise and settle disputed claims, agreed to settle an

arbitration with the Claimant.

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Berthel Fisher and Company Financial Services, Inc.



Allegations: The client alleges the investments he purchased in 2008-2012 were unsuitable

and misrepresented to him by

the representative. The client also alleges the firm failed to supervise the actions of

the representative and

conduct adequate due diligence.

**Product Type:** Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests

Oil & Gas

Real Estate Security

Other: Business Development Company

Alleged Damages: \$0.00

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):

The alleged damages are between \$1,700,000.00 and \$3,000,000.00.

Is this an oral complaint?

Is this a written complaint?

No

No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

**FINRA** 

Docket/Case #:

19-01943

Filing date of

07/13/2019

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 08/13/2019

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 12/03/2020

Settlement Amount: \$325,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

\$0.00

**Amount:** 

Broker Statement The Firm, solely to compromise and settle disputed claims, agreed to settle an

arbitration with the Claimant.



Disclosure 3 of 4

Reporting Source: Firm

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Berthel Fisher & Company Financial Services, Inc.

Allegations: The client alleges the investments he purchased between 2012 and 2014 were

unsuitable and were misrepresented to him by the representative. The client also alleges the firm failed to conduct adequate due diligence and failed to supervise

the representative.

**Product Type:** Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests

Oil & Gas

Real Estate Security

**Alleged Damages:** \$3,940,000.00

**Arbitration Information** 

Arbitration/CFTC reparation claim filed with (FINRA, AAA,

CFTC, etc.):

**FINRA** 

**Docket/Case #:** 17-03515

Date Notice/Process Served: 01/05/2018

**Arbitration Pending?** No

**Disposition:** Settled

**Disposition Date:** 02/18/2020

**Monetary Compensation** 

Amount:

\$450,000.00

Individual Contribution

Amount:

\$50,000.00

Firm Statement The Firm, solely to compromise and settle disputed claims, agreed to settle an

arbitration with the Claimant.

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Berthel Fisher & Company Financial Services Inc.



Allegations: Client alleges unsuitable recommendations between January

2012 and September 2014.

**Product Type:** Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests

Oil & Gas

Real Estate Security

**Alleged Damages:** \$3,940,000.00

**Arbitration Information** 

Arbitration/CFTC reparation claim filed with (FINRA, AAA,

CFTC, etc.):

**FINRA** 

**Docket/Case #:** 17-03515

Date Notice/Process Served: 01/08/2018

**Arbitration Pending?** No

**Disposition:** Settled

**Disposition Date:** 02/18/2020

**Monetary Compensation** 

Amount:

\$450,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$50,000.00

Broker Statement Per the settlement above, Mr. Bartlett contributed \$50,000. He believed the claims

to be without merit and vigorously denied all allegations in the Statement of

Claims. The client is a sophisticated and educated professional who has had years

of extensive investment experience. Mr. Bartlett had frequent and in-depth investment communication with the claimant to include joint discussions with senior management charged with operating underlying investment assets.

Disclosure 4 of 4

Reporting Source: Broker

**Employing firm when** 

activities occurred which led

to the complaint:

BERTHEL FISHER & COMPANY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

Allegations: THE CLIENTS ALLEGE THE INVESTMENTS PURCHASED IN 2006 WERE

UNSUITABLE AND MISREPRESENTED. THE CLIENTS ALSO ALLEGE THE FIRM FAILED TO CONDUCT ADEQUATE DUE DILIGENCE AND FAILED TO

SUPERVISE THE REPRESENTATIVE.



Product Type: Oil & Gas

Other: TIC'S

Alleged Damages: \$0.00

Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not exact):

THE CLIENTS ARE REQUESTING DAMAGES OF BETWEEN \$100,000 AND

\$499,999.

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** 

Docket/Case #: 14-03867

Filing date of

12/22/2014

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 01/23/2015

**Complaint Pending?** No

Status: Settled

**Status Date:** 12/18/2015

Settlement Amount: \$25,000.00

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

\$5,000.00

Broker Statement THE REPRESENTATIVE DENIES THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE STATEMENT OF

CLAIM. THE REPRESENTATIVE INFORMED THE CLIENTS THAT THERE

WERE SUBSTANTIAL RISKS AND COSTS INVOLVED IN THE TWO

INVESTMENTS AT ISSUE AND ADVISED THE CLIENTS TO CONSIDER OTHER OPTIONS. IT WAS THE CLIENTS' DECISION TO UTILIZE A 1031 EXCHANGE AND TO INVEST INTO THE TWO INVESTMENTS AFTER BEING FULLY INFORMED OF THE RISKS. In October 2015, the arbitration panel granted the firm's motion to dismiss the claim pursuant to Rule 12206. As a result, the client threatened to file action in state court. The firm, solely to compromise and settle

disputed claims, agreed to settle the matter.

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### **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:

BERTHEL, FISHER & COMPANY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

Allegations: In December 2022, the clients through their attorney sent a complaint letter

alleging the alternative investments sold to them from 2006 through 2015 were unsuitable and that the firm did not conduct due diligence in accordance with industry standards. On 2/23/2023, the clients filed a civil litigation regarding specified alternative investments they purchased through the firm alleging

violations of 1) Fraudulent Non- Disclosure, 2) Breach of Fiduciary Duty, 3) Breach of Contract, 4) Doctrine of Continuous Advice or Continuum of Negligent Advice, 5) Fraudulent Misrepresentation, 6) Negligent Misrepresentation, 7) Constructive Fraud, 8) Detrimental Reliance, 8) Fraudulent Inducement to hold Investments.

**Product Type:** Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests

Oil & Gas

Promissory Note Real Estate Security

**Alleged Damages:** \$10,000,000.00

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:

Iowa District Court, Linn County, IA

Docket/Case #: EQCV101693

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

02/23/2023

# **Customer Complaint Information**

Date Complaint Received: 02/23/2023



**Complaint Pending?** Yes

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

**Reporting Source:** Broker

**Employing firm when** activities occurred which led to the complaint:

BERTHEL, FISHER & COMPANY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

Allegations:

In December 2022, the clients through their attorney sent a complaint letter alleging the alternative investments sold to them from 2006 through 2015 were unsuitable and that the firm did not conduct due diligence in accordance with industry standards. On 2/23/2023, the clients filed a civil litigation regarding specified alternative investments they purchased through the firm alleging

violations of 1) Fraudulent Non- Disclosure, 2) Breach of Fiduciary Duty, 3) Breach of Contract, 4) Doctrine of Continuous Advice or Continuum of Negligent Advice, 5) Fraudulent Misrepresentation, 6) Negligent Misrepresentation, 7) Constructive Fraud, 8) Detrimental Reliance, 8) Fraudulent Inducement to hold Investments.

**Product Type:** Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests

Oil & Gas

**Promissory Note** Real Estate Security

**Alleged Damages:** \$10,000,000.00

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:

Iowa District Court, Linn County, IA

Docket/Case #: EQCV101693

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

02/23/2023

### **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 02/23/2023



**Complaint Pending?** 

Yes

**Settlement Amount:** 

Individual Contribution

Amount:

Disclosure 2 of 2

**Reporting Source:** 

**Employing firm when** activities occurred which led to the complaint:

Firm

BERTHEL, FISHER & COMPANY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., Arete Wealth

Management, LLC, and AEGIS Capital Corp.

Allegations: This arbitration was filed by multiple claimants that allege the representative

recommended an investment strategy consisting of large concentrations in illiquid,

speculative, high commission alternative investments for over 15 years

(approximately 2001-2016) which was misrepresented to them. In addition, certain claimants allege that the representative engaged in questionable conduct relating to a private hedge fund and various business ventures. They further allege the firm failed to conduct due diligence on the alternative investment strategy and failed to supervise the representatives conduct. After the representative left the Firm in August 2016, the claimants followed him to his next broker-dealer where they allege the representative continued to defraud and induce Claimants to do business with him. Claimants allege that the representative continually misled them as to the value of the Alternative Investment Strategy Holdings until the time they stopped working with him between 2017-2021 (depending upon the date each

claimant ended their relationship with him).

Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests **Product Type:** 

**Equipment Leasing** 

Oil & Gas

Real Estate Security

Other: Business Development Company, Hedge Funds, and Private Equity

**Alleged Damages:** \$10,000,000.00

**Alleged Damages Amount Explanation (if amount not** exact):

Claimants seek damages in excess of \$10,000,000 and/or alternatively consisting of what a well-managed account would have performed in an amount presently

unknown but of at least \$30,000,000.

Is this an oral complaint? No

Nο

Is this a written complaint? Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes



Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

FINRA

Docket/Case #:

22-00730

Filing date of

03/30/2022

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

**Customer Complaint Information** 

Date Complaint Received: 04/05/2022

Complaint Pending? Yes

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

Firm Statement

Arete Wealth Management, LLC and AEGIS Capital Corp. are not a party to the

This arbitration was filed by multiple claimants that allege the representative

case.

Reporting Source: Broker

Employing firm when activities occurred which led to the complaint:

BERTHEL, FISHER & COMPANY FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

Allegations:

recommended an investment strategy consisting of large concentrations in illiquid, speculative, high commission alternative investments for over 15 years (approximately 2001-2016) which was misrepresented to them. In addition, certain claimants allege that the representative engaged in questionable conduct relating to a private hedge fund and various business ventures. They further allege the firm failed to conduct due diligence on the alternative investment strategy and failed to supervise the representatives conduct. After the representative left the Firm in August 2016, the claimants followed him to his next broker-dealer where they allege the representative continued to defraud and induce Claimants to do business with him. Claimants allege that the representative continually misled them as to the value of the Alternative Investment Strategy Holdings until the time they stopped working with him between 2017-2021 (depending upon the date each

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Product Type: Direct Investment-DPP & LP Interests

**Equipment Leasing** 

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Is this an oral complaint?

Is this a written complaint? No

Is this an arbitration/CFTC reparation or civil litigation?

Yes

No

Arbitration/Reparation forum or court name and location:

Finra

Docket/Case #:

22-00730

Filing date of

arbitration/CFTC reparation

or civil litigation:

03/30/2022

# **Customer Complaint Information**

**Date Complaint Received:** 04/05/2022

**Complaint Pending?** Yes

**Settlement Amount:** 

**Individual Contribution** 

Amount:

www.finra.org/brokercheck

# **End of Report**



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