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# Why a Wells Fargo FiNet Broker is Facing \$2.3 Million Suit Alleging Life Insurance Mishandling

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A widow in New Jersey is going after a broker with [Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network](#), the firm's independent brokerage, claiming he mishandled her late husband's life insurance policy payout in speculative trading that cost her hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses, according to news reports.

**Robin Fratto**, of Freehold, N.J., says that she received more than \$2 million from the policy when her husband suddenly died in 2011, [WealthManagement.com](#) writes, citing an arbitration claim filed with **Finra** by Fratto's attorneys. Fratto, who didn't have any experience investing, met **Leonard Kinsman**, who was then with [Merrill Lynch](#), according to the claim cited by the web publication. Fratto allegedly told Kinsman that she wanted to purchase the house that was still in her late husband's name and get \$3,000 a month for her and her three children, **Stuart Meissner**, the New York-based lawyer representing her, tells [WealthManagement.com](#). But instead of "investing her funds in a moderate diversified long term growth portfolio of stocks and bonds," Kinsman placed the money on margin and traded in speculative options and non-income producing securities, according to the claim cited by the web publication.

Kinsman moved to Wells Fargo FiNet in 2014 and brought Fratto's account with him, [WealthManagement.com](#) writes. When Fratto wanted to take out some of the funds in June 2017 to pay for the home, she learned that all the funds were gone aside from two annuities, according to the claim cited by the web publication.

Wells Fargo, meanwhile, allegedly failed to conduct proper oversight in light of Kinsman's Finra history, which includes one withdrawn and three settled customer disputes, [WealthManagement.com](#) writes citing the claim.



(Getty)

Furthermore, Fratto claims that Wells Fargo ignored misleading statements, including her forged initials, on account opening documents, according to the web publication.

Fratto's claim aims for \$591,916 in compensatory damages and \$1,776,000 in punitive damages, plus costs and lawyers' fees, [WealthManagement.com](#) writes. Wells Fargo tells the web publication it's reviewing the claim.

By [Alex Padalka](#)

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