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Brokers and dealers vs. investment advisers

I am a retired, college-educated person who reads the daily business news, watches CNBC and Bloomberg regularly, surfs the internet on websites such as Morningstar, and follows twitters such as WSJ Personal Finance and planetmoney. Yet I only have an overall idea of the differences between brokers, dealers, and investment advisers. Also, the title "financial representative" needs to be clarified. I am also not clear whether one person can serve more than one of these functions. For example, can a broker also be an investment adviser just by talking to me on a fee-only basis? Further clarification, strict standards of behavior, and rules for compensation would be helpful for a person such as myself and many people that I know. Thank you.

~Ron