

ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION

Post Office Box 304700

Montgomery, Alabama 36130-4700

Telephone: (334) 242-2984 or 1-800-222-1253 Fax: (334) 242-0240

Email: asc@asc.alabama.gov Website: www.asc.alabama.gov

Tuscaloosa County Man Pleads Guilty, Sentenced for Multiple Violations of Alabama Securities Act

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (Mar. 4, 2010) Thomas M. Smith, District Attorney for the 6th Judicial Circuit, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama; and, Joseph Borg, Director of the Alabama Securities Commission (ASC) announced today that Gene Thomas “Tommy” LeGrone, Jr., a Northport, Alabama resident, pled guilty on March 1, 2010 to violations of the Alabama Securities Act.

LeGrone pled guilty to one count each of Securities Fraud, specifically the Omission of Material Facts in Connection with the Offering and Sale of Securities; and, Theft of Property by Deception, 1st Degree. Upon acceptance of his guilty plea, the Court sentenced LeGrone to 20 years imprisonment, split to serve three years. LeGrone has been in custody for other non securities-related violations and will be given credit for time served. The Court will enter an Order for victims’ restitution at a later date.

An investigation into LeGrone’s business activities by the ASC Enforcement Division resulted in an indictment being handed down by the March 2009 session of the Tuscaloosa County Grand Jury. The indictment alleged that LeGrone, as owner and operator of Bama Remodeling and Repair, LLC, of Northport, Alabama illegally entered into an investment contract with two Alabama victims without being registered to offer and/or sell such investments by the ASC, as required by the Alabama Securities Act. Further, LeGrone allegedly suggested to the victims that their money would be invested by him for home renovation projects and a promissory note for \$50,500 was issued to the victims in July 2006 with a promised return of “interest and profit.” In addition to not being registered to offer and sell securities in Alabama, the ASC investigation revealed that LeGrone made untrue statements, omitted material facts to investors regarding the investment opportunity and used investors’ money for other unrelated expenses.

The ASC cautions potential investors to thoroughly scrutinize and research any investment opportunity or offer. Contact the ASC with inquiries concerning securities broker-dealers, agents, investment advisers, investment adviser representatives, financial planners, registration status of securities or debt management programs, to report suspected fraud or to obtain consumer information. The ASC provides free investor education and fraud prevention materials in print, on our website and through educational presentations upon request.

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For further information contact Dan Lord, ASC Education and Public Affairs Manager, 334-353-4858.

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