

ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION

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FAKE BILLIONAIRE PLEADS GUILTY TO SECURITIES FRAUD IN TWO MORE COUNTIES, CONCLUDING A MULTI-COUNTY FRAUD PROSECUTION

Montgomery, Alabama (April 12, 2022) – Jesse Morgan Hinson, a 35-year-old Troy resident, pleaded guilty to 2 counts of securities fraud, a Class B felony, yesterday before the Honorable Judge James Anderson for crimes committed in Montgomery County and Bullock County. The court sentenced him to a 15-year split sentence, which will require him to serve 3 years in the state penitentiary followed by 5 years of supervised probation. If Hinson violates his probation, he may be ordered to serve the remainder of the sentence in the custody of the Department of Corrections. Hinson’s sentences will be served concurrently with a previous sentence issued in Lee County pursuant to the plea agreement. The Lee County plea involved a plea of guilt to securities fraud perpetrated by him in Lee County and an agreement to pay full restitution in the amount of \$1,248,740 for all three counties. Additionally, Hinson is barred from transacting business as a dealer, agent, investment adviser, or investment adviser representative in the State of Alabama.

“The Commission has aggressively pursued Jesse Morgan Hinson because of his continued fraud against Alabama investors, especially the elderly. He pleaded guilty to securities fraud in Houston County in 2015. He is a repeat offender of securities fraud” said ASC Chief Deputy Director Amanda Senn. “We are pleased the court agreed with our recommendation that this repeat offender be locked away behind bars.”

Hinson was indicted in 2019 in both Montgomery County and Bullock County for soliciting fake investments. The indictments alleged 2 counts of Securities Fraud, 1 count of acting as an unregistered dealer or agent, and 1 count of offering and selling unregistered securities. Similar allegations were made against Hinson in a 2019 Lee County indictment. The investment funds were not used in accordance with the representations made by Hinson. Hinson was not registered with the ASC as a dealer or agent of securities in Alabama, nor were the securities he offered and sold registered with the ASC as required by state law.

Before Judge Anderson, Hinson admitted that he lied to investors about being the heir to a billion-dollar Harrah’s Casino fortune and admitted to taking money from his victims for sham investments while he was really blowing their money on personal expenses. He has been making these phony claims, including facility construction for Harrah’s Casino, land flips involving famous country musicians, and construction of trucking depots since at least 2016. Hinson made similar misrepresentations to the victims in Lee County. He went so far as to provide to victims a fake financial statement showing he was worth over \$2.5 billion. He falsely claimed to victims to have business relationships with Harrah’s Casino and Cargill, an international food, agriculture, financial and industrial company. All of these claims were false, and Hinson told the lies to deceive investors and convince them to give him money.

The ASC cautions investors to thoroughly research any investment opportunity. Call the ASC at 1-800-222-1253 and ask for the registration department to check out persons offering investment opportunities, investment advice for a fee and any products they offer. Contact the ASC to report suspected fraud, inappropriate securities business practices, or to obtain consumer information. Free investor education and fraud prevention materials are available at www.asc.alabama.gov.

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For further information contact 1-800-222-1253 and ask for Public Affairs.

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