

ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION

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

Lee County Man Denied Probation After Guilty Plea to Securities Charges

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (Dec. 10, 2012) Robert T. Treese, District Attorney for the 37th Judicial Circuit, Lee County, Alabama; and Joseph Borg, Director of the Alabama Securities Commission (ASC) announced that on Dec. 5, 2012, Thomas Washington Campbell, III, of Salem, Alabama, was sentenced to serve two years' incarceration by Lee County Circuit Court Judge Christopher J. Hughes after pleading guilty on Oct. 3, 2012 to one felony count of Sale of Unregistered Securities. Campbell petitioned the court for probation which was denied by Judge Hughes. The Court also ordered Campbell to pay \$15,284 in restitution to victims.

Information obtained during an ASC Enforcement Division investigation determined that, since 2005, Campbell, acting as President and CEO of TCA Investment Group, Ltd., operated an advance fee loan scheme wherein he sought victims needing financing for projects who had previously been unsuccessful with securing financing through traditional means. Campbell convinced the victims to invest by making untrue claims about his previous business successes and his ability to secure financing for his clients. Investors were told that their money was being used for processing and other fees related to securing third-party financing and that the fees would be refunded if such financing was unsuccessful. Campbell's victims did not receive the promised financing and none of the fees collected were refunded as promised. Campbell misrepresented his knowledge, experience, licensing and means to secure financing to his victims. Campbell, his company, and the securities he offered were not registered in Alabama, as required by the Alabama Securities Act.

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, Education and Public Affairs Manager, 334-353-4858.

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