

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

Former Montgomery County Man Indicted for Alleged Securities Violations

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (December 12, 2013) Ellen Brooks, District Attorney for the 15th Judicial Circuit, Montgomery County, Alabama; and Joseph Borg, Director of the Alabama Securities Commission (ASC) announced that Martin Blane, a former resident of Montgomery, Alabama, whose last known residence was in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, was arrested December 9, 2013 for multiple violations of the Alabama Securities Act. Blane was arrested by U.S. Marshals in Jackson County, Mississippi, on warrants issued by Montgomery County, based upon a November, 2013 indictment handed down by the Montgomery County Grand Jury. Blane waived extradition and is scheduled to be transported to Montgomery County within 10 days where his bail will be set at \$25,000.

The Grand Jury indictment alleges that Blane committed multiple counts of Fraud in Connection With the Sale of Securities, including Omission of Material Facts, and Engaging in a Scheme or Artifice to Defraud. The indictment also alleges that he engaged in the Sale of Unregistered Securities and Sale of Securities by an Unregistered Agent. The securities fraud charges are Class B felonies under Alabama statutes, punishable by a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment and up to a \$30,000 fine for each count. The securities registration charges are Class C felonies, punishable by a maximum of 10 years' incarceration and up to a \$15,000 fine for each count.

The Grand Jury indictment against Blane resulted from an ASC Enforcement Division investigation that alleged he sold shares of stock to Alabama investors in Eyewonder, an Atlanta, Georgia-based company. The estimated value of the stock sold to Alabama investors was \$400,000 and according to the indictment Blane failed to disclose that he did not own and was not entitled to sell shares of stock in EyeWonder, Inc. ASC records indicated that Blane was not registered with the ASC to legally offer and/or sell securities into, within, or from Alabama.

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.

(NOTE: An arrest or indictment is not evidence that the defendant committed the crime(s) charged. The defendant is presumed innocent until the government meets its burden of proving guilt beyond reasonable doubt in court).

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