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

Aaron Brooks Butler Sentenced for Securities Fraud Crime

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (March 9, 2023) – Hal Hughston, District Attorney for the 31st Judicial Circuit, and Joseph Borg, Director of the Alabama Securities Commission (ASC), announced that Aaron Brooks Butler (33 years old), a New Market, Alabama resident, pled guilty to one count of securities fraud, a class B felony. Butler was sentenced to 15 years and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$123,250 to 22 victims. He is also permanently barred from the securities industry.

"The ASC will always serve as a voice for Alabama investors," said ASC Chief Deputy Director Amanda Senn. "Let this be a warning to anyone attempting to defraud a resident of Alabama that you will get caught, you will serve time, and we will seek restitution for victims of financial fraud."

Butler, acting as the sole principal of Negus Capital Inc., solicited investments of at least \$123,250 from investors. Butler told investors the funds would be used in connection with buying and selling foreign currency, derivative options, and other investments. However, he used investors' funds for other purposes, including travel expenses, jewelry purchases, cash withdrawals and/or personal expenses. Butler spent over \$25,000 on jewelry and approximately \$9,000 at a Ford dealership.

Butler was indicted by a Colbert County Grand Jury in May 2022 and arrested in October 2022.

The ASC would like to thank the Colbert County Sheriff's Office for assisting with the arrest of Butler and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) for their assistance with the investigation.

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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