



ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTOR PROTECTION DEPARTMENT SEC ADVISORY

This is to inform the public that <u>BFO TRADING</u> is NOT AUTHORIZED TO SOLICIT INVESTMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC.

Based on social media (Facebook) postings, **BFO TRADING** claims that they are a legal company that possesses computing methods that can be used every day to study the currency fluctuations and later on earn profits from transactions.

BFO TRADING platform has daily income charts for four (4) different amounts of investments; (Php 500.00) (Php 2,000.00) (Php 5,000.00) and (Php 20,000) under a ninety-day investment plan profit chart.

The lowest investment, which is Php 500.00 would earn Php 20.00 in one day or equivalent to a Php. 520.00 income. As it reached its ninetieth day the total profit would be Php 656.00 (one day transaction) or equivalent to Php. 17,060.00 income.

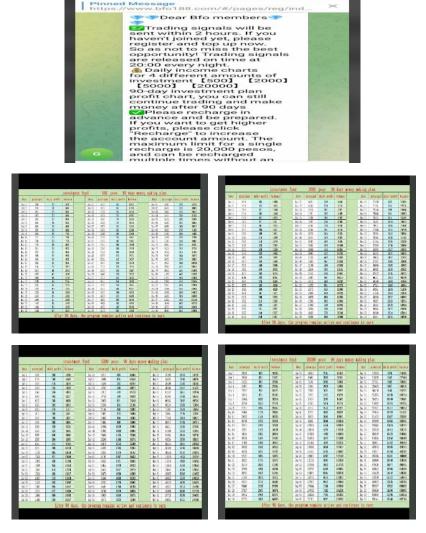
Under the Php 2,000.00 investment level, the investor is guaranteed to earn Php 80.00 (single day profit) or equivalent to a Php 2,080,00 income. As it reached its ninetieth day the total profit would be Php 2,624.00 or equivalent to Php 68,238.00 income.

For the third level, an investment of Php 5,000.00 would earn Php 200.00 (single day profit) or equivalent to a Php 5,200.00 income. As it reached its ninetieth day the total profit would be Php 6,561.00 or equivalent to Php 170,597.00 income.

And lastly, for the Php 20,000.00 investment plan, the minimum return is Php 800.00, hence with a guaranteed income of Php 20,800.00. As it reached its ninetieth day the total daily profit would be Php 26,246.00 or equivalent to Php 682,387.00 income.

After ninety days, the program remains active and continues to earn. As an added enticement, the investor may also receive an award of 10% (on friend's first recharge) if he or she successfully recruits his/her friend to join the BFO platform.





Briefly, an "investment contract" exists when there is an investment or placement of money in a common enterprise with a reasonable expectation of profits to be derived from the efforts of others which is prominent in the scheme of **BFO TRADING.**

As such, the Securities Regulation Code (SRC) requires that said offer and/or sale of securities must be duly registered with the Commission and that the concerned entity and/or its agents should have the appropriate registration and/or license to sell such securities to the public.

Based on the Commission's database, **BFO TRADING**, is **NOT REGISTERED** as a corporation or partnership and **OPERATES WITHOUT THE NECESSARY LICENSE AND/OR AUTHORITY** to solicit, accept or take investments/placements from the public nor to issue investment contracts and other forms of securities defined under Section 3 of the Securities Regulation Code (SRC).

The scheme employed by, **BFO TRADING** has the characteristics of a **"Ponzi Scheme"** where money from new investors are used in paying "fake profits" to prior investors and is designed mainly to favor its top recruiters and prior risk takers and is detrimental to subsequent members in case of scarcity of new investors.

The offering and selling of securities in the form of investment contracts using the "Ponzi Scheme" which is fraudulent and unsustainable, is NOT a registrable security. The Commission will not issue a License to Sell Securities to the Public to persons or entities that are engaged in this business or scheme.

Moreover, the Financial Products and Services Consumer Protection Act prohibits the commission of "Investment fraud", defined as any form of deceptive solicitation of investments from the public which includes Ponzi schemes and such other schemes involving the promise or offer of profits or returns sourced from the investments or contributions made by the investors themselves and the offering or selling of investment schemes to the public without a license or permit from the SEC.

In view thereof, the public is hereby advised **NOT TO INVEST** or to **STOP INVESTING** in the investment scheme being offered by **BFO TRADING** as well as to any other entities having the same or similar schemes and to exercise caution in dealing with any individuals or group of persons soliciting investments or recruiting investors for and on behalf of **BFO TRADING**.

Those who act as salesmen, brokers, dealers or agents, representatives, promoters, uplines, recruiters, influencers, endorsers and enablers of **BFO TRADING**, in selling or convincing people to invest in the investment scheme being offered by the said entity including soliciting investments or recruiting investors through the internet may be held criminally liable under Section 11 of the Financial Products and Services Consumer Protection Act (FCPA) and under Section 28 of the SRC which are both penalized separately with a **maximum fine of Five Million Pesos (Php5,000,000.00) or imprisonment of Twenty One (21) years or both pursuant to Section 73 of the SRC** (SEC vs. Oudine Santos, G.R. No. 195542, 19 March 2014).

Furthermore, the names of all those involved will be reported to the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) so that the appropriate penalties and/or taxes be correspondingly assessed.

Should you have any information regarding any investment solicitation by any individual or group of individuals on behalf of **BFO TRADING**, please send your report through email at epd@sec.gov.ph.

For the information and guidance of the public.

Makati City, 13 June 2024