



ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTOR PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

SEC ADVISORY

The Commission has received reports and information that individuals or group of persons representing an entity named **GRAND HORIZON INTERNATIONAL** owned by its CEO, **KENT PATRICK GAOZIOU**, are enticing the public to invest their money in the said entity with a promise of high monetary rewards or profits.



Based on information gathered and verified by the Commission, **GRAND HORIZON INTERNATIONAL** entices the public with an offer of an investment opportunity where, for an investment of from Php500.00 up to Php30,000.00, the investor will earn 50% in just 15 days. In addition, an investor will also earn 15% commission from Direct Referral and 1% supporting commission up to 5th level from Indirect Referrals.



Briefly, an **Investment Contract** exist 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 <u>which is prominent in the scheme of **GRAND HORIZON INTERNATIONAL**.</u>

As the above described scheme involves the sale of securities to the public, the Securities Regulation Code (SRC) requires that these securities are duly registered and that the concerned entities and/or its agents have appropriate registration and/or license to sell such securities to the public pursuant to Section 8 and 28 of the SRC.

The public is hereby informed that **GRAND HORIZON INTERNATIONAL <u>IS NOT REGISTERED</u>** with the Commission. Hence, is **NOT AUTHORIZED to offer, solicit, sell or distribute any investment/securities to the public**. Such activities require a Secondary License from the Commission and the securities or investment product should likewise be registered with the SEC before they can be offered or sold to the public under Sections 8 and 12 of the Securities Regulation Code (SRC).

Moreover, the investment scheme being offered by **GRAND HORIZON INTERNATIONAL** has the characteristics of a "**Ponzi Scheme**" where moneys 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.

Further, R.A. No. 11765 or the Financial Products and Services Consumer Protection Act (FCPA) also prohibits "investment fraud" which is defined under the law 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 contribution 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 schemes being offered by **GRAND HORIZON INTERNATIONAL** or its **representatives**.

Consequently, those who act as salesmen, brokers, dealers, agents, representatives, promoters, operators, recruiters, uplines, influencers, endorsers, abettors and enablers of **GRAND HORIZON INTERNATIONAL** in selling or convincing people to invest in their investment schemes including solicitations or recruitment through the internet may likewise be prosecuted and held criminally liable under **Section 11** of the **FCPA** and **Section 28** of the **SRC** which are both penalized separately with a maximum fine of Five Million Pesos (Php5,000,000.00) or maximum penalty of Twenty-One (21) years imprisonment or both pursuant to Section 73 of the SRC.

Also, those who invite or recruit others to join or invest in such venture or offer investment contracts or securities to the public may incur criminally liability, or otherwise be sanctioned or penalized accordingly as held by the Supreme Court in the case of Securities and Exchange Commission vs. Oudine Santos (G.R. No. 195542, 19 March 2014).

Should you have any information regarding the operation of the subject entity, please send your reports through our email at epd@sec.gov.ph or you may visit the Commission's Enforcement and Investor Protection Department (EIPD) located at the 9/F, The SEC Headquarters, 7907 Makati Avenue, Salcedo Village, Brgy. Bel-Air, Makati City.

For the information and guidance of the public.

Makati City, 24 June 2024.