



ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTOR PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

ADVISORY



Based on the reports and information gathered by the Commission, TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL, headed by TRISTAN TERRENCE VILLAFLOR IGNACIO is offering investments by allegedly engaging in Forex Trading Business.

TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL also goes by the following names: TERRENCE IGNACIO BUSINESS CONSULTANCY and TRISTAN IGNACIO MARKETING CONSULTANCY.

Based on its latest offering, **TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL offers surprise** trading plan giveaway with one-time payout. Investments range from PHP 2,000 up to PHP 100,000 with returns varying between PHP 2,400 and PHP 220,000, inclusive of the initial investment (representing a return of 120% - 220%). The maturity periods for these investments are between 10 to 30 days only. For every investment of PHP100,000, the investor is entitled to receive a free raffle entry for a chance to win a Brand-new unit of Iphone 15.

TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL offers various trading plans alongside different promotions such as "GADGET PROMO" wherein investors will get free gadgets per trading plan, "MOTORCYCLE & CAR INCENTIVES – HIGHER PROFIT ADVANCE TRADING SYSTEM": investors who were able to secure a slot ("trading plan"), they are automatically qualified to a motorcycle/car incentive. The down payment for the vehicle units will be allegedly shouldered by Trust Trade International.



TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL regular trading plans are as follows:

The regular trading plan offers investments ranging from PHP 50,000 to PHP 1 million with 140%-170% returns (inclusive of initial investment) in just 45 days. The payouts are distributed every fifteen (15) days for three periods with gifts provided based on the selected trading plans.

The public is being made aware that 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 **TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL**.

As such, the Securities Regulation Code (SRC) requires that said offer and 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, **TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL** is NOT REGISTERED as a Corporation or a Partnership with the Commission. Likewise, **TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL** has not secured prior registration and/or license to solicit investments from the Commission prescribed under Section 8 and 28 of the Securities Regulation Code (SRC).

Further, the scheme employed by **TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL**, shows indication of a possible "**Ponzi Scheme**" where monies 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, R.A. No. 11765 or the Financial Products and Services Consumer Protection Act (FCPA) 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** to **STOP INVESTING** in the investment scheme being offered by **TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL**, and its **representatives**.

Those who act as <u>salesmen</u>, <u>brokers</u>, <u>dealers</u>, <u>agents</u>, <u>representatives</u>, <u>promoters</u>, <u>recruiters</u>, <u>uplines</u>, <u>influencers</u>, <u>endorsers</u>, <u>abetters</u>, <u>and enablers</u> of **TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL**, 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 RCPA and 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 the operation of **TRUST TRADE INTERNATIONAL** and its representatives, please send your report through email at epd@sec.gov.ph.

For the information and guidance of the public.

Makati City, 29 July 2024.