

ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTOR PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

SEC ADVISORY

Based on information gathered by the Commission, the entity operating under the name **BITCOIN REVOLUTION** using the domain "*the-bitcoinrevolution.com*" is continually soliciting investments in the Philippines **WITHOUT THE NECESSARY LICENSE AND/OR AUTHORITY** from the Commission despite the issuance of the previous Advisory against it dated 30 March 2020. *To wit:*



EXCLUSIVE OFFER FOR TRADERS IN PHILIPPINES



It must be emphasized that **BITCOIN REVOLUTION** is an unregulated entity with unknown operators and is notorious for using fake celebrity endorsement online, among which are Sen. Manny Pacquiao, Former Senator and Speaker of the House, Manny Villar, and Boy Abunda, in order to entice and lure Filipinos to invest in its scheme that apparently offers a unique automated trading system or platform which now promises a success rate as high as Ninety-Nine Percent (99%) per transaction.

BITCOIN REVOLUTION claims that for a minimum investment of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), investors can earn as much as One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or Three Hundred Percent (300%) per day or a total of Nine Thousand Percent (9,000%) per month. It even added that some of their traders became millionaires in less than two months by simply investing in its scheme which is "Too good to be True." *To illustrate:*

How to Operate Bitcoin Revolution



The Bitcoin Revolution software has a very high success rate of over 99%. This means that most of the trades it enters into, end successfully. What this means is that you could be <u>earning over \$1,000 a day</u>. The algorithm of the software has a time leap of 0.01 seconds which means it knows when the markets will move and in which direction even before the market moves. It is also able to scan the markets with laser accuracy. It is these features that enhance the success rate of the Bitcoin Revolution software. We have also had the opportunity to watch some of our members become millionaires in less than two months. The fact is, there is huge profit potential when you trade the Bitcoin and cryptocurrency markets with the Bitcoin Revolution software.

Based on the foregoing, the public is again warned that the said red flags are possible indications of a Ponzi Scheme and despite operating with the use of cookiecutter websites similar to cryptocurrency scams, it must be noted that the scheme of **BITCOIN REVOLUTION** is relative to the offering and sale of securities, in the form of investment contracts to the public because its investors need not exert any effort other than to invest or place monies in its operation in order to derive income therefrom.

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 corporation and/or its agents have appropriate registration and/or license to sell such securities to the public.

However, **BITCOIN REVOLUTION** remains **UNREGISTERED** with the Commission and is still **NOT AUTHORIZED** 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).

Moreover, **BITCOIN REVOLUTION** continues to manage its digital exchange platform without the proper registration with the Commission relative to Section 32 of the SRC on the "Prohibition on Use of Unregistered Exchange."

In addition, **BITCOIN REVOLUTION** is still **NOT INCLUDED** among the registered banks, exchanges or companies engaged in digital assets with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) as well in accordance with the **GUIDELINES FOR VIRTUAL CURRENCY EXCHANGES** (**BSP CIRCULAR NO. 944**).

As such, the public is again advised **NOT TO INVEST** or **STOP INVESTING** in any scheme offered by **BITCOIN REVOLUTION** or any other entities engaged in digital asset trading which promises ridiculous rates of return with little or no risk.

The public must be mindful that cryptocurrencies are very volatile and the process of digital asset trading is highly speculative and involves a higher degree of risk and that the operations of such unregulated entities engaged in digital asset trading are completely unaccountable.

Therefore, the public must observe and exercise conscious effort before dealing with such schemes hoping that it would be a safe investment option especially during this Covid 19 pandemic.

Nevertheless, the Commission assures the public that it continuously monitors and oversees such entities and their activities in a way that it sees as proper in order to prevent the proliferation of scams and/or any other unauthorized or illegal schemes in the country.

Accordingly, the Commission warns all unscrupulous individuals and/or entities that strict penalties are imposed for violations of the Securities Regulation Code, the Revised Corporation Code, and such other rules and regulation enforced by the Commission.

Those who act as salesmen, brokers, dealers or agents of such unauthorized entities in selling or convincing people to invest in their investment scheme offered including solicitations and recruitment through the internet may likewise be criminally prosecuted and penalized with a maximum fine of Five Million pesos (P5,000,000.00) or a penalty of Twenty-one (21) years of imprisonment or both pursuant to Sections 28 and 73 of the SRC.

In the same manner, those who invite or recruit others to join or invest in such venture or offer investment contracts or securities to the public may incur criminal liability, or otherwise be sanctioned or penalized accordingly as held by the Supreme Court in the case of *SEC vs. Oudine Santos* (G.R. No. 195542, 19 March 2014).

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

Apart thereof, the **Bayanihan to Heal as One Act** (**Republic Act No. 11469**) also punishes those participating in cyber incidents that make use or take advantage of the current crisis situation to prey on the public through scams, phishing, fraudulent emails, or other similar acts.

It must be noted that the above laws are not aimed to hinder or pose significant risk to businesses and cryptocurrency projects but are intended for the protection of both the registered entities and the investing public from any anomalies and/or irregularities which tend to result from any unlawful or unauthorized operations.

Should you have any information regarding any investment solicitation activity by any individual or group of individuals representing **BITCOIN REVOLUTION**, please send your report to the EIPD at epd@sec.gov.ph.

For the guidance of the public.

Pasay City, 16 June 2020.