



## ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTOR PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

# SEC ADVISORY

Based on reports and information gathered by the Commission, individuals or group of persons claiming to represent **PNJS PROFIT SHARING BENTA-SLOT / PNJS BENTA SAHOD / PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND ONLINE SHOP** are enticing the public to invest in said entity. Verily, **PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND ONLINE SHOP** is a business name registered with the Department of Trade in favor of one **JOANA MARIE MOLINA CABADDO**.



As posted online, **PNJS PROFIT SHARING BENTA-SLOT / PNJS BENTA SAHOD / PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND ONLINE SHOP** offers investments to the public with a **minimal amount of PHP1,000 per account with earnings as much as 1.9% a day for 30 days**. Interested individuals may send a message to one **Ms. Donalyn Bonete** or any authorized agent and cash in through the KOMO<sup>1</sup> (by EastWest Bank) mobile application.

**Ms. Joahna Molina Cabaddo II** allegedly earns through Benta sahod/ Lending and Financing activities, Paluwagan, etc.

The public is 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 **PNJS PROFIT SHARING BENTA-SLOT / PNJS BENTA SAHOD / PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND ONLINE SHOP**.

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.

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<sup>1</sup> Komo is an exclusively digital banking service that allows customers to open and manage their account completely online. This means that there are no physical branches and everything from account opening to card blocking can be done using the mobile app.

Based on the Commission's database, **PNJS PROFIT SHARING BENTA-SLOT / PNJS BENTA SAHOD / PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND ONLINE SHOP is NOT REGISTERED** with the Commission either as a corporation or a partnership. Furthermore, **PNJS PROFIT SHARING BENTA-SLOT / PNJS BENTA SAHOD / PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND ONLINE SHOP is NOT AUTHORIZED** to solicit investments from the public since it has not secured prior registration and/or license from the Commission as prescribed under Sections 8 and 28 of the SRC.

Further, the scheme employed by **PNJS PROFIT SHARING BENTA-SLOT / PNJS BENTA SAHOD / PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND ONLINE SHOP** has the characteristics of a "**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.

The Financial Products and Services Consumer Protection Act 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 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 **PNJS PROFIT SHARING BENTA-SLOT / PNJS BENTA SAHOD / PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND ONLINE SHOP**, and its **representatives**.

Those who act as salesmen, brokers, dealers, agents, representatives, promoters, recruiters, uplines, influencers, endorsers, abettors, and enablers of **PNJS PROFIT SHARING BENTA-SLOT / PNJS BENTA SAHOD / PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND ONLINE SHOP**, 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 and Section 28 of the SRC **and for the two offenses, both penalized with separate** 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 **PNJS PROFIT SHARING BENTA-SLOT / PNJS BENTA SAHOD / PNJS FINANCE/VARIETY-STORE AND**

**ONLINE SHOP**, and its representatives, please send your report through email at [epd@sec.gov.ph](mailto:epd@sec.gov.ph).

For the information and guidance of the public.

Makati City, 04 July 2023.