



ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTOR PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

SEC ADVISORY

The Commission has received reports and information that individuals or group of persons representing an entity named **ATE ANNA'S RETAIL AND WHOLESALE ONLINE SHOP** is 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, **ATE ANNA'S RETAIL AND WHOLESALE ONLINE SHOP** entices the public by offering investment amounting from Php5,000.00 pesos up to Php100,000.00 pesos that will earn Php6,500.00 pesos up to Php170,000.00 pesos in 20 to 30 days.



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 which is prominent in the scheme of **ATE ANNA'S RETAIL AND WHOLESALE ONLINE SHOP.**

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 **ATE ANNA'S RETAIL AND WHOLESALE ONLINE SHOP IS NOT REGISTERED.** Hence, is <u>NOT AUTHORIZED to offer, solicit,</u> <u>sell or distribute any investment/securities to the public</u>. 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).

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 ATE ANNA'S RETAIL AND **WHOLESALE ONLINE SHOP** or its **representatives**.

Consequently, those who act as salesmen, brokers, dealers, agents, representatives, promoters, operators, recruiters, uplines, influencers, endorsers, abettors and enablers of **ATE ANNA'S RETAIL AND WHOLESALE ONLINE SHOP** 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 <u>epd@sec.gov.ph</u> 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, 19 March 2024.