



For Immediate Release
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Lake County Resident Pleads Guilty to Attempted Securities Fraud and Theft

(PAINESVILLE, Ohio) – Kenneth M. Brugh pleaded guilty Friday to attempted securities fraud and theft, both fourth-degree felonies, for soliciting multiple Ohio residents and one Florida resident to invest \$186,675 in non-existent investments based on false and fraudulent information. Brugh instead misappropriated the funds for personal use.

Brugh was indicted earlier this year by a Lake County grand jury following a criminal referral by the Ohio Department of Commerce's Division of Securities.

Brugh is scheduled for sentencing by Judge Eugene Lucci on Jan. 4, 2021.

This case was prosecuted by the Office of the Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost, and presented by Assistant Attorney General Christian Sticken with the Special Prosecutions Unit.

Before investing, the Division of Securities encourages potential investors to call the Division's Investor Protection Hotline at 877-683-7841 to ask:

- Is the brokerage firm and salesperson licensed to sell securities in Ohio?
- Have any enforcement actions been taken against them?
- Has the security been properly registered with the Division of Securities?

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The Division of Securities is part of the Ohio Department of Commerce. The department is Ohio's chief regulatory agency, focused on promoting prosperity and protecting what matters most to Ohioans. We ensure businesses follow the laws that help them create jobs and keep Ohioans safe. To learn more about what we do, visit our website at com.ohio.gov.

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