

For Immediate Release
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Lake County Resident Sentenced for Securities Fraud and Theft

(PAINESVILLE, Ohio) – A Lake County man was sentenced Monday for his role in soliciting multiple Ohio residents and one Florida resident to invest \$186,675 in a fraudulent investment scheme.

Lake County Judge Eugene Lucci sentenced Kenneth M. Brugh to 150 days in jail, plus five years of community control and 200 hours of community service after completing incarceration. He also was ordered to pay restitution of \$186,675 to the five victims, and pay the costs of prosecution, confinement, supervision, treatment and court costs.

Brugh pleaded guilty in November to attempted securities fraud and theft, both fourth-degree felonies, for soliciting the funds based on false and fraudulent information. Brugh instead used the money for his personal expenses.

He was indicted in January 2020 by a Lake County grand jury following a criminal referral by the Ohio Department of Commerce's Division of Securities.

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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