



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Franklin County Resident Pleads Guilty to Theft in a Real Estate Investment Fraud**

Jarrich K. Fowlkes, 45, pleaded guilty today to grand theft, a fourth-degree felony, in the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. Judge Christopher Brown sentenced Fowlkes to five years community control and ordered he pay restitution to the victim.

Fowlkes and his co-defendant, Wayne C. Moore Jr., are jointly and severally responsible to pay full restitution to the victim in the amount of \$45,010 – \$18,000 of which has been paid to the court for distribution. If Fowlkes violates the conditions of his sentence, he could serve up to one year in prison.

Fowlkes and Moore were indicted in February 2018 by a Franklin County grand jury following a criminal referral by the Ohio Division of Securities. The indictment alleged from June through October 2015, they solicited an investment of \$45,010 from an Ohio investor to purchase and rehabilitate real estate through their company, Rick and Wayne Wholesale Rehabs, LLC. The indictment alleged the funds were misappropriated for personal use.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Robert Lang, in the Office of the Franklin County Prosecutor Ron O'Brien.

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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