



Department  
of Commerce

# NEWS RELEASE

**John R. Kasich, Governor**

**Jacqueline T. Williams, Director  
Department of Commerce**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **HAMILTON COUNTY MAN SENTENCED FOR SECURITIES FRAUD, THEFT AND FORGERY**

*Jon Patrick Horvath sentenced to five years' community control and ordered to pay \$80,000 in restitution to his victims.*

Following a criminal referral by the Ohio Department of Commerce - Division of Securities, an indictment and a guilty plea, Judge Gorman, a visiting judge in the Hamilton County Common Pleas Court, sentenced Jon Patrick Horvath today to five years' community control and ordered him to pay \$80,000 in restitution to his victims. If the terms of his community control are violated, Horvath could face up to two years in prison.

The conviction stemmed from the sale of unregistered securities to two Ohio investors. Horvath told investors that they would be investing in various ventures, including an oil rig and a local car dealership, which would yield significant returns. Instead of investing the funds, Horvath used investors' money to pay for private school tuition and personal expenses and to purchase a BMW automobile. The forgery conviction stems from Horvath altering the payee information on a check written to a licensed securities dealer and depositing it into his personal bank account.

This case was prosecuted by the Office of the Hamilton County Prosecutor, Joseph T. Deters and was presented by Bill Anderson, Supervising Assistant Prosecuting Attorney with the White Collar Crime Unit.

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### **About the Ohio Division of Securities**

The Ohio Division of Securities (ODS) administers the Ohio Securities Act by licensing securities salespersons, dealers, investment advisers, and investment adviser representatives. The Division also registers securities offered for sale to Ohioans. Additionally, the ODS investigates alleged violations of the Ohio Securities Act and enforces its provisions through administrative actions, civil injunctive actions and criminal prosecutions.

To avoid potential financial fraud, investors are encouraged to call the Division's Investor Protection Hotline at 877-683-7841 before they invest money and 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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