



Department
of Commerce

NEWS RELEASE

John R. Kasich, Governor

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Delaware County Man Sentenced For Theft

Columbus, Ohio – Following a referral from the Ohio Division of Securities and a guilty plea entered for four counts of theft, all felonies of the fourth degree, Bruce Durr, Jr. of Westerville, was sentenced to the Delaware County jail for 30 days and five years community control. Judge Everett H. Krueger also ordered Durr to pay restitution to the victims in the amount of \$69,400 in installments of \$400 per month and further ordered him to perform 240 hours of community service.

If Durr makes the required monthly restitution payment as ordered, the community service hours will be suspended. If the above conditions are not met, Durr could be sentenced for up to six years in jail (18 months for each of the four counts) to run consecutively.

This case was prosecuted by the Office of the Delaware County Prosecutor, Carol O'Brien. The conviction stems from allegations that Durr, Jr. solicited and received \$69,400 from four Ohio residents to invest in The Denture Place, a new company touted as a denture manufacturer.

"Instead of investing the money as promised, Durr, Jr. used the funds for personal expenses," O'Brien said. "The denture company never opened, and investors were not refunded."

"Thanks to the teamwork among the Division of Securities enforcement staff and the Delaware County Prosecutor's office, more Ohioans were prevented from falling victim to Mr. Durr's fraud," said Ohio Division of Securities Commissioner Andrea Seidt. "It's also gratifying to know that – in this case – restitution has been ordered and a plan has been approved to return the money to those who invested in Durr's fictitious company."

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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