

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS Business Registration Division

## **News Release**

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## STATE SECURITIES COMMISSIONER ORDERS LOUIS DEAN PARRISH TO CEASE SALE OF UNREGISTERED SECURITIES

HONOLULU – Hawai`i Acting Commissioner of Securities Henry Tanji issued a preliminary order to cease and desist and notice of right to hearing against Louis Dean Parrish ("Parrish").

The order alleges that respondent Parrish portrayed himself to potential investors as a successful business man who could make investors a profit by investing their monies in various projects. The order further alleges that in that capacity, he sold unregistered securities in the form of investment contracts to Hawai`i and mainland investors and represented that investor monies would be used to fund the various projects. The investigation indicates that there were possibly a total of 63 investors who invested over \$7,000,000.00 and were promised weekly returns of 2% to 9%.

The order charges that Parrish invested only a small portion of investor monies in various projects. Instead, he used investor funds to pay other investor returns and his personal expenses. The conduct in question appears to be part of a multi-state Ponzi scheme.

Commissioner Tanji alleges that Parrish violated State securities registration and antifraud provisions and seeks a civil penalty of \$1 million in addition to a permanent

injunction against transacting securities in the State, rescission and restitution for investors.

State securities laws provide antifraud provisions and also require securities such as investment contracts, as well as individuals or entities soliciting or transacting securities, to be registered with the State.

Anyone who has been solicited by or transacted business with Louis Dean Parrish or who may have information regarding this matter is urged to contact the State Securities Enforcement Branch.

## **Securities Enforcement Branch**

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