

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS Business Registration Division

DCCA News Release

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DCCA ANNOUNCES NEW HOTLINE TO REPORT INVESTMENT FRAUD

HONOLULU – The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) announces a new toll-free hotline for reporting investment fraud.

The department urges all consumers to call the Securities Enforcement Branch (toll-free) at 1-877 HI-SCAMS (1-877-447-2267) to report investment fraud.

Oahu residents may still use the current 58-SCAMS number as well. Prior to the toll-free number, callers from neighbor islands were often charged for a long-distance call.

"We are continually trying to make it easier for consumers to report investment fraud to us," said Securities Commissioner Tung Chan. "It is important for us to be available to the public and for the public to provide us with information about potential cases."

In addition to the toll-free line, the department is also proposing a bill (HB 1306/SB 1392) to enhance penalties for securities violations committed against Hawaii's elders. This bill will help deter investment fraud against seniors, which is a serious and growing problem with often devastating consequences.

Improving public access and strengthening the laws are part of the Lingle-Aiona Administration's continued efforts to increase protection for all Hawaii consumers.

The Securities Enforcement Branch investigates and takes actions against securities law violators. Securities are investments, such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds and variable annuities as well as ponzi and pyramid schemes.

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