

ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION

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Email: asc@asc.alabama.gov Website: www.asc.alabama.gov

Southern California Man Indicted for “Prime Bank” Scheme in Baldwin County

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (Feb. 6, 2014) Hallie S. Dixon, District Attorney for the 28th Judicial Circuit, Baldwin County, Alabama; and Joseph Borg, Director of the Alabama Securities Commission (ASC) announced that Brandon Colker, a resident of San Diego, California, turned himself in to the Baldwin County Sheriff’s Department on Feb. 5, 2014. Upon his surrender to authorities Colker was arrested, based on a November, 2013 Baldwin County Grand Jury indictment. Colker was released on \$100,000 bond. The conditions of his release specified that he surrender his passport, have no further communications with any and all co-defendants and must not conduct or aid others in any investment transaction.

The Grand Jury indictment charged Colker with one count of conspiracy to commit securities fraud and one count of employing a device, scheme or artifice to defraud. The indictment alleges that Colker promoted and accepted investor funds in a “prime bank” investment scam involving Richard James Tucker, of Robertsedale, Alabama and Synergy Finance Group, LLC.

The ASC cautions potential investors to thoroughly scrutinize and research any investment opportunity or offer. Contact the ASC with inquiries concerning securities broker-dealers, agents, investment advisers, investment adviser representatives, financial planners, registration status of securities or debt management programs, to report suspected fraud or to obtain consumer information. The ASC provides free investor education and fraud prevention materials in print, on our website and through educational presentations upon request.

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For further information contact Dan Lord, Education and Public Affairs Manager, 334-353-4858.

(NOTE: An arrest or indictment is not evidence that the defendant committed the crime(s) charged. The defendant is presumed innocent until the government meets its burden of proving guilt beyond reasonable doubt in court).

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