

MIKE BEEBE
GOVERNOR

A. HEATH ABSHURE
COMMISSIONER



HERITAGE WEST BUILDING, SUITE 300
201 EAST MARKHAM STREET
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-1692
TELEPHONE: (501) 324-9260
FACSIMILE: (501) 324-9268

ARKANSAS SECURITIES DEPARTMENT

***** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *****

Date: April 19, 2013

Contact Person: J. Campbell McLaurin III

COURT ENTERS TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AGAINST ARKANSAS RESIDENT

On Friday, April 19, 2013, the Circuit Court of Pulaski County, Arkansas entered a Temporary Restraining Order in an action filed by Arkansas Securities Commissioner A. Heath Abshure against Thomas E. James ("James"), currently a Fayetteville resident, and TJames Investments Services ("TJames Investments"), a business trade name used by James.

The Complaint filed by Commissioner Abshure alleged that James solicited an Arkansas resident who was a member of a church in Fort Smith where James was affiliated as an associate pastor to invest at least \$61,500 in a U.S. Treasury Bond Fund that did not actually exist. James fabricated an account statement through TJames Investments showing that the investor was earning a 23.9% quarterly return on her investment. The account statement also represented that James was affiliated with LPL Financial, LLC ("LPL"), a licensed broker-dealer, and that James carried several professional designations in the financial industry. A representative for LPL confirmed to the Arkansas Securities Department ("Department") that James was not affiliated with LPL in any way, and a search by the Staff of the Department revealed that James did not hold the designations listed on the statement. The Complaint stated that James did not invest the money as represented but rather converted the investment funds for his own personal use, including payment for meals, entertainment, clothing, jewelry, electronics, and vacations.

Based on the evidence submitted in the Complaint, Judge Alice S. Gray entered a Temporary Restraining Order against James and TJames Investments pending an open-court hearing on the matter. The Order enjoined the Defendants from committing any further violations of the Arkansas Securities Act, enacted an asset freeze against the Defendants, and barred the Defendants from destroying any evidence related to the case.

The Department expects additional court filings in this matter and is continuing to conduct a detailed investigation into the activities of James and TJames Investments to determine the depth and scope of the potential damages and violations. A copy of the Complaint and the Temporary Restraining Order entered by the Court can be found on the Arkansas Securities Department's website at www.securities.arkansas.gov.