



A D V I S O R Y

It has come to the attention of the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC) that an entity named **MELOT'S CATERING SERVICES**, has been enticing the public to invest their money in its scheme with the promise of high monetary rewards or profits.

Initial verification from the DTI Business Name Registration System (BNRS), **MELOT'S CATERING SERVICES** is a business name registered with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in favor of **MARY ROSE REALES CEPRINO** with DTI Certification No. 2739596.

Based on our investigation, the aforementioned individual has been offering **unregistered securities** in the form of **investment contracts** through Facebook. **Ms. Ceprino** is reportedly enticing the public for "**new financiers**" or "**investors**" purportedly for the **expansion and/or renovation of a kitchen**. Interested investors may invest a minimum amount of **₱50,000, with a guaranteed income of ten percent (10%) monthly interest for a period of six (6) to twelve (12) months**. The investments are covered by an investment contract supported by the issuance of post-dated checks.

Notably, the above described scheme involves the offering and sale of securities to the public in the form of an "*Investment Contract*". Hence, the Securities Regulation Code (SRC) requires that said offer and/or sale of securities must be duly registered with the Commission and that the person and/or agents selling or offering it for sale must have the appropriate registration and/or license to sell such securities to the public pursuant to Section 8 and 28 of the SRC.

Further, the public is hereby informed that the name **Mary Rose Ceprino** has not been issued a Certificate of Registration as registered Associated Person, Compliance Officer, Salesman and/or Certified Investment Solicitor of a Broker Dealer in Securities Investment, Investment House, Underwriter of Securities, Investment Company Adviser, and/or Mutual Fund Distributor.

The SEC reiterates its advice to the public to exercise extreme caution when dealing with entities that offer or promise earnings that appear **too good to be true and NOT TO INVEST or STOP INVESTING** in such schemes.

Any entity found soliciting investments without such license, along with all individuals involved in its promotion, shall be subject to the corresponding administrative, civil, and criminal penalties under the law.

Those who act as salesmen, brokers, dealers or agents, representatives, promoters, recruiters, uplines, influencers, endorsers, abettors and enablers of Christabel Arroyo in soliciting or convincing people to invest in the investment scheme being offered by **Mary Rose Ceprino** including soliciting investments or recruiting investors through

the internet may be held criminally liable under Section 11 of the FCPA and Section 28 of the SRC which are both penalized separately with a maximum fine of Five Million Pesos (Php5,000,000.00) or imprisonment of Twenty One (21) years or both pursuant to Section 73 of the SRC (SEC vs. Oudine Santos, G.R. No. 195542, 19 March 2014).

To verify the legitimacy of the companies and the investment products they offer, the public is advised to visit the checkwithsec.sec.gov.ph or download the **SEC Check APP** on mobile devices.

Should you have any information regarding these scams, you may send your reports to the **Enforcement and Investor Protection Department (EIPD)** through email at epd@sec.gov.ph or visit the EIPD at the 9/F, SEC Headquarters, 7907 Makati Avenue, Salcedo Village, Brgy. Bel-Air, Makati City.

For the information and guidance of the public.

Makati City, 23 October 2025