# PUBLIC ADVISORY

## AGAINST FRAUDULENT ONLINE LENDING PLATFORMS AND MOBILE APPLICATIONS UNAUTHORIZEDLY USING THE NAME OF COPPERSTONE LENDING INC. AND "MOCAMOCA"

The Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), through the Financing and Lending Companies Department ("FinLenD"), warns the public against fraudulent websites, mobile applications, social media pages, and other online platforms unauthorizedly using the name, branding, and identity of Copperstone Lending Inc. and/or "MocaMoca."

Based on the reports and supporting documents submitted to the Commission by Copperstone Lending Inc., several suspicious digital platforms and mobile applications were identified, which allegedly misrepresent themselves as affiliated with or authorized by the Company. The reported activities involve, among others:

- unauthorized use of the Company's corporate identity and branding;
- operation of counterfeit or suspicious online lending applications;
- possible phishing activities and unauthorized collection of personal information;
- misleading representations to borrowers;
- alleged harassment and abusive collection-related activities; and
- possible misuse of consumer data and unauthorized financial transactions.

The Company likewise reported that several consumers complained regarding alleged collection harassment, threats, suspicious loan applications, and fake lending platforms falsely representing themselves as connected with "MocaMoca." Internal verification allegedly conducted by the Company reportedly showed that certain mobile numbers and transactions complained of were not found in the Company's official records and systems.

Among the websites and platforms identified in the submitted report are the following: (a) https://www.buklodservices.com/ (b) https://flowforthventures.com/ (c) https://jitsconstruction.com/; together with a reported unregulated iOS application allegedly using the "MocaMoca" branding.

In view thereof, the public is strongly advised to exercise extreme caution when dealing with online lending platforms, mobile applications, websites, social media pages, and individuals claiming to represent financing or lending companies.

The public is likewise reminded to:
1. Verify first with the Commission whether a financing or lending company is duly registered and authorized to operate;
2. Transact only through official websites, verified applications, and authorized communication channels of registered entities;
3. Avoid clicking suspicious links or downloading applications from unverified sources;
4. Refrain from providing personal information, valid IDs, banking credentials, one-time passwords (OTPs), contact lists, or other sensitive information to unverified entities or applications;
5. Be cautious of applications or individuals demanding advance fees, deposits, penalties, taxes, or other payments before loan release;
6. Immediately report suspicious activities, abusive collection practices, fake lending applications, and possible phishing schemes to the proper authorities.

The Commission also reminds financing and lending companies to continuously monitor and protect their official digital platforms and immediately report unauthorized use of their corporate identities, websites, applications, trademarks, or social media accounts to the appropriate authorities.

For guidance and verification purposes, the public may consult the list of registered financing and lending companies and their reported online lending platforms through the official SEC website and the SEC Check App.

The Commission shall continue to coordinate with the appropriate government agencies and relevant platforms regarding reports of possible fraudulent online lending activities and unauthorized use of corporate identities.

For complaints, reports, or verification requests, the public may contact the SEC through the following official channels:

☏ SEC Hotline: 14732 (14-SEC)

🌐 SEC iMessage Portal: https://imessage.sec.gov.ph

🌐 Official SEC Website: https://www.sec.gov.ph