

FSCA Press Release 15 March 2024

FSCA imposes administrative penalties on My Wealth Dias (Pty) Ltd (My Wealth Dias) and My Wealth Method (Pty) Ltd (My Wealth Method) [the investigated parties] and debars Mr Charl Francois Coetzee.

The Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) has:

- Imposed an administrative penalty of R15 065 852 million on My Wealth Dias;
- Imposed an administrative penalty of R58 793 075 million on My Wealth Method; and
- Debarred Mr Charl Francois Coetzee (Coetzee) for a period of twenty years.

The investigated parties issued, marketed, and sold shares in My Wealth Dias to the public, without being authorised to do so. Members of the public bought the My Wealth Dias shares through the My Wealth Method platform. The investigated parties convinced the public to invest by promising unrealistic returns of up to 400% on the invested funds. The investors' withdrawal requests were not honoured and investors suffered losses with reference to their capital and returns.

There was no legitimate financial product or investment activity that generated the purported returns paid to the investors by My Wealth Method. In essence, My Wealth Method operated a Ponzi scheme. The investigated parties also published misleading information to the effect that they were authorised to conduct the business by the FSCA.

The FSCA found that the investigated parties materially contravened section 11(1) of the Banks Act No. 94 of 1990. My Wealth Method contravened section 7(1)(a) of the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act No. 37 of 2002.

This case illustrates the fact that unrealistic returns is a major red flag, and the public is advised to proceed with caution when faced with an offer amounting to an unrealistic return.

The FSCA reiterates that the investigated parties are fraudulently displaying the FSP licences of My Wealth Financial Services (Pty) Ltd (My Wealth Financial Services), with FSP number 49463, and Regenesys Investment Fund (Pty) Ltd t/a MyWealth Investments (MyWealth Investments), with FSP number 45214. My Wealth Financial Services and MyWealth Investments have both confirmed that there is no relationship between them and the investigated parties.

Members of the public should always check:

- that an entity or individual is authorised by the FSCA to provide financial products and services, including for giving recommendations about how to invest.
- what category of advice the person is registered to provide, as there are instances where companies or people are registered to provide basic advice for a low-risk product and then offer advice on far more complex and risky products.
- that the FSP number utilised by the entity or individual offering financial services matches to name of the FSP on the FSCA database.

One of the following methods may be used to confirm the status and FSP number of a service provider or a person that claims to be an authorised service provider:

1) Toll-free number: 0800 110 443

- 2) Online search for authorised financial institution by license category: https://www.fsca.co.za/Regulated%20Entities/Pages/List-Regulated-Entities-Persons.aspx
- 3) Online search for a financial institution that is an authorised FSP in terms of the FAIS Act: https://www.fsca.co.za/Fais/Search_FSP.htm
- <u>4</u>) Consult with an authorised financial services provider.

ENDS

Enquiries: Financial Sector Conduct Authority

Email address: fsca.co.za

Telephone: 0800 203 722