## **ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION**

770 WASHINGTON AVE, SUITE 570 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4700

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Dendrick Atkins arrested for alleged violations of the Alabama Securities Act

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (November 4, 2005) Honorable Tommy Smith, District Attorney for the  $6^{th}$  Judicial Circuit and Honorable Joseph P. Borg, Director of the Alabama Securities Commission (ASC) announced today the arrest of Dendrick Atkins, a resident of Tuscaloosa County.

Atkins was arrested Friday, October 28, 2005, by the Tuscaloosa County Sheriff's Department as a result of indictments handed down by the September 2005 session of the Tuscaloosa Grand Jury. Atkins was charged with 16 counts of Fraud in Connection with the sale of securities; 15 counts of selling unregistered securities; and 1 count of selling securities in Alabama without being registered as a securities agent.

<u>It is alleged that</u>: Atkins sold notes and investment contracts to investors involving real estate development projects in and around the Tuscaloosa, Alabama area. He solicited investments for his company called Atkins & Associates, a company that purchased and refurbished old homes then sold them for a profit. He issued real estate investment contracts to citizens of Alabama which collected investment dollars and promised to pay a profit on the principal investment after a period of time.

Atkins was released on the same day of his arrest on a \$160,000 bond and is awaiting trial.

The Director of the Alabama Securities Commission (ASC) cautions potential investors to thoroughly check out any investment opportunity. Contact ASC for inquiries regarding securities broker-dealers, agents, investment advisors, investment advisor representatives, financial planners, the registration status of securities, to report suspected fraud, or obtain consumer information:

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(Note: An indictment itself is not evidence that the defendants committed the crimes charged. The defendants are presumed innocent until the Government meets its burden in court of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.)

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If you have questions or require more information contact: Daniel G. Lord, Education and Public Affairs Manager