



# Office of the Indiana Secretary of State

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Victims of Ponzi scam artist Keenan Hauke to receive \$2.1 million in restitution**  
*Asset freeze by the Secretary of State made repayment possible*

INDIANAPOLIS (May 1, 2015) – Victims of money manager Keenan Hauke’s Ponzi scheme will receive \$2.1 million in restitution thanks to an asset freeze by Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson’s office. Keenan Hauke was a prominent money manager from Fishers who managed Samex Capital Partners LLC. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison in December 2011 for securities fraud. Although Hauke is behind bars, the cleanup has continued to try to return significant portions of investor losses, totaling over \$9 million.

“Thanks to the quick action of my Securities team, Hauke’s assets were frozen within days of discovering the scheme, allowing us to recover a greater portion of investors’ losses” said Secretary Lawson. “We have now been able to return a total of \$3.1 million to victims by freezing and selling his assets, including a condo in Barbados that Hauke purchased with investor money.”

Ninety-seven investors will receive a pro-rata distribution of the \$2.1 million. Since June of 2011, the Secretary of State’s office has worked with the receiver, William E. Wendling Jr. and counsel to the receiver, Scott Starr, to recoup as much money as possible for Hauke’s investors. The victims have already received a \$1 million distribution. The funds have been recovered through asset freezes, marshaling of other accounts and clawback litigation. The Secretary of State’s office and the receiver have worked together to optimize the recovery and return Hauke’s ill-gotten gains to investors.

“In most Ponzi schemes, the perpetrator has spent a majority of his investor’s money, leaving very little for victims to recover, often pennies on the dollar,” said Carol Mihalik, Indiana Securities Commissioner. “The Hauke case highlights how an instant asset freeze can maximize recovery efforts. In this case, we were able to return approximately 34 percent of investors’ total claims.”

In addition to the \$3.1 million recovered, several Hauke victims have also received money from the Secretary of State’s Securities Restitution Fund. This fund helps victims of securities fraud recover a portion of their losses and was the first of its kind in the nation. Over \$42,000 has been returned to 4 separate Hauke victims. More of Hauke’s victims plan to apply for repayment from the fund now that the receiver has completed his work.

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