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PRESS RELEASE --
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BUSINESSMAN CONVICTED OF INVESTMENT FRAUD

Colm F. Connolly, United States Attorney for the District of Delaware, announced that George W. Blood, formerly of Bel Air, Maryland, was convicted of twelve counts of fraud and money laundering. The Defendant faces up to 105 years in prison. He was ordered to forfeit \$120,000, and a home in Bel Air, Maryland, which was purchased with the proceeds of the fraud.

Blood, age 70, participated in a business (Greystone International, formerly located at 1005 Elkton Road, Newark, Delaware) that solicited investments in "private placement capital enhancement systems" that involved purported returns on investments of more than 100% per year. The returns were supposedly generated by trading activities among the largest banks in the world, in a system to which only the extremely wealthy had access. Two investors from South Carolina, and one from Florida, testified that the Defendant described the investment opportunity to them, in which the three together invested \$400,000. The Defendant told them there was no risk involved with the investment. Evidence at trial showed that other victims invested an additional \$2,000,000. The investments were in the nature of a Ponzi scheme, with earlier investors obtaining substantial returns which were actually just the monies from the later investors. The three witnesses invested near the end of the scheme, which operated in 1999 and 2000, and lost all but \$30,000 of their investments.

Mr. Connolly stated that this case proved the merit of the adage, "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

The Court set a sentencing date of January 3, 2006. The Defendant is in federal custody pending sentencing.

The case was principally investigated by the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigations in Wilmington, assisted at times by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and an Investigator from the Delaware Attorney General's Office.

The case was tried before the Honorable Kent A. Jordan and an United States District Court jury, and prosecuted by First Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard G. Andrews and Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas E. McCann. For further information, please contact FAUSA Andrews at 302-573-6197.