

I am the Deputy District Attorney prosecuting Riverside County case RIF1203614, *People v. Ralph Solis*. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of recent developments in the case and to solicit information from you for the purpose of sentencing. Please share this information with anyone you know who invested money with Ralph Solis, as my list may be incomplete.

On July 24, 2013 Ralph Solis entered guilty pleas to four counts of grand theft, one count of operating a business for the purpose of committing securities fraud, and various enhancements related to the amount of money taken. During the plea, Solis admitted to having operated a Ponzi scheme involving the sale of fraudulent and fictitious trust deeds.

On August 16, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in Department 63 of the Riverside County Superior Court, he will be sentenced to 15 years in state prison.

In addition to that sentence, Solis will be ordered to pay restitution to all victims of his Ponzi scheme. In reality, I don't expect that anyone will receive any money. No assets were discovered in our investigation, and Solis was discovered living with family in a mobile home park. Our analysis of his bank records do not indicate that any money was hidden or transferred – most of it was put back into the Ponzi scheme and what wasn't was spent on lifestyle. However, it is important that Solis be ordered to pay full restitution even if it is unlikely he will ever make anyone whole. Money put into his prison account will be garnished, and it is possible he will get out of prison and earn money sometime in the future.

Please contact me as soon as possible, preferably by email, with a statement regarding your financial loss as a result of investing with Ralph Solis. If I don't already have the information, and you don't contact me, I can't secure a restitution order for you. If you do not provide me with this information, you will need to appear in court to request a modification of the restitution order at some future date. Since the defendant is being sentenced to prison, it may not be possible or practical to transport him back to Riverside for a future restitution hearing.

What may and must be ordered as restitution is defined in California Penal Code §1202.4. Restitution reflects a loss directly attributable to the crime incurred by a victim of that crime. It typically must be a measurable out of pocket loss. Further, a defendant is entitled to a restitution hearing to challenge the amount ordered by the court.

I encourage you to submit an amount reflecting your net loss and to only submit an amount that you could prove by testimony and documentation should a restitution hearing become necessary. **The restitution amount you request should be the amount of money you gave Solis minus whatever he gave back to you, any costs incurred assisting authorities in the investigation, and actual and reasonable attorney fees incurred in an attempt to recover money civilly.**

In addition to victim restitution, victims of crime may make a victim impact statement in court to the sentencing Judge. In this case, the plea was negotiated between me, Solis and his attorney, and he is receiving the maximum sentence for the charges he admitted

to, so there is no need to convince the Judge to give him a particular sentence. However, if any victim feels the need or desire to make a statement in court, you'll need to contact me in advance to let me know. Due to the number of potential speakers, I would encourage you to keep your remarks brief, a minute or two at most.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience with the following information:

My net loss on money given to Solis is \$_____.

I incurred the following additional costs_____.

I do/do not wish to speak at the sentencing hearing.

You may contact me by email at daallen@rivcoda.org. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at 951-955-5441.