

necessary, and for the purposes of this Act the Attorney General, or an Assistant Attorney General duly authorized by him, shall have power to require by subpoena or summons, the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of any books, accounts, records, papers and correspondence relating to any matter which the Attorney General is authorized by this Act to consider or investigate. The Attorney General or his duly authorized assistant, may sign subpoenas, administer oaths and affirmations, examine witnesses and receive evidence. In case of disobedience to a subpoena or of the contumacy of any witness appearing before the Attorney General or his duly authorized Assistant Attorney General, the Attorney General may invoke the aid of the Circuit Court of any of the counties of the State of Maryland, or of the Superior Court of Baltimore City. Such court may thereupon issue an order requiring the person subpoenaed to obey the subpoena or to give evidence or produce books, accounts, records, papers and correspondence touching the matter in question. Any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof. In the case of a failure or refusal of any person, partnership or corporation concerned in the issuance, sale, offer for sale, promotion, advertisement or distribution of any stocks, bonds, notes, shares, profit sharing agreements, service agreements, membership certificates and trustees certificates, or other securities within the State of Maryland, to file any statement or to furnish any information, books, papers or records required by the Attorney General, or his duly authorized assistant, to be filed or furnished in connection with such investigation under this Act, the Attorney General may issue his order under Section 12 of this Act.

12. The Attorney General may, upon evidence satisfactory to him, that in the issue, sale, promotion, negotiation, advertisement of, or distribution of any stock, bonds, notes, shares, profit sharing agreements, service agreements, membership certificates and trustees certificates, or other securities within the State of Maryland, any person, partnership or corporation is employing or is about to employ any device, scheme or artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property by means of any false or fraudulent pretense, representation or promise, issue and cause to be served upon such person, partnership or corporation an order requiring the party guilty thereof to cease and desist therefrom. If it shall appear to the Attorney General that an irreparable public injury is imminent, unless such order is issued before a full investigation can be made pending such investigation, he may issue such order, but the same shall be accompanied with a request for information as to the facts relied on in issuing the order, and such temporary order shall only remain in force until such information is furnished and two days there-