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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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INVESTMENT FRAUD ALLEGED AGAINST CANYON COUNTY WOMAN

Refunds Sought In Case Against Former Stockbroker

Boise, Idaho . . . Gavin Gee, Director of the Idaho Department of Finance, announced the filing of a civil securities lawsuit against Theresa Bentura Oldham, a former securities salesperson who resides in Middleton, Idaho. The case was filed in Third District Court in Caldwell, Idaho by the Department.

The lawsuit alleges that Oldham, who was a licensed securities representative for much of the past twelve years, offered and sold unregistered securities, while also selling securities during times she was not licensed to do so. The suit also alleges that Oldham violated the antifraud provisions of the Idaho Securities Act and that her fraudulent acts resulted in significant losses to investment victims. More specifically, the complaint alleges that Oldham:

- a) engaged in fraudulent acts, practices or a course of business, which operated as a fraud or deceit upon investment clients;
- b) offered and sold some securities that were fictitious and not associated with any legitimate investment;
- c) failed to inform some investors that their investment funds would not be invested, but would be misappropriated by Oldham and converted to her own use;
- d) failed to inform investors that some or all marketing materials, investor account statements and summaries she provided to investors were false or unauthorized for use by the companies named therein; and
- e) represented to investors that they were investing in legitimate securities that Oldham had authority to offer and sell, when in fact the securities were fictitious and she had no authority from the companies she implicated to offer and sell such securities.

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The Department's lawsuit seeks an order from the court permanently enjoining Oldham from future violations of the securities laws, limitations on future business activities and restitution to affected investors, as well as civil penalties and attorney fees.

While known losses are alleged to approach \$90,000, the suit also alleges that other unidentified investors and associated losses may be discovered. Clients who believe that they may have suffered losses are encouraged to contact the Department of Finance at (208) 332-8000.

The Idaho Department of Finance cautions Idaho residents to make sure that the investments and investment professionals with whom they deal are registered.

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Department of Finance Press Releases and other information can be found on the Internet via the worldwide web at <http://finance.state.id.us> and may be obtained by contacting the Department at (208) 332-8004 or Idaho toll-free at 1-888-346-3378.