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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SCAM JAM COMING TO McCALL APRIL 21

*Idaho Department of Finance Joins Forces with the Idaho Commission on Aging
and the Idaho Scam Jam Alliance for this Free 2016 Conference*

Boise, Idaho The Idaho Department of Finance is co-sponsoring Idaho's 2016 McCall Scam Jam Conference on Thursday, April 21st at **Idaho First Bank, 475 East Deinhard Lane, McCall, Idaho**. This popular conference, the first of four to be held in Idaho in 2016, will host a variety of topics, including information on preventing financial fraud including investment fraud and identity theft avoidance tips.

The Idaho Scam Jam Alliance is a broad based coalition of non-profit organizations and state agencies with the goal of educating and arming the public with the tools they need to identify and stay protected from fraud and identity theft.

Doors will open at 8 a.m. and the conference kicks off at 9 a.m. with opening ceremonies conducted by **Master of Ceremonies Sherry Maupin, Vice President/Branch Manager of Idaho First Bank**. The keynote speaker for the event is **AARP Idaho State Director, Lupe Wissel**. The conference runs until 3:45 p.m., when there will be a drawing for door prizes and includes a complimentary lunch and refreshments.

Those interested in attending may register through AARP by April 20th by calling toll free **1-877-926-8300** or online at http://aarp.cvent.com/ID_ScamJamMcCall or on the department's calendar of events located at <http://finance.idaho.gov/Calendar.aspx>.

The sponsors and supporters that have joined together to offer this free Scam Jam Conference include, the **Idaho Department of Finance**, the **Better Business Bureau (BBB)**, the **Idaho Department of Insurance**, **SHIBA**, the **City of McCall**, the **American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)**, **Justice Alliance for Vulnerable Adults (JAVA)**, **Idaho Legal Aid Services, Inc. (Boise)** and local host **Idaho First Bank**. The conference is primarily funded through a grant obtained by the **Idaho Commission on Aging's Senior Medicare Patrol Program**.

The Scam Jam will address Medicare fraud, financial scams, and tips on how to avoid being a victim of identity theft. Attendees will also learn how to recognize and avoid exploitation that can jeopardize their financial future. Department of Finance Securities Bureau Supervising Investigator, **Coleen Hodson**, will offer a presentation on *The Chilling Effects of Investment Fraud* during a breakout session. The department also will have a booth where attendees can receive free educational information on investment, mortgage, cybersecurity, and consumer finance.

In addition to the Department of Finance's participation, experts presenting at the conference include representatives from the **McCall Sheriff's Department**, the **McCall Postal Inspector**, and the **Idaho State Tax Commission**.

The McCall Scam Jam is the first of four fraud prevention conferences being conducted by the Idaho Scam Jam Alliance. Conferences planned in 2016 will be in Coeur d'Alene on May 19th and two fall Scam Jams that are currently in the planning stages. Further information regarding the upcoming Scam Jams will be provided on the Department of Finance website.

Consumers can obtain information about financial firms, professionals or products, as well as view more department press releases and other information on the Internet at <http://finance.idaho.gov> or by contacting the department at (208) 332-8000 or Idaho toll-free at 1-888-346-3378.