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## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

August 26, 2004

### **IDAHO TO RECEIVE \$337,500 IN SETTLEMENT WITH DEUTSCHE BANK SECURITIES AND THOMAS WEISEL PARTNERS**

BOISE, IDAHO – Under the terms of settlements announced today between securities regulators and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and Thomas Weisel Partners LLC, Idaho stands to receive \$337,500 upon final acceptance of the terms of the agreement said Gavin Gee, Director of the Idaho Department of Finance. The settlements result from allegations of conflicts of interest at brokerage houses where analysts recommended stocks due to improper influence from their investment banking colleagues.

Gee made the announcement following investigations of the two firms by the California Department of Corporations, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, NASD, Inc., and the New York Stock Exchange. The settlements are related to the April 2003 Global Settlement that ten other investment banks reached with the state, federal and industry regulators.

Deutsche Bank will pay a total of \$87.5 million: \$25 million in disgorgement of profits, \$25 million as a penalty for various conflicts of interest, \$25 million to fund independent research, \$5 million to fund and promote investor education, and \$7.5 million for failing to promptly produce e-mails and thereby delaying by over a year the investigation as to Deutsche Bank. Thomas Weisel Partners will pay a total of \$12.5 million: \$5 million in disgorgement of profits, \$5 million as a penalty for various conflicts of interest, and \$2.5 million to fund independent research.

Gee said the investigations of Deutsche Bank and Thomas Weisel Partners, together with the 2003 Global Settlement, are part of a comprehensive regulatory effort to reform the relationship between investment banking and research and to manage appropriately conflicts of interest. “Today’s settlements represent a significant step in our continuing efforts to ensure that investors are treated fairly and provided with objective research,” Gee said.

Under the terms of the settlement, Deutsche Bank is also required to distribute \$2.5 million to the Investor Protection Trust (IPT), which will use the money to fund investor education initiatives on the state and national levels. The IPT is an established charitable organization with experience handling settlement funds and a history of investor education successes.

The settlements were negotiated by California, the District of Columbia and Maryland and unanimously recommended by the Board of Directors of the North American Securities Administrators Association. “These enforcement actions, coupled with pending reforms in the mutual fund industry, should help to restore investor confidence,” Gee said.

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