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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

October 24, 2001

WEISER MAN CONSENTS TO PERMANENT INJUNCTION FOR SECURITIES LAW VIOLATIONS Restitution Of Over \$560,000 Ordered For Affected Idaho Investors

Boise, Idaho . . . Gavin Gee, Director of the Idaho Department of Finance, today announced that the honorable Stephen W. Drescher, District Judge of the Third Judicial District Court in Weiser, Idaho entered a Judgment and Permanent Injunction against Ellis G. Martin. Martin operates as The Body Shop Fitness Center, with facilities in Weiser and Payette.

Martin admitted to the violations contained in the State's lawsuit and consented to the entry of a permanent injunction and judgment that includes a) an order of restitution in the amount over \$560,000, and b) restrictions on his future business dealings in Idaho.

The complaint had alleged that Martin offered and sold to Idaho residents investments in various business ventures, including The Body Shop Fitness Centers, in the form of investment contracts or promissory notes. In part, the suit alleged, and Martin admitted, that he:

a) violated the registration and anti-fraud provisions of the Idaho Securities Act;

b) failed to provide pertinent information relative to the investments, including:

- failing to inform offerees and/or investors of his financial condition and how investor proceeds would be applied;
- failing to disclose to investors the nature and amounts of any compensation Martin would receive through the investment programs;
- failing to disclose the risks associated with the investment;

- failing to disclose to investors that the investments were not registered with the Department as required by Idaho law;
- failing to disclose to investors that he was not registered with the Idaho Department of Finance as a securities salesman as required by Idaho law.

Department of Finance Press Releases and other information can be found on the Internet via the worldwide web at *http://finance.state.id.us/consumer/consumer_home.asp* and may be obtained by contacting the Department at (208) 332-8080 or Idaho toll-free at 1-888-346-3378.