

**ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**770 WASHINGTON AVE., SUITE 570**  
**MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4700**  
**Telephone: (334) 242-2984 or 1-800-222-1253 Fax: (334) 242-0240**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **INVESTOR ALERT**

### **INVESTORS CAUTIONED TO BE WARY OF SECURITIES SETTLEMENT OFFERS**

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (October 31, 2007) The Alabama Securities Commission (ASC) has received information concerning possible illegal solicitations that could target Alabama investors. Stock Validation Bureau, allegedly based in Lexington, Alabama, asserts that it engages in “claim filing and fund recovery service for commercial and securities class-action settlements.”

Research revealed this entity has no known physical address in Alabama and exists solely via its website. There is no indication or guarantee of the legitimacy of the website or of the services offered. Initial information about Stock Validation Bureau came from sources in South Africa who questioned the veracity of the entity’s offer to stockholders in their country. Allegedly, potential victims are solicited to send money to “register” their stocks or to verify ownership of shares in order to expedite their sale to American investors. Stock Validation Bureau directs individuals to send their money to a fictitious Colorado address. The entity maintains no known physical address in Colorado.

ASC Director, Joseph Borg, cautions all Alabama citizens to avoid being victimized by suspicious investment deals by investigating before they invest. “These types of offers appear to be little more than an attempt to get investors’ money up front,” Borg said. “Avoid becoming a fraud victim by checking with our office first, before you send your hard-earned money to a stranger.”

The ASC encourages anyone who feels they may be affected by such offerings or anyone who may have been previously approached or contacted by representatives of this company or other companies offering similar services to immediately contact the Commission’s Enforcement Division at 1-800-222-1253.

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Those with questions or concerns about securities broker-dealers, agents, investment advisors, investment advisor representatives, financial planners, the registration status of securities, suspected fraud or those seeking consumer information are also encouraged to contact the ASC.

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For further information contact Dan Lord, Education and Public Affairs Manager, 334-353-4858.

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