

ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION
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ALABAMA JOINS IN NATIONAL INVESTOR EDUCATION INITIATIVE

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (March 30, 2009) – Joseph Borg, Director of the Alabama Securities Commission, announced today that representatives from the Securities Commission are taking part in a national grass-roots investor education campaign during the month of April, to help provide investors with the information they need to make wise financial decisions and protect themselves from financial fraud.

The month-long investor education campaign, the ‘Facts on Saving and Investing Campaign,’ began as a joint effort of state and Canadian provincial securities regulators about 11 years ago.

Borg said, “We are pleased once again to partner with members of the Alabama Jump\$tart Coalition to visit schools, participate in media events and to generate an awareness in all citizens of Alabama to learn and apply proven savings and investment strategies. Effective management of income and assets will have a major impact on the quality of life today and tomorrow. Also, the Commission and most members of the Alabama Jump\$tart Coalition are proud to provide a vast array of professionally produced educational materials free of charge.”

“With difficult economic times, a turbulent stock market, longer life expectancies, and uncertain future of Social Security and pension plans, smart planning for retirement is more vital than ever,” said Borg. Financial education has never been more important. Investors need to understand the basics of saving and investing, know how to check out an investment or salesperson and how to protect themselves against possible fraud.”

“It is never too early, or too late, to start saving and investing for your future” said Borg, whose staff is available to visit high schools and colleges, make presentations to all types of organizations representing a wide cross-section of Alabama citizens, and conduct news media interviews this April. All of these activities occur year round to educate Alabamians about topics like investing, credit and fraud prevention. “Making smart financial choices – from using credit wisely to saving for retirement and avoiding fraud – is the best way to ensure you can meet your financial goals,” says Borg.

On March 27, 2009, Hon. Governor Riley of Alabama signed a proclamation declaring the month of April 2009 as ‘Facts on Saving and Investing Campaign Month.’ You may view a copy of the proclamation at www.asc.alabama.gov in the Investor Education and Fraud Prevention Area.

For more information about the Alabama Jump\$tart Coalition contact the Commission’s Education and Public Affairs Division or visit the ASC website at www.asc.alabama.gov and check out the Alabama Jump\$tart Coalition through the “Helpful Websites for Investors” section.

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The Alabama Securities Commission enforces Alabama securities laws, licenses/registers brokers, firms, and securities products, provides background reports on financial professionals and promotes investor education and fraud prevention programs.

Potential investors can contact the Alabama Securities Commission for inquiries regarding securities broker-dealers, agents, investment advisors, investment advisor representatives, financial planners, the registration status of securities, to report suspected fraud, or obtain consumer information:

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