## ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION 770 WASHINGTON AVE, SUITE 570 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4700

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## **ALABAMA** JOINS IN NATIONAL INVESTOR EDUCATION INITIATIVE

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (April 18, 2007) – 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 this month, 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 9 years ago.

Borg said, "We are pleased once again to partner with 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 the Alabama Jump\$tart Coalition are proud to provide a vast array of professionally produced educational materials, all are free of charge."

"With a recovering stock market, longer life expectancies and the uncertain future of Social Security, smart planning for retirement is more vital than ever," said Borg. "We are now a nation of over 85 million investors. 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, make presentations to business, professional and civic organizations throughout Alabama and conduct news media interviews this April. All of these activities occur year round to educate Alabamians about 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 April 27<sup>th</sup> Hon. Governor Riley of Alabama will hold a proclamation signing ceremony in the Old Archive Room at the State Capitol to help promote the Facts on Saving and Investment Campaign. The Governor will once again proclaim the month of April as Facts on Saving and Investing Campaign Month.

For more information about personal finance education go to the Alabama Jump\$tart Coalition website at <a href="www.aljumpstart.org">www.aljumpstart.org</a>, contact the Commission's Education and Public Affairs Division, or visit the ASC website at <a href="www.asc.state.al.us">www.asc.state.al.us</a>.

The Alabama Securities Commission enforces Alabama securities laws, licenses/registers brokers, firms, and securities products, provides background reports on financial professionals and promotes grass-roots investor education 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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If you have questions or require more information contact:

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