ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION

Post Office Box 304700 Montgomery, Alabama 36130-4700

Telephone: (334) 242-2984 or 1-800-222-1253 Fax: (334) 242-0240 Email: asc@asc.alabama.gov Website: www.asc.alabama.gov

ASC Issues Hot Con Watch; Breaking the Corona Fever

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (June 24, 2020) – The Alabama Securities Commission (ASC) barred Corona Fever Invest, a cryptocurrency trading firm, from operating in Alabama for using deceptive advertisements and failing to register with the ASC. Corona Fever Invest promoted a bitcoin investment software using phony representations and forged customer testimonials. The company falsely claims their investment program will earn investors generous profits fast, beat the market and provide protection from economic downturns. Corona Fever Invest is allegedly located in Canada and operates using the web address www..coronafeverinvest..com.

"The fraudsters behind the Corona Fever Invest scheme are using headlines and buzz words to turn a quick profit," said ASC Director Joseph P. Borg. "When it comes to investing, never be fooled by promises and always do your research."

Alabama law requires that most investment products and professionals register with the ASC. The vital first step when researching a financial professional and product is calling the ASC to confirm their registration. Avoid anyone claiming their investment involves no risk and is guaranteed to make you money. By nature, all investing involves risk because there are no guarantees.

Alabama Investors can check the Con Watch area of the ASC website for individuals and companies that are in violation of Alabama Securities Laws and attempting to defraud the public. The ASC also launched a new email address to encourage public reporting of fraudulent COVID-19 scams. Investors who see or suspect that they fell victim to COVID-19 related investment scams can directly report them by email to COVIDCONS@asc.alabama.gov. The ASC is a participant in an international task force created as a proactive measure to protect U.S., Canadian, and Alabama residents from COVID-19 investment scams.

The ASC cautions citizen investors of all ages and experience to thoroughly scrutinize and research any investment opportunity or offer. Contact the ASC at 1-800-222-1253 to check out any person or financial professional offering an investment opportunity or investment advice for a fee, and the products they offer for proper registration. Contact the ASC to report suspected fraud, inappropriate securities business practices or to obtain consumer information. The ASC provides free investor education and fraud prevention materials in print, on our website and through educational presentations upon request.

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

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STATE OF ALABAMA ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:)	
CORONAFEVERINVEST) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDE) NO. CD-2020-0012	ER.
RESPONDENT	<u>`</u>	

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

The Alabama Securities Commission ("Commission"), having the authority to administer and provide for the enforcement of all provisions of Title 8, Chapter 6, Code of Alabama 1975, the Alabama Securities Act ("Act"), upon due consideration of the subject matter hereof, has determined as follows:

RESPONDENT

1. CORONAFEVERINVEST ("CORONA FEVER") is an online entity that purports to be a cryptocurrency trading platform accessible to Alabama residents via the website www.coronafeverinvest.com and may be served through its domain provider; Tucows.com, located at 96 Mowat Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M6K3M1, Canada.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 2. **CORONA FEVER** offers and promotes a cryptocurrency trading software purporting to be a hedge against downturns in the securities markets, using an internet website: www.coronafeverinvest.com. This website reaches individuals worldwide, including residents of Alabama.
- 3. On May 26, 2020, Commission staff discovered the website: www.coronfeverinvest.com. The website contains language that describes the software:

"The Corona Fever is a Bitcoin and cryptocurrency trading software that has both automated and manual trading modes. The automated trading option executes trades for users automatically after generating signals with the help of the advanced algorithms built into the software. Once you set up your trading parameters of the software, the auto trading robot takes over to analyze the market

using technical tools, it will point out profitable trading opportunities, and execute the trading order for you. When you select the manual mode, you will handle the trades by yourself, however, the trading bot generates the signals for you to act on."

Additionally, the **CORONA FEVER** website claims that the software's purported algorithm allows it to:

"generate highly accurate and profitable trading signal, even at a time when the markets are currently so volatile."

The alleged automated trading mode is purportedly designed for a trading bot to open and close trades for the user to increase profitability. The algorithm is purportedly designed to efficiently analyze market data so that profitability can be attained in down markets. According to the CORONA FEVER website:

"The Corona Fever software has a nearly precise and accurate analysis rate of over 99.4% making it the most efficient cryptocurrency trading tool. The programming language deployed when developing Corona Fever is one of the most advanced in the world. The sophisticated algorithm allows Corona Fever to stay ahead of the market by 0.01 seconds..."

4 **CORONA FEVER** solicits interested parties to participate in the platform by navigating the website to the "Sign-Up" section and completing the short registration form. Users are instructed to deposit a minimum of \$250.00 into an account that will be utilized for trading capital. After funding the account, the users are asked to set trading parameters and told that the automated trading bot will analyze market data and execute orders. Users can also enter orders manually based on signals that the automated trading bot generates. The website represents that:

"When you register and start using the Corona Fever software with real cash, you stand to make upwards of \$1,300.00 per day in pure profits. There is no set profit cap when using the Corona Fever software to trade Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies. Some of our members earned their first million within a few months of registering and using our software."

In further efforts to solicit interest parties, the **CORONA FEVER** website contains several purported testimonials from users. One of those purported testimonials, allegedly quotes Devon T. from Montgomery, Alabama:

"With the stock and forex market all losing at the moment, I sought to hedge my money with a suitable asset, and I found Corona Fever software. This software is unique as it allows me to use my trading capital to trade cryptocurrency CFD's and to earn profits daily while trading them. These are the best trading results I've had after a decade in the stock market! Crypto Fever really works – thank you."

- 5. On May 28, 2020, a review of the registration files of the Alabama Securities Commission revealed no registration, nor any perfected exemption from registration, for **CORONA FEVER**.
- 6. A corporation search of the Alabama Secretary of State's online website revealed no registration for **CORONA FEVER** as a business entity or foreign corporation authorized to do business in the State of Alabama.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 7. Pursuant to Section 8-6-2(18), <u>Code of Alabama 1975</u>, an Investment Adviser is any person who advises others, either directly or indirectly, as to the value of, or the advisability of investing in securities. The definition also includes those who manage securities accounts or portfolios for clients. **CORONA FEVER** purports to operate an automated trading program in which they manage accounts to hedge against securities market volatility. **CORONA FEVER** is an Investment Adviser under the Act.
- 8. Pursuant to Section 8-6-17(b)(4), <u>Code of Alabama 1975</u>, it is unlawful for any person advising another person as to the value of securities or their purchase or sale to engage in dishonest or unethical practices. **CORONA FEVER** has caused performance information to be contained on their website that has unsupported claims of investment performance and unrealistic predictions of market profitability which constitutes unethical and dishonest practices in violation of the Act.
- 9. Pursuant to Section 8-6-17(b)(4), <u>Code of Alabama 1975</u>, it is unlawful for any person advising another person as to the value of securities or their purchase or sale to engage in dishonest or unethical practices. **CORONA FEVER** has caused unsubstantiated and unsupported

testimonials to be displayed on their website which constitutes an unethical and dishonest practice in violation of the Act.

This Order does not prevent the Commission from seeking other civil or criminal remedies that are available to it under the Act.

This Order is appropriate in the public interest for the protection of investors and is consistent with the purposes of the Act.

Additionally, if the allegations set forth herein are found to be true, through either administrative adjudication, failure of the RESPONDENT to make a timely request for hearing, or default of the RESPONDENT, it is the intention of the Commission to impose sanctions upon the RESPONDENT. Such sanctions may include, inter alia, an administrative assessment imposed on RESPONDENT, an additional administrative assessment for investigative cost arising from the investigation of the violation(s) described herein against RESPONDENT, and a permanent order to bar RESPONDENT from participation in any securities related industry in the state of Alabama.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that RESPONDENT immediately CEASE AND DESIST from further offers or sales of investment advice into, within or from the state of Alabama.

Entered at Montgomery, Alabama, this 19th day of 2020

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P.O. Box 304700

Montgomery, AL 36130-4700

(334) 242-2984

BY:

Joseph P. Borg

Director

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