

ALABAMA SECURITIES COMMISSION

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Alabama Securities Director Nominated to Financial Modernization Task Force

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA (June 9, 2010) - Joseph P. Borg, Director of the Alabama Securities Commission, has been selected to participate on a national task force with other securities experts from government and industry to examine and recommend changes to the Securities Investors Protection Corporation (SIPC). SIPC is a nonprofit corporation, established by Congress under the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970 that insures the securities and cash in the customer accounts of member brokerage firms against the failure of those firms. All brokers registered with the Securities Exchange Commission and with national stock exchanges are required to be members of SIPC. When a brokerage firm is closed due to bankruptcy or other financial difficulties and customer assets are missing, SIPC steps in as quickly as possible and, within certain limits, works to return customers' cash, stock and other securities. Without SIPC, investors at financially troubled brokerage firms might lose their securities or money forever or wait for years while their assets are tied up in court. SIPC does not protect investors against market risks.

The Securities Investors Protection Corporation (SIPC) has formed a "Modernization Task Force" to explore reforms to the Securities Investor Protection Act (SIPA). SIPC created the task force after coming under scrutiny at a December 2009 hearing of the Capital Markets Subcommittee of the US Congress. A letter from Congressman Paul E. Kanjorski (D-PA), Chairman of the House Financial Services Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises urged SIPC to consider internal reforms, called for the inclusion of investors on the panel, and requested that the task force look comprehensively at how best to protect investors.

Borg said, "I am honored to participate and contribute to the success of this task force in an effort to promote modernization of and encourage a fair market opportunity for all investors."

The SIPC Modernization Task Force will conduct its first meeting Thursday, June 17, 2010 in Washington, DC.

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

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