

The State of New Hampshire

Mailing Address

State House Room 204
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-4989
Telephone (603) 271-1463
Facsimile (603) 271-7933



Location

State House Annex
25 Capitol St.
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Department of State Bureau of Securities Regulation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTACT: Scott Kirby
Communications Director
(603) 271-6837**

New Hampshire Securities Regulators Warn Investors of Ongoing Voice Message "Wrong Number" Scam

Concord, N.H. (September 30, 2004) - The New Hampshire Bureau of Securities Regulation is warning New Hampshire investors today that scam artists are currently operating a clever voice message scam within the state. Scott Kirby, Bureau Communications Director, said the agency has received several complaints in recent days of citizens receiving messages from strangers who appear to be unaware they have reached a wrong number. A female caller leaves a familiar message as if she believes she has dialed a girlfriend, and then leaves a message confiding inside information learned from a close friend who is a stock broker.

Regulators believe these voice mails are part of a "pump and dump" stock manipulation scheme, whereby the people behind the messages intend to profit by driving up the price of their targeted stocks, then selling, and leaving victims with losses. Kirby said the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has received hundreds of complaints from across the country in recent months but the calls only recently began showing up in New Hampshire.

"As with most investor scams, if it sounds too good to be true, it usually is," said Kirby. "If you get one of these calls, we would appreciate getting information on the stock being touted and the originating phone number if possible."

The N.H. Securities Department Hotline is 1-800-994-4200.

TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964