

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTACT: Jeff Spill
Deputy Director
(603) 271-1463**

**NH SECURITIES BUREAU TAKES ACTION AGAINST JAFFREY
RESIDENTS FOR FRAUD AND LICENSING VIOLATIONS
SEEKS CEASE AND DESIST, BAR, FINE, COST RECOVERY, AND RESTITUTION**

CONCORD, NH (May 22, 2014) – Today, the New Hampshire Bureau of Securities Regulation announced the initiation of an enforcement action against Jaffrey residents Charles H. Howard, III, his wife Carolyn C. Howard, and their jointly-owned company Howard Interests.

The Bureau alleges that, from October 2002 to December 2012, Charles H. Howard, III and Howard Interests engaged in unlicensed investment advisory activity, engaged in unlicensed broker-dealer activity, and committed securities fraud. The Bureau alleges that Carolyn Howard engaged in the illegal activity as a control person of Howard Interests. As part of its action, the Bureau is seeking a permanent cease and desist, a permanent bar from licensure, a fine of \$150,000, recovery of the Bureau's costs of \$50,000, and restitution to victims in an amount to be determined by a hearing officer at a future date.

The Bureau's Staff Petition for Relief alleges that several hundred thousand dollars in fees were illegally collected by the Howards and that their illegal activity resulted in several hundred thousand dollars in losses.

As this is the commencement of the Bureau's enforcement action, the Howards have thirty days to contest these allegations by request a hearing.

Anyone with information about these activities is encouraged to contact the Bureau at (603) 271-1463.

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