5251 Duke St, Suite 400 PO Box 458 Halifax, NS B3J 2P8 tel:(902) 424-7768 fax: (902) 424-4625 nssc.novascotia.ca

April 28, 2016

Commission issues decision against Stratus Financial Group International

Halifax - The Nova Scotia Securities Commission issued its decision against Stratus and representatives Magnus Torgerson, John Westbrook, Mark Stone and Teddy Stone.

Stratus and its representatives violated securities laws by facilitating the purchase or sale of investments without being registered with the commission and by engaging in unfair practice while trying to illegally solicit investments.

The commission's decision orders administrative penalties against:

- Stratus for \$50,000
- Mr. Torgerson for \$40,000
- Mr. Westbrook for \$25,000
- Mr. Mark Stone for \$25,000
- Mr. Teddy Stone for \$25,000
- The company and its representatives are also ordered to pay costs in connection with the commission proceedings of \$3,000

"It is important to demonstrate to Stratus, Torgerson, Westbrook, Stone and Stone and others the consequences of their inappropriate conduct. It is also extremely important to deter this type of conduct by others in the future," said the commission in its decision.

The commission urges Nova Scotians to use caution when dealing with firms and people that are not registered in Nova Scotia. It is illegal to solicit investments in Nova Scotia without registering with the commission and complying with Nova Scotia securities laws.

To see if a company or person is registered, you can check the Canadian Securities Administrators' website at http://aretheyregistered.ca/

Report a scam

The NSSC is the provincial government agency responsible for regulating the investment industry in the province. <u>View the decision</u>

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Media Contact: Tanya Wiltshire

Nova Scotia Securities Commission

902-424-8586

E-mail: tanya.wiltshire@novascotia.ca