



Securities  
Commission

Suite 400, Duke Tower  
5251 Duke St., PO Box 458  
Halifax, NS B3J 2P8

**July 10, 2015**

Commission Reciprocates Permanent Cease Trade Order for Stratus Financial Group International

**Halifax** - The Nova Scotia Securities Commission (NSSC) has reciprocated a permanent cease trade order against Stratus Financial Group International and Ken Powers previously issued by the Financial and Consumer Services Commission of New Brunswick (FCNB).

The FCNB issued its order on January 30, 2015 against the respondents for violating securities laws by operating a boiler room scam to sell securities in that province.

In April 2015, the NSSC issued and extended a temporary cease trade order against Stratus Financial Group International and other representatives requiring them to cease all trading in Nova Scotia for similar activity. To protect investors the NSSC has reciprocated the FCNB's order and is warning Nova Scotians to be aware of these types of boiler room scams.

A boiler room scam is when people use a high pressure approach by calling lists of people, known as "sucker lists", and pressure them into buying highly speculative and sometimes fraudulent investments. Victims are often discouraged from doing any of their own research and are often told things like "it's a sure thing" and "once in a lifetime opportunity." The callers are extremely persistent, use high pressure sales tactics and can be very convincing.

Contact the commission at [NSSCEnforcement@novascotia.ca](mailto:NSSCEnforcement@novascotia.ca) to report a scam or file a complaint.

To see our order go to [nssc.novascotia.ca](http://nssc.novascotia.ca).

FCNB's order: [http://0101.nccdn.net/1\\_5/072/2db/09b/SE-004-2014-Decision-E.pdf](http://0101.nccdn.net/1_5/072/2db/09b/SE-004-2014-Decision-E.pdf)

The Nova Scotia Securities Commission is the provincial government agency responsible for regulating the investment industry in the province.

Media Contact: Tanya Wiltshire  
Nova Scotia Securities Commission  
Phone: 902-222-5896  
Email: [tanya.wiltshire@novascotia.ca](mailto:tanya.wiltshire@novascotia.ca)