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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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STATE SUES CALIFORNIA MINING PROMOTERS *Refunds Sought In Sales of Investment Interests*

Boise, Idaho . . . Gavin Gee, Director of the Idaho Department of Finance announced the filing of a civil securities lawsuit against Howard H. Hucks and Paul Croxton Delzell. Hucks and Delzell operate from southern California and are alleged to have raised investment monies under the name of Landmark Technology & Development, Inc. The case was filed in Fourth District Court in Boise, Idaho.

The lawsuit alleges that the defendants offered and sold unregistered securities and that the defendants were not properly licensed to offer or sell securities. The suit also alleges that the defendants violated the antifraud provisions of the Idaho Securities Act. More specifically, the complaint alleges that the defendants:

- a) engaged in fraudulent acts, practices or courses of business, which operated as a fraud or deceit upon Idaho investors;
- b) misrepresented that investor funds were very safe due to a “firm commitment” of further funding that would provide a source of repayment to investors;
- c) misrepresented that the Idaho investors’ funds would be used to develop and implement mining operations, when in reality, a significant portion of the invested funds were paid directly to Hucks and Delzell and used for the personal and business expenses of Hucks;
- d) failed to inform investors of the specific financial condition and operating results of Landmark Technology and Development, Inc.;
- e) failed to inform investors that Hucks had filed a Chapter 13 Bankruptcy in or about 1998 and

that Hucks had been subject to a California state tax lien in our about 1997; and

- f) failed to inform investors of the amounts and types of compensation that the defendants would receive in connection with an investment in Landmark Technology and Development, Inc.

The State's lawsuit seeks an order from the court permanently enjoining the defendants from future violations of the securities laws, placing limitations on future business activities and restitution to affected investors, and imposing civil penalties and attorney fees.

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The Idaho Department of Finance cautions Idaho residents to make sure that the investments and investment professionals with whom they deal are registered. Department of Finance Press Releases and other information can be found on the Internet via the worldwide web at <http://idahofinance.com/> and may be obtained by contacting the Department at (208) 332-8004 or Idaho toll-free at 1-888-346-3378.