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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE HAILEY SENIOR SCAM JAM CONFERENCE IS OCTOBER 9TH

Idaho Department of Finance Joins with the Idaho Commission on Aging and the Senior Connection of Blaine County to Sponsor a Free Educational Conference

Boise, Idaho The Idaho Department of Finance is proud to cosponsor the 2014 Senior Scam Jam Conference at the Senior Connection - 721 3rd Avenue South in Hailey on Thursday October 9, 2014. The popular conference will have speakers whose topics range from investment fraud to Medicare fraud.

Doors open at 8 a.m. and the conference kicks off at 9 a.m. with Master of Ceremonies Wendy Jaquet, former Idaho State Representative for District 26, as well as a keynote presentation by Suzanne McCampbell, director of Idaho's Area IV Office of Aging. At lunch a keynote address will be presented by Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden. The conference runs until 3:30 p.m., when there will be "A Call To Action" by AARP Volunteer Cheryl Tussey and a drawing for door prizes. The conference includes a complimentary lunch and refreshments.

Those interested in attending may register through AARP <u>by October 6th</u> by calling toll free 1-877-926-8300 or online at http://aarp.cvent.com/ID_ScamJamHailey. A brochure that outlines the event schedule and speaker topics for the conference is available here and on the department's website under "News and Announcements" at http://finance.idaho.gov.

The sponsors and supporters joining to offer this free Senior Scam Jam Conference include the Idaho Department of Finance, the Idaho Commission On Aging, Better Business Bureau, the Idaho Department of Insurance, Senior Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA), AARP, the Senior Connection of Blaine County, Justice Alliance for Vulnerable Adults (JAVA), Idaho Legal Aid Services, Inc. (Boise), Idaho Crime Prevention Association, the Idaho Bankers Association, the Idaho Credit Union League, Area Agency on Aging Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP), State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP), Boise State Public Radio, and National Public Radio (NPR).

The Senior Scam Jam will address, in part, topics that include reverse mortgages, preventing abuse of living will advance directives, Medicare fraud, caregiver scams, as well as tips on how to avoid being a victim of identity theft. Seniors also will learn how to recognize and avoid exploitation that can jeopardize their financial future. During morning and afternoon breakout sessions, **Department of Finance Securities Analyst Tim Martin** will offer a presentation entitled *Investment Fraud* and **Consumer Affairs Officer Jo Ann Lanham** will discuss credit reporting tips and information in her presentation *A Snapshot of Your Financial History*. The department also will have a booth where attendees can receive free educational information on investment and consumer fraud.

In addition to the Department of Finance's participation, experts from around Idaho will be presenting information and tips on how to avoid scams and abuse that target senior citizens. Speakers include representatives from the Idaho Crime Prevention Association, the Idaho State Tax Commission, NeighborWorks Pocatello, Area IV Agency on Aging at the College of Southern Idaho, and the Hailey Police Department.

Attendees are encouraged to bring personal financial documents for shredding which will be offered at the event in the morning. Documents such as cancelled checks, credit card solicitations, bank statements and other documents containing personal and financial information are items that should be included for shredding. Persons are asked to limit their document-pounds to one box per person.

The final 2014 Senior Scam Jam will be held in Weiser on October 23, 2014.

Consumers can obtain information about financial firms, professionals or products, as well as view more Department press releases and other information on the Internet at http://finance.idaho.gov or by contacting the Department at (208) 332-8000 or Idaho toll-free at 1-888-346-3378.