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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

December 15, 2014

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF SECURITIES
ELECTRONIC FILING DEPOSITORY**

EFD Offers Efficiency for Issuers and Improved Transparency for Investors

Boise, Idaho – Gavin Gee, director of the Idaho Department of Finance, today announced the launch of the online Electronic Filing Depository (EFD) to enhance the efficiency of the regulatory filing process for certain exempt securities offerings.

Developed by the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA), of which Idaho is a member, EFD is an online system that allows an issuer to submit a Form D for a Regulation D, Rule 506 private offering to state securities regulators and pay related fees. The EFD website also enables the public to search and view, free of charge, Form D filings made with state securities regulators through EFD. EFD is available at: <https://www.efdnasaa.org>.

"We are very pleased to provide the EFD system to create an efficient, streamlined system for issuers to meet Form D filing requirements. Issuers will benefit from this uniform and effective regulatory tool, which also strengthens investor protection by improving the transparency of Form D filings," Gee said.

Generally, Rule 506 of Regulation D is a "safe harbor" for private securities offerings under federal law to verified accredited investors. Issuers relying on the Rule 506 exemption do not have to register their offerings of securities with the SEC or the Department of Finance, but they must file what is known as a "Form D" with the SEC and the department. Form D contains limited information about the securities being offered and the issuer offering those securities. A study released by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in 2013 suggests that the amount of money raised through Regulation D offerings has been in the hundreds of billions of dollars in recent years.

While the EFD system initially will be limited to Form D filings for Regulation D, Rule 506 offerings, NASAA expects the filing system will be expanded to include additional state securities registration and notice filing materials. Use of the system is voluntary, but should be especially beneficial for issuers that wish to sell their securities in multiple states.

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“The department continues to explore ways to embrace technology to provide innovative capital formation solutions to benefit issuers and investors alike,” Gee said.

The EFD website offers a suite of tools to filers and regulators. The EFD system will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, unless the website is undergoing maintenance. In addition to the filing fees required by the states, there is a one-time \$150 system use fee for each offering making its filings through EFD. This one-time system fee covers initial, amendment and renewal filings made through EFD. Issuers or investors with questions about EFD can contact the Department of Finance at (208) 332-8080.

Department of Finance Press Releases and other information can be found on the Internet at <http://www.finance.idaho.gov/PR/PressRelease.aspx> or by contacting the department at (208) 332-8000 or Idaho toll-free at 1-888-346-3378.