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## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

March 25, 1999

## FORMER STOCK SALESMAN SUED FOR SECURITIES LAW VIOLATIONS

Boise, Idaho . . . . Gavin M. Gee, Director of the Idaho Department of Finance, today announced the filing of a civil securities lawsuit in Fourth District Court against Boise resident Devin John Smith.

The lawsuit alleges that Smith, acting as a sales agent for Boise based Commercial Leasing Co. d/b/a Galco Leasing Company, sold the company's stock to an Idaho resident, converted the proceeds from the sale to his personal use, and issued counterfeit Galco stock certificates to the investor.

The State's lawsuit seeks an order from the court permanently enjoining Smith from future violations of the securities laws. It also seeks restitution for funds taken in violation of the securities laws, costs and attorney's fees, and restrictions on future business activities in Idaho. Before making an investment decision, the Department urges Idaho residents to check out investments and investment professionals by contacting the Department at 208/332-8004 or 1-888-346-3378 (toll-free to Idaho residents).