



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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BROOMFIELD COMPANY SANCTIONED BY SECURITIES COMMISSIONER

Denver, Colorado --- Colorado Securities Commissioner Fred J. Joseph announced today that he has entered a final cease and desist order against a Broomfield, Colorado company and its managers for allegedly violating the securities registration provisions of the Colorado Securities Act ("Act") in connection with the offer of securities in Colorado.

Named in the Order are **Treebanking, Inc.**, and its principal officers and managers, **Daniel M. Tefft** and **Jocelyne M. Grzela-Tefft**, all of Broomfield, Colorado.

The Staff of the Division of Securities (the "Staff"), which is a division of the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies ("DORA"), alleged that the Teffts sought investors for their purported reforestation company, Treebanking, Inc. According to the Staff, the Teffts were seeking investors to invest in trees. To invest in Treebanking, an investor purchases a minimum of 25 trees at \$38.50 for each tree from Treebanking. Treebanking arranges for the trees to be planted in Costa Rica, grown there, and then harvested for the teak wood. The

investor will have title to the trees from the time they are planted in Costa Rica to the time they are harvested, from five to seven years. The investors are not only promised a 20% annual return on their investment, but also to have a socially responsible investment by helping to replant the rain forest. In addition to selling investments in trees, starting in January of 2008, the Teffts' also began selling shares of stock in the company, Treebanking Inc. Both are considered securities and require registration.

The Staff alleged that the Respondents failed to register its security offering and, by offering the investment opportunity to the public at large through the use of internet advertising, Respondents were unable to take advantage of any private offering exemption under the Act. "The registration of securities provides important safeguards to the public," said Commissioner Joseph. "It requires promoters to make full and fair disclosure of information about securities offerings available to potential investors and it enables our office to review investment offerings, before they are circulated, for evidence of fraud and other possible violations."

The cease and desist order, which all Respondents agreed to, orders them to immediately and permanently cease and desist offering or selling any unregistered "security" in Treebanking, Inc., or otherwise engaging in conduct in violation of any provision of the Act.

DORA is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado. Consumer protection is our mission.

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