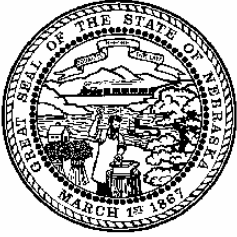


STATE OF NEBRASKA



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Governor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Release

Lincoln, Neb. – Eight of nine Wall Street securities firms under investigation for allegedly influencing their stock recommendations have settled with the State of Nebraska.

The most recent settlement occurred Dec. 15 between the State of Nebraska and Citigroup Global Markets Inc., formerly known as Salomon Smith Barney Inc., of New York. The Dec. 15 agreement states that Citigroup pay a \$1.5 million fee to the State of Nebraska. The total amount collected to date is \$3.625 million.

Other companies that have settled, the settlement date and the payments that have been made are: Bear Stearns & Co., Inc., Oct. 27, \$250,000; Credit Suisse First Boston, LLC, Oct. 27, \$750,000; J.P. Morgan Securities, Inc., Nov. 3, \$250,000; and Morgan Stanley & Co, Inc., Nov. 3, \$250,000; U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray Inc., Nov. 5, \$125,000; Lehman Brothers, Inc., Nov. 18, \$250,000; and Goldman, Sachs & Co., Nov. 25, \$250,000.

The settlements are a result of a nationwide investigation into nine Wall Street securities firms for allegedly allowing stock recommendations to be influenced by investment banking considerations. The only remaining firm, UBS Warburg/UBS PaineWebber, is also expected to enter into a settlement agreement.

The investigation of the nine firms was conducted by several states and the Securities Exchange Commission. Settlement agreements for the State of Nebraska have been negotiated by the Nebraska Department of Banking and Finance's Bureau of Securities. The bureau has participated in several investigations of securities firms over the past year.

Funds received as a result of this investigation are deposited into the Securities Act Cash Fund. Allocation of money within this fund is determined by the Unicameral.

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