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NDBF Guidance for Franchise and Business Opportunities Filings

March 25, 2020 (LINCOLN, NEB.) — On March 13, 2020, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, declared a state of emergency within Nebraska as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. On March 16, 2020, the Governor limited public events and gatherings to ten (10) people or less statewide.

In order to assist the financial services industry in responding to the COVID-19 outbreak and corresponding government, or business entity, instituted health quarantines, the Nebraska Department of Banking and Finance (NDBF) issues this Guidance.

Agency Operations

The Mission of NDBF is to protect and maintain the public confidence in the financial services industries in Nebraska. NDBF is committed to maintaining all critical functions to fulfill its supervisory mandate. NDBF wishes to assure the financial services industry that NDBF, including the Securities Bureau, remains operational and continues to carry out its mission and vision. During this time, the Securities Bureau will be utilizing electronic communication in lieu of paper correspondence. We encourage the industry to continue to engage with us and we will provide operational updates as necessary.

Electronic Filing of Documents

During the state of emergency, NDBF highly encourages persons filing franchise or business opportunity documents required under the Nebraska Seller Assisted Marketing Plan (SAMP) Act to submit such documentation electronically. Filers should submit documents via email to DOB.SecuritiesFilings@nebraska.gov. After receiving the filing via email, the Department will contact the filer with payment instructions. Filings received via email will not be effective until payment is received by the Department.

Paper Filing of Documents

The Department will continue to receive and process paper franchise and business opportunity documents and fees. The Department will make every effort to process such filings in a timely manner; however, these franchises and business opportunities may experience delays in processing time.

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