

Securities Commission of The Bahamas

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Securities Commission Celebrates World Investor Week 2017

The Securities Commission of The Bahamas (the Commission) announced today activities being launched in celebration of World Investor Week (WIW) 2017, 2nd through 8th October 2017.

WIW is an initiative of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), the leading international forum for securities. The WIW campaign is being launched to raise awareness about the importance of investor education and protection and highlight the various initiatives of securities regulators in these critical areas.

The Commission has a slate of activities lined up to further its efforts to inform and educate investors in The Bahamas and participate in the global WIW effort.

Key among them is the launch of a pilot study in partnership with the Ministry of Education, aimed to teach fundamental financial concepts and improve financial literacy measurements in the country, starting with primary and junior-high school levels. The pilot study will test the progress of students in the special training programme.

The Commission is also launching a special video competition for young film and investment enthusiasts. Under the Theme “Invest In You: Earn, Save, Invest!”, Bahamians aged 15 to 25 can compete in the short video competition to win an iPad Pro and help promote responsible financial behavior among their peers simultaneously.

The competition is a part of a regional initiative of the International Forum for Investor Education (IFIE) Americas Chapter Working Group, which is comprised of regulator members from 16 jurisdictions in the Caribbean. The specific rules of the competition vary across jurisdictions, however all the winning entries from the Caribbean will be showcased on the IFIE website.

The Commission will also be launching its social media presence with the official launch of its Facebook page during the week. The Commission will be using this medium to introduce a series of short videos addressing aspects of investor education and protection across the week. The Commission will also be enhancing access to investor education information and resources available on its website www.scb.gov.bs during the celebration week.

Representatives of the Commission will be at the Mall at Marathon on Saturday 7th October to share material to help individuals protect themselves from investment fraud and scams.

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Editor's Information:

1. The Securities Commission of The Bahamas ("the Commission") is a statutory body established in 1995 pursuant to the Securities Board Act, 1995. That Act has since been repealed and replaced by new legislation.
2. The Commission's mandate is now defined in the Securities Industry Act, 2011 (SIA, 2011).
3. The Commission is responsible for the administration of the SIA, 2011 and the Investment Funds Act, 2003 (the IFA), which provides for the supervision and regulation of the activities of the investment funds, securities and capital markets.
4. The Commission, having been appointed Inspector of Financial and Corporate Services effective 1 January 2008, is also responsible for administering the Financial and Corporate Service Providers Act, 2000.
5. The functions of the Commission are to:
 - advise the Minister on all matters relating to the capital markets and its participants;
 - maintain surveillance over the capital markets and ensure orderly, fair and equitable dealings in securities;
 - foster timely, accurate, fair and efficient disclosure of information to the investing public and the capital markets;
 - protect the integrity of the capital markets against any abuses arising from financial crime, market misconduct and other unfair and improper practices;
 - promote an understanding by the public of the capital markets and its participants and the benefits, risks, and liabilities associated with investing;
 - create and promote conditions that facilitate the orderly development of the capital markets;
 - and perform any other function conferred or imposed on it by securities laws or Parliament (SIA, 2011, s.12).



**WORLD INVESTOR
WEEK 2017**

PROMOTED BY IOSCO