Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 15-025

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Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing Warns Alaska Businesses About **Deceptive Solicitations**

December 28, 2015 JUNEAU – The Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing has received reports from Alaska businesses that received postcard solicitations from an entity identifying itself as "United Business Services Compliance Division." The postcards state "Important Information Regarding Your Business!" and list a phone number that recipients are instructed to call immediately. The solicitation is prepared to look official, however, businesses are advised that United Business Services Compliance Division is not an official government agency nor is there an entity registered to do business in Alaska as "United Business Services" or "United Business Services Compliance Division."

Postcard recipients have reported that when calling the number, they are directed to pay via credit card a onetime fee of roughly \$70 for a certificate of good standing or for a similar service. The State of Alaska is not making the request; businesses are not required to share information or submit payment to the business entity representing itself as "United Business Services Compliance Division." Businesses licensed in Alaska may obtain copies of their existing certificates for free or obtain a certificate of compliance for \$10 from the Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing at corporations.alaska.gov.

Any official correspondence from the State of Alaska or request from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing will clearly indicate State of Alaska origin by displaying the official state seal and Governor Bill Walker's name in the document header. For more information regarding deceptive solicitations and scams, visit the division's website at corporations.alaska.gov.

If you believe you have been the victim of an unfair or deceptive act, or if you want to report a practice that you think is unfair or deceptive, please contact the Alaska Department of Law Consumer Protection Unit at 907-269-5200, or toll free outside of Anchorage at 1-888-576-2529. You can download a standard complaint form on the unit's website at law.alaska.gov/department/civil/consumer/cp_complaint.html.

The Division of Corporations, Business & Professional Licensing, along with the Division of Banking & Securities, the Division of Insurance, the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office, and the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, is tasked with protecting consumers in Alaska. For information about the division, please visit commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl. For additional information about the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development and its other agencies, please visit commerce.alaska.gov.

ATTACHED: Example postcard solicitation





SEE REVERSE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR BUSINESS!

Physical Business Address:

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!IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR BUSINESS!

Business Name:

Entity Number:

Notice Date:

PLEASE CALL IMMEDIATELY

1-844-564-2211

KEY CODE:

*PLEASE REFERENCE THIS KEY CODE WHEN CALLING

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