

06-02

For Immediate Release
January 5, 2006

GIREX BANCORP INC. AND COMPANY DIRECTOR FINED FOR EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS VIOLATIONS

BRAMPTON, Ont. – Girex Bancorp Inc., a Mississauga-based computer technology company, was fined \$25,000 and a company director was fined \$10,000 on January 3, 2006 for one violation each of the Employment Standards Act in connection with wages owed to former employees.

Girex Bancorp Inc. owed a total of about \$83,367 to 11 former employees who worked as computer programmers in 2001. The employees, mainly new immigrants, were hired by the company through “JOBSTART,” an employment program sponsored by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. The employees filed claims with the Ontario Ministry of Labour for unpaid wages. The ministry found the wages were owing and issued the company an order to pay \$83,367 for the unpaid wages, plus a 10-per-cent administrative fee. The order was issued on January 4, 2002. On the same date the ministry issued company director Warren Schmidt an order to pay \$80,042 for the unpaid wages. The company and director failed to fully pay the orders. To date the only sum of money paid by the company and director was \$1,083. The workplace was located at 2550 Argentia Road in Mississauga.

Girex Bancorp Inc. pleaded guilty to failing to comply with an order to pay, as required by Section 65 of the act. This was contrary to Section 78 of the act.

Warren Schmidt pleaded guilty to failing to comply with an order to pay, as required by Section 58.22 of the act. This was contrary to Section 58.27 of the act.

The fines were imposed by Justice of the Peace Santino Spadafora of Ontario Court of Justice in Brampton. In addition, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge, as required by the Provincial Offences Act. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime. In addition, the court issued an order to the company requiring \$82,284 in owed wages be paid to the former employees.

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Court Information at a Glance

Location: Ontario Court of Justice
5 Ray Lawson Boulevard, Courtroom B2
Brampton, Ontario

Judge: Justice of the Peace Santino Spadafora

Date / Time: January 3, 2006, 9 a.m.

Defendant: Girex Bancorp Inc.; and
Warren Schmidt

Matter: Employment Standards

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