



## **Warning Notice**

### **Issue No. 55 – October 2004**

OSFI continues to receive information regarding entities posing as financial institutions. It is believed that these names are being used as part of various advance fee or “Nigerian letter” scams. The public is advised to use caution in dealing with anyone claiming association with a financial entity not known to them. In particular, members of the public should not make any advance payment (no matter what label is attached to it) for the purposes of opening an account, paying a government fee, or similar. In almost all cases, fraudsters request payment to be sent via money remittance to an individual, not the named financial entity. Legitimate money transfers cannot be wired or otherwise remitted directly to entities that do not exist.

**The names listed below are not authorized Federally regulated financial institutions and may be part of such advance fee scams (see also OSFI’s Warning Notice No. 23, dated February 2002).**

Warning Notices contain the names of entities recently brought to OSFI’s attention through some form of notice, inquiry or complaint. If these entities, or persons purporting to represent them, are operating in Canada, they may be violating provisions of the *Bank Act*, other federal financial institution legislation, other federal legislation, or provincial legislation.

A cumulative list of entities on previous Warning Circulars, Notices or Advisories is available on OSFI’s Web site at [http://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/osfi/index\\_e.aspx?ArticleID=166](http://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/osfi/index_e.aspx?ArticleID=166)

<i>Name and Address of Entity</i>	<i>Web Address / Related Entity(ies)</i>	<i>Agency to contact with any further information</i>
<b>Bankers Financial and Security Trust</b> 230 Morrish Avenue Toronto, Ontario	www.bfstltd.com	<b>Phonebusters</b>
<b>Equity Financial Trust</b> 1820 Kingston Road Toronto, Ontario	Eqft.com	<b>Phonebusters</b>
<b>Falcon Financial and Trust</b> Suite 200 20 Sheppard Ave. West Toronto, Ontario M2M 5S5	None known	<b>Phonebusters</b>
<b>National Deposit</b> 1450 Adelaide Street, Toronto, Ontario M5H 1N6	www.nationaldeposit.com  National Deposit also claims to have offices in the UK and Switzerland	<b>Phonebusters</b>
<b>Standard Financial Trust</b>	None known. Also claims to	<b>Phonebusters</b>

<b>Bank</b> 1st Canadian Place King & Bay Toronto, Ontario M5X 1K7	have offices in Bermuda and Bahamas	
<b>Unity Virtual Trust Group</b> 1 Unity Road Toronto, Ontario M4J 5A3	www.uvtgroup.com  Unity Virtual Trust Group also claims to have offices in the Cayman Islands	<b>Phonebusters</b>

**Scam letters should be forwarded to the Phonebusters National Call Centre (PNCC) as follows:**

**Mail:** Box 686  
North Bay ON  
P1B 8J8

**Web site:** www.phonebusters.com

**Telephone:** +1 (888) 495-8501 (toll-free in Canada and the USA)

**Fax:** +1 (888) 654-9426 (toll-free in Canada and the USA)

**Telephone:** +1 (705) 495-8501 (overseas and local)

**Fax:** +1 (705) 494-4008 (overseas and local)

**Regular e-mail:** info@phonebusters.com

**Phonebusters is a joint partnership between the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. They are interested in receiving copies of any new versions of the scam letters, particularly those involving Canadian mailing addresses or telephone numbers. Records relating to the payment of advance fees should also be forwarded to Phonebusters. This intelligence information is used to assist in the strategic targeting of would-be fraudsters.**

<b>Compliance Division</b> 121 King Street West Toronto, Ontario M5H 3T9	<b>Tel. +1-416-973-6117</b> <b>Fax. no. +1-416-954-3169</b> <b>Email: scaminfo@osfi-bsif.gc.ca</b>	
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