

**Communication Directorate** 

Paris, 08 September 2015

AMF warns about persons using its name and logo and impersonating the Ombudsman and her deputy

Savers have alerted the AMF to messages received about an alleged partnership between the regulator and a law firm, J & B Groupe, offering to help them recoup money invested in fraudulent investment schemes.

According to documents received by these savers and forwarded to the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF), the regulator has purportedly set up a partnership, titled VigiFraude, with the law firm J & B Groupe. The main aim of the supposed partnership is apparently to help individual investors that have lost money because of fraudulent investment firms to recover some or all of their funds through class action suits managed by J & B Groupe, allegedly acting on the authority of the AMF. Some of the documents in question bear the signatures and contact details of the AMF Ombudsman and her team and use the regulator's visual identity and logo.

The AMF warns anyone who has been contacted by J & B Groupe not to respond in any way. It intends to bring legal action at the earliest opportunity.

The AMF stresses that its mediation procedure is <u>entirely free of charge</u> and that under no circumstances can individuals be asked to contribute financially to it.

The AMF recalls that its website can be accessed at http://www.amf-france.org. If savers have any questions, they should call the AMF Epargne info service team at +33 (0)1 5345 6200 from Monday to Friday between 9 am and 5 pm.

## About the AMF:

The AMF is an independent public authority responsible for ensuring that savings invested in financial products are protected, providing investors with adequate information and supervising the orderly operation of markets. Visit our website <u>www.amf-france.org</u>.





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