MISSISSIPPI
Insurance Department

Mike Chaney
Commissioner and State Fire Marshal

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

For Release:

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MID Issues Cease and Desist Order Against Unauthorized Health Care Insurer-American Trade Association

Jackson –The Mississippi Insurance Department (MID) has ordered the American Trade Association (ATA) to cease and desist from engaging in the business of insurance in the state of Mississippi. ATA is not licensed or otherwise authorized to do business in the state.

MID believes the company, which offered health policies via phone, email and blast faxes, engaged in unfair or deceptive acts or practices which is a violation of state law. The American Trade Association has been placed in liquidation in its home state of Tennessee. **All policies of insurance or other benefits ended at 11:59 PM Central Time on May 31, 2010.** Consumers are encouraged to seek health coverage from licensed carriers. Additionally, you should always check with your state department of insurance to assure that you are dealing with a licensed insurer and its licensed agent.

All claims filed through the company must be filed no later than August 31, 2010. For the issuance of a creditable coverage letter, please contact (800) 591-6764.

"In these difficult economic times, and with so much turmoil surrounding health care reform, there are those companies that will pop up and take advantage of consumers by offering policies that seem too good to be true," Commissioner of Insurance Mike Chaney said.

"As in most cases, if something sounds and appears too good to be true, it more than likely is not true. If you are offered such a policy, I would urge you to contact the MID at (800) 562-2957 before buying. The MID will continue to work diligently to seek out and stop such companies from taking advantage of Mississippi consumers.

To file a claim or to answer any other questions regarding the American Trade Association, a link to the special ATA liquidation website established by the Tennessee Insurance Department is available on the MID website, www.mid.state.ms.us under the notification tabs.