

Texas Department of Banking

Press Release

Department of Banking Issues Cease and Desist Order Against GOSB Private “Banque” and “Baroness” Roni Burgs

Date: April 19, 2002

On April 17, 2002, Deputy Banking Commissioner Gayle L. Griffin issued an emergency cease and desist order against GOSB Private Banque and Trust and "Baroness" Roni Burgs aka Rhonda Urette, 5868 Westheimer, Suite 231, Houston, Texas. The entity is not authorized to use the term banque and trust or offer banking services in Texas. The order directs the principal and the business to cease using names and terms that would mislead the public into a belief that the entity was a bank duly authorized to operate in Texas.

Following inquiries from the public, the Department initiated an investigation into the activities and advertisements of GOSB Private Banque and Trust and Ms. Burgs. Deputy Commissioner Griffin found that GOSB, purportedly chartered in Montenegro, was offering the public comprehensive banking, investment and personal services. It, and its CEO/Chairman Burgs, are using the name "Banque and Trust" in a manner that could easily mislead the public into believing they are lawfully engaged in the business of banking in Houston, Texas.

Ms. Burgs and her institution offered no evidence of lawful operation, and are in violation of Texas law. Deputy Commissioner Griffin stated that "GOSB and 'Baroness' Burgs are not authorized to use the term 'banque and trust' or any similar terms in their name, stationery, website or other advertising materials, or to conduct depository, lending, fiduciary, or any other banking business in Texas. The Texas Department of Banking has not granted a charter to or licensed this entity, nor has any federal banking agency granted permission for it to operate a banking business in Texas. We want to warn the public to be careful who they do business with." Under the State's order, GOSB and Burgs may not use the term and may not conduct the business of banking in Texas or represent in any way that they are authorized to do so.

The public should contact the Department of Banking, at 1-877-276-5554 or [email](#) us if they have a question about banking issues.