Home > About > Media Room > News Releases > 2024 > BCSC alleges that Vancouver resident failed to comply with summons and demand

<u>About</u>

Find more about Media Room

News Release

BCSC alleges that Vancouver resident failed to comply with summons and demand

Date: 2024-04-19 Number: 2024/036

Vancouver – The B.C. Securities Commission (BCSC) <u>is alleging</u> that a Vancouver resident failed to attend an interview and produce records as required by B.C.'s *Securities Act*.

In February 2024, BCSC staff issued to Rona-Joanne Galeon Rafal a demand to produce records in her possession and a summons to give evidence under oath at an interview.

Rafal was served with copies of the demand and the summons, but she hasn't provided any records and didn't appear for her scheduled interview at the BCSC's offices.

The BCSC alleges that Rafal committed misconduct by failing to comply with a summons and a demand under the section of the Act that allows investigators to compel evidence from witnesses. Act amendments that came into force <u>last year</u> gave the BCSC the power to impose administrative penalties and restrictions on market participation for failing to comply with a summons or a demand to provide information. This Notice of Hearing is the first time the BCSC has made allegations using that new provision.

The BCSC's allegations have not been proven. The Commission requires Rafal or her counsel to appear at the BCSC's offices on May 14, 2024 if she wants to be heard before a hearing is scheduled.

About the B.C. Securities Commission (bcsc.bc.ca)

The B.C. Securities Commission, an independent provincial government agency, strives to make the investment market benefit the public. We set rules, monitor compliance by industry, take action against misconduct, and provide guidance to

investors and industry. As guardians of B.C.'s investment market, we're committed to maintaining a market that is honest, fair, competitive and dynamic, enabling British Columbians to thrive.

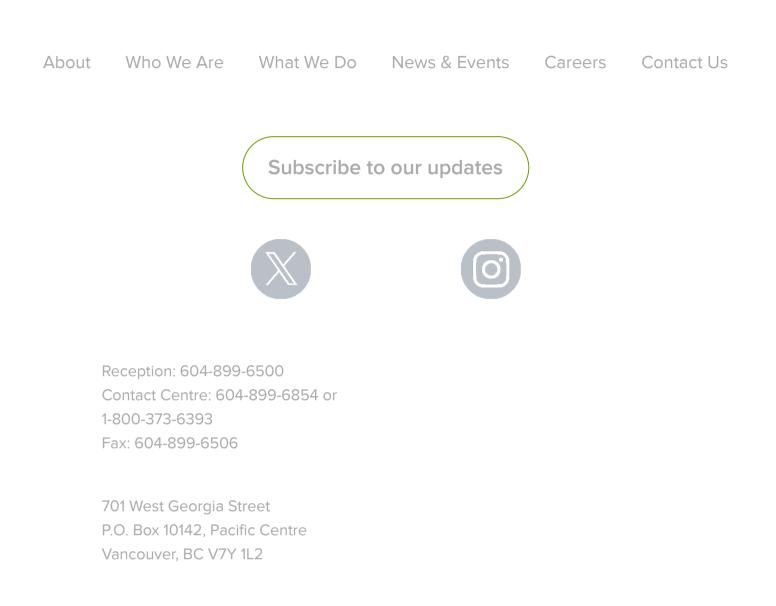
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