## Grupo Financiero Banorte is Granted a Temporary Stay of Proceedings in the Lawsuit Against its Brokerage House

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**Monterrey, N.L. July 15, 2002.** Over the last few days, the media has published information about an irregular lawsuit filed against Afin Casa de Bolsa by the widow and children of the late investor, Manuel Lance de la Torre, who was a shareholder of said institution.

It is important to keep in mind that the lawsuit in question was filed in 1994 against Afin Casa de Bolsa (later Casa de Bolsa Banorte). In it, the widow and heirs of Mr. Lance de la Torre claim the AFIN stockholder's equity that belonged to the deceased, as well as payment of the corresponding shares dividends generated since 1990 and until 1994.

Throughout the proceeding, the legal team that AFIN Casa de Bolsa appointed at the time has carried out the necessary investigations to document several facts. The findings point out that the lawsuit is unsubstantiated as the shares Mr. Lance de la Torre bequeathed to his wife and children were given over and later sold - as per their own instructions - through the Mexican Stock Exchange, since June 1990, four years before said lawsuit was filed.

There have even been attempts to involve Grupo Financiero Banorte, S.A. de C.V., which has not been summoned nor tried in this proceeding. Therefore, in view of this evident and blatant violation of its constitutional rights, Grupo Financiero Banorte, S.A. de C.V. submitted last July 5th an Indirect Writ for Relief on the "habeas corpus" procedure as it is clear that the Institution cannot be condemned in a trial of which it was never a part. On the 12th, the First District Judge of Monterrey, N.L. granted a temporary stay in the proceeding.

Moreover, AFIN Casa de Bolsa has also filed criminal charges against the judges and magistrates of the court of equity, as well as the federal judges who were aware of the issue in the first and second instances and the writ for relief. These proceedings intend to demonstrate that their resolutions do not adhere strictly to the law. Regardless of the above, the District Attorney of Mexico City is conducting an initial investigation against Manuel, Manuela, Ana María and Patricia Lance de la Parra for attempted fraud.