

1 Division of Securities
2 Utah Department of Commerce
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BEFORE THE DIVISION OF SECURITIES
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OF THE STATE OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF:

**RAYMOND JAMES & ASSOCIATES,
INC., CRD#705;
RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL
SERVICES, INC., CRD#6694**

Respondents.

**STIPULATION AND CONSENT
ORDER**

Docket No.

00-11-0089
00-11-0090

The Utah Division of Securities ("Division"), by and through its Director of Licensing and Compliance, Dave R. Hermansen, and the Respondents, Raymond James & Associates, Inc. ("Respondent RJA") and Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. ("Respondent RJFS") (collectively, "Respondents"), hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

WHEREAS, Respondents are broker-dealers registered in the state of Utah; and

WHEREAS, Respondents' activities regarding the sale of auction rate securities have been the subject of coordinated investigations conducted by a multi-state task force; and

WHEREAS, Respondents have cooperated fully with regulators conducting the investigations by providing documentary evidence and other materials and by providing regulators with access to information relevant to their investigations; and

1 WHEREAS, on June 29, 2011 Respondents and the multi-state task force reached an
2 agreement to resolve the investigations relating to Respondents' sale of ARS to certain customers;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Respondents agree, among other things, to purchase certain auction rate
5 securities from customers and to make certain payments; and

6 WHEREAS, Respondents elect to waive permanently any right to a hearing and appeal
7 under the Utah Administrative Procedures Act, Title 63G, Chapter 4 of the Utah Code, with respect
8 to this Stipulation and Consent Order (the "Order"); and

9 WHEREAS, Respondents admit the jurisdiction of the Division and consent to the entry of
10 this Order by the Division; and

11 WHEREAS, Respondents have voluntarily agreed to purchase ARS from certain customers,
12 as described in Section IV below, and to use best efforts to provide liquidity solutions for certain
13 other customers; and

14 WHEREAS, Respondents neither admit nor deny the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of
15 Law contained in this Order.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, the Division, as administrator of the Utah Uniform Securities Act
17 ("Act"), hereby enters this Order:
18

19 **I.**

20 **RESPONDENTS**

21 1. Respondent RJA (CRD #705) was, at all times material herein, a Florida corporation
22 with its principal place of business at 880 Carillon Parkway, St. Petersburg, Florida 33716.

23 2. Respondent RJFS (CRD #6694) was, at all times material herein, a Florida
24 corporation with its principal place of business at 880 Carillon Parkway, St. Petersburg, Florida
25 33716.
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II.

FINDINGS OF FACT

3. Respondents are each in the business of effecting transactions in securities in Utah as a “broker-dealer” within the meaning of the Act.

4. Respondents have customers located across the United States of America, including Utah.

5. Prior to February 13, 2008, Respondents sold financial instruments known as auction rate securities (“ARS”) to Utah residents.

ARS

6. ARS are bonds or preferred stocks that have interest rates or dividend yields that are periodically reset through an auction process, typically every seven (7), twenty-eight (28), or thirty-five (35) days.

7. ARS are usually issued with thirty (30) year maturities, but ARS maturities can range from five years to perpetuity.

8. ARS can be attractive investments to investors because ARS may offer slightly higher yields than various alternative products, including forms of cash alternative products.

9. An ARS yield is determined by the periodic auctions (commonly referred to as “Dutch” auctions) during which ARS are auctioned at par.

10. ARS can be bought or sold at par at one of these periodic Dutch auctions.

11. Under the typical procedures for an ARS auction in effect prior to February 13, 2008, an investor, including a customer of either Respondent, who wished to purchase ARS at auction, submitted a bid that included the minimum interest or dividend rate that the investor would accept.

1 12. ARS holders could either choose to keep their securities until the next auction or
2 submit offers to sell their ARS.

3 13. An auction agent collected all of the bids and offers for a particular auction.

4 14. The final yield rate at which the ARS were sold was the "clearing rate" and the
5 clearing rate applied to that particular ARS until the next auction.

6 15. Bids with the lowest rate and then successively higher rates were accepted until all
7 ARS sell orders were filled.

8 16. The clearing rate was the lowest rate bid sufficient to cover all ARS offered for sale
9 in the auction.

10 17. If there were not enough bids to cover the ARS offered for sale in an auction, then
11 an auction would fail.

12 18. In a failed auction, investors who want to sell are not able to do so and such
13 investors must hold their ARS until at least the next auction.

14 19. In the event of a failed auction, an ARS issuer pays the holders a maximum rate or
15 "penalty" rate, which is either a flat rate or a rate based on a formula set forth in the ARS offering
16 documents.

17 20. Penalty rates might be higher or lower than the prior clearing rate or market rates on
18 similar products.

19 21. To facilitate the auction process, issuers of ARS selected one or more broker-dealers
20 to underwrite an offering and/or manage an auction process.

21 22. In many instances, these broker-dealers submitted their own bids to support the
22 ARS auctions and to prevent the auctions from failing, maintain an orderly market, or set a clearing
23 rate.
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1 (“TARS”). As distributing or “downstream” broker-dealers for the ARPS and TARS, Respondents
2 did not submit bids in these auctions.

3 **Respondents’ ARS Sales to Customers**

4 31. In selling ARS to its customers prior to the middle of February 2008, some of
5 Respondents’ registered representatives and financial advisors made inaccurate comparisons
6 between ARS and other investments, such as money market funds, telling customers that ARS
7 were “cash equivalents,” “the same as cash,” and “highly liquid,” but with a slightly higher yield.
8 Respondents’ registered representatives and financial advisors also did not accurately characterize
9 the investment nature of ARS since ARS are highly complex securities that are very different from
10 money market funds, as evidenced by, among other things, the dependence of ARS on successful
11 auctions for liquidity.
12

13 32. Respondents’ ARS trade confirmations, sent after customers purchased ARS,
14 disclosed the risks that these auctions could fail and that Respondents were not obligated to ensure
15 their success. Nevertheless, Respondents did not provide customers with adequate and complete
16 disclosures regarding the complexity of the auction process, including failing to adequately
17 disclose to customers that Respondent RJA managed the auctions of the MARS and that RJA
18 routinely bid in MARS auctions to prevent a failed auction, maintain an orderly market, or set a
19 particular clearing rate. For example, some of Respondents’ registered representatives and
20 financial advisors did not adequately disclose to customers that their ARS could become illiquid
21 for an indeterminate period of time in the event of an auction failure.
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23 33. The information described in Paragraphs 31 through 32 was material to
24 Respondents’ customers.
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IV.

ORDER

On the basis of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Respondents' consent to the entry of this Order, without admitting or denying the facts or conclusions herein,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. This Order concludes the investigation by the Division and precludes any other action that the Division could commence against the Respondents under applicable Utah law on behalf of Utah as it relates to Respondents' sale of auction rate securities to Eligible Investors, as defined below.

2. This Order is entered into solely for the purpose of resolving the above-referenced multi-state investigation, and is not intended to be used for any other purpose.

3. Respondents shall cease and desist from violating the Utah Uniform Securities Act and will comply with the Utah Uniform Securities Act.

4. Within ten (10) days of the entry of this Order, Respondents shall pay the sum of \$29,328.05 to the State of Utah as an administrative fine, for deposit in the Securities Investor Education and Training Fund, pursuant to Section 61-1-18.7 of the Act, which amount constitutes Utah's proportionate share of the total state settlement amount of \$1,750,000.00. In the event another state securities regulator determines not to accept Respondents' settlement offer, the total amount of the payment to the State of Utah shall not be affected.

5. Respondents shall take certain measures with respect to current and former customers with respect to "Eligible Auction Rate Securities", as defined below in Paragraph IV.6.

6. "Eligible Auction Rate Securities". For purposes of this Order, "Eligible Auction Rate Securities" means auction rate securities purchased at Respondents on or before February 13, 2008, and that have failed at auction at least once since February 13, 2008. Notwithstanding the

1 foregoing definition, the term “Eligible Auction Rate Securities” shall not include auction rate
2 securities that were purchased at Respondents in accounts owned, managed or advised by or
3 through correspondent broker-dealers or unaffiliated registered investment advisers.

4 7. “Eligible Investors”. For purposes of this Order, “Eligible Investors,” shall mean
5 the following:

6 (1) Any investor that purchased Eligible Auction Rate Securities at Respondents on or
7 before February 13, 2008, did not transfer such Eligible Auction Rate Securities away from
8 Respondents prior to January 1, 2006, and held those securities on February 13, 2008.

9 (2) “Eligible Investors,” for the purposes of this Order, shall not include institutional
10 money managers.

11 (3) “Eligible Investors,” for the purposes of this Order, shall not include customers who
12 resolved their ARS claims through arbitration proceedings or negotiated settlements with
13 Respondents.
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15 8. Purchase Offer. Respondents shall offer to purchase, at par plus accrued and unpaid
16 dividends/interest, from Eligible Investors their Eligible Auction Rate Securities that have failed at
17 auction at least once since February 13, 2008 (the “Purchase Offer”).

18 9. Notification and Buyback Procedures.

19 a. Respondents shall create a written notice related to the Purchase Offer (the
20 “Notice”). The Notice shall explain the relevant terms of this Order and describe what Eligible
21 Investors must do to accept, in whole or in part, the Purchase Offer, including how Eligible
22 Investors may accept the Purchase Offer.
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24 b. Initial Notice

25 i. Respondents shall provide the Notice to Eligible Investors who purchased Eligible
26 Auction Rate Securities at Respondents by no later than thirty (30) days from June 29, 2011.

1 ii. Furthermore, Respondents shall undertake their best efforts to identify and locate
2 customers who purchased Eligible ARS at Respondents but who transferred such Eligible ARS
3 away from Respondents prior to January 1, 2006 by no later than thirty (30) days from June 29,
4 2011. Respondents will provide any such customers the Purchase Offer described in Section IV.8,
5 the Notification and Buyback Procedures described in Section IV.9, and the other terms described
6 in Sections IV.11, IV.12, and IV. 13.

7 c. Second Notice

8 With respect to each Eligible Investor that Respondents sent the Notice required by
9 Paragraph IV.9.b above and who did not respond, Respondents shall provide a second copy of the
10 Notice on or before 45 days before the end of Offer Period, as defined below.

11 d. Offer Period

12 i. Respondents shall keep the Purchase Offer open for seventy five (75) days after
13 mailing the Initial Notice as required by Paragraph IV.9.b, above (“Offer Period”).

14 ii. Eligible Investors may accept the Purchase Offer by notifying Respondents as
15 described in the Purchase Offer, at any time before 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time, on or before the last
16 day of the Offer Period. For those Eligible Investors who accept the Purchase Offer within the
17 Offer Period, Respondents shall purchase their Eligible Auction Rate Securities by no later than
18 five (5) business days following the expiration of the Offer Period.

19 e. An Eligible Investor may revoke their acceptance of Respondents’ Purchase Offer at
20 any time up until Respondents’ purchase of such Eligible Investor’s Eligible Auction Rate
21 Securities or provide notice of their intent to purchase such Eligible Auction Rate Securities.

22 f. Respondents’ obligation to those Eligible Investors who custodied their Eligible
23 Auction Rate Securities away from Respondents as of the date of this Order shall be contingent on:

24 (1) Respondents receiving reasonably satisfactory assurances from the financial institution
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1 currently holding the Eligible Investor's Eligible Auction Rate Securities that the bidding rights
2 associated with such Eligible Auction Rate Securities will be transferred to Respondents; (2) the
3 Eligible Investor reactivating their former account with Respondents; and (3) the transfer of the
4 Eligible Auction Rate Securities to the Eligible Investor's former account with Respondents.

5 g. Respondents shall use their best efforts to identify, contact and assist any Eligible
6 Investor who has transferred the Eligible Auction Rate Securities out of Respondents' custody in
7 returning such Auction Rate Securities to Respondents' custody, and shall not charge such Eligible
8 Investor any fees relating to or in connection with the return to Respondents or custodianship by
9 Respondents of such Eligible Auction Rate Securities.

10 10. Customer Assistance. Within two (2) days of June 29, 2011, Respondents shall
11 establish a dedicated toll-free telephone assistance line and website to provide information and to
12 respond to questions concerning the terms of this Order, and to provide information concerning the
13 terms of this Order and, via an e-mail address or other reasonable means, to respond to questions
14 concerning the terms of this Order. Respondents shall maintain the telephone assistance line for at
15 least nine months from the date of this Order.

17 11. Relief for Eligible Investors Who Sold Below Par. Respondents shall use their best
18 efforts to identify each Eligible Investor who: (i) purchased Eligible Auction Rate Securities at
19 Respondents on or before February 13, 2008; and (ii) who sold those Eligible Auction Rate
20 Securities below par between February 13, 2008 and the date of this Order ("Below Par Sellers").
21 Within 75 days of June 29, 2011, Respondents shall pay each Below Par Seller the difference
22 between par and the price at which the Below Par Seller sold the Eligible Auction Rate Securities,
23 plus reasonable interest thereon. Furthermore, Respondents will pay promptly the difference
24 between par and the price at which the Below Par Seller sold the Eligible Auction Rate Securities,
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1 plus reasonable interest thereon to any Below Par Sellers identified more than 75 days after this
2 Order.

3 12. Consequential Damages Arbitration Process.

4 a. Respondents shall consent to participate in a special arbitration process
5 (“Arbitration”) for the exclusive purpose of arbitrating any Eligible Investor’s consequential
6 damages claim arising from their inability to sell Eligible Auction Rate Securities. In the
7 Arbitration, the Special Arbitration Process applicable to firms that have entered into settlements
8 with state regulators (the “State SAP”) will be available for the exclusive purpose of arbitrating any
9 Eligible Investor’s consequential damages claim. Respondents shall notify Eligible Investors of
10 the terms of the Arbitration process through the Notice.

11 b. The Arbitration shall be conducted under the auspices of FINRA, pursuant to the
12 NASD Code of Arbitration Procedures for Customer Disputes, eff. April 16, 2007. Respondents
13 will pay all applicable forum and filing fees.

14 c. Any Eligible Investors who choose to pursue such claims in the Arbitration shall
15 bear the burden of proving that they suffered consequential damages and that such damages were
16 caused by their inability to access funds invested in Eligible Auction Rate Securities. In the
17 Arbitration, Respondents shall be able to defend themselves against such claims; provided,
18 however, that Respondents shall not contest liability for the illiquidity of the underlying auction
19 rate securities position or use as part of their defense any decision by the Eligible Investor not to
20 borrow money from either Respondent.

21 d. Eligible Investors who elect to use the Arbitration provided for herein shall not be
22 eligible for punitive damages, or for any other type of damages other than consequential damages.
23 However, the State SAP will govern the availability of attorney’s fees.
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1 13. Loan Interest Expense.

2 Respondents shall use their best efforts to identify Eligible Investors that obtained a loan
3 through Respondents (or its affiliates) secured by Eligible Auction Rate Securities that were not
4 successfully auctioning at the time the loan was taken and who paid more in interest on the loan
5 than the Eligible Investor received in interest or dividends from the Eligible Auction Rate
6 Securities during the time the loan was outstanding (“Negative Carry”). If the Eligible Investor can
7 provide Respondents documentation evidencing the amount of Negative Carry, Respondents, on or
8 before 75 days from the date of this Order, will reimburse the Eligible Investor the amount of
9 Negative Carry actually paid.

10 14. Best Efforts

11 Respondents will use their best efforts to provide the institutional money managers, within
12 nine (9) months of the date of June 29, 2011, opportunities to liquidate their Eligible Auction Rate
13 Securities including, but not limited to, facilitating issuer redemptions, restructurings, and through
14 other reasonable means. Although Respondents are required to use their best efforts to liquidate
15 Eligible Auction Rate Securities owned by the institutional money managers, the Respondents are
16 not obligated to purchase the securities.

17 15. Reports and Meetings

18 a. Respondents shall submit a bi-monthly written report detailing Respondents’
19 progress with respect to the provisions of this Order within 45 days of the end of each month in
20 which a report is required, beginning with a report covering the month ended after June 29, 2011
21 and continuing through and including a report covering the month ended nine months from June
22 29, 2011. This report shall be submitted to a representative specified by the North American
23 Securities Administrators Association (“NASAA”).
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1 b. Beginning 120 days after June 29, 2011, Respondents shall confer at least quarterly
2 with the representative specified by NASAA to discuss Respondents' progress with respect to the
3 provisions of this Order. Such quarterly conferences shall continue for nine months from June 29,
4 2011.

5 c. The reporting and conference deadlines set forth above may be amended or
6 modified with written permission from the representative specified by NASAA.

7 16. This Order is not intended to indicate that Respondents or any of its affiliates or
8 current or former employees shall be subject to any disqualifications contained in the federal
9 securities law, the rules and regulations thereunder, the rules and regulations of self regulatory
10 organizations or various states' securities laws including any disqualifications from relying upon
11 the registration exemptions or safe harbor provisions. In addition, this Order is not intended to
12 form the basis for any such disqualifications.
13

14 17. Except in an action by Utah to enforce the obligations of Respondents in this Order,
15 this Order may neither be deemed nor used as an admission of or evidence of any alleged fault,
16 omission or liability of Respondents in any civil, criminal, arbitration or administrative proceeding
17 in any court, administrative agency or tribunal. For any person or entity not a party to this Order,
18 this Order does not limit or create any private rights or remedies against Respondents including,
19 without limitation with respect to the use of any emails or other documents of Respondents or of
20 others concerning the marketing and/or sales of auction rate securities, limit or create liability of
21 Respondents, or limit or create defenses of Respondents to any claims.
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23 18. This Order is not intended to disqualify Respondents or any of its affiliates or
24 current or former employees from any business that they otherwise are qualified or licensed to
25 perform under applicable state securities law and this Order is not intended to form the basis for
26 any disqualification.

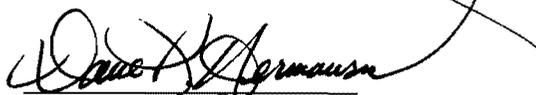
1 19. Respondents acknowledge that this Order, upon approval by the Utah Securities
2 Commission ("Commission") shall be the final compromise and settlement of this matter.
3 Respondents further acknowledge that if the Commission does not accept the terms of the Order, it
4 shall be deemed null and void and without any force or effect whatsoever.

5 20. This Order constitutes the entire agreement between the parties herein and
6 supersedes and cancels any and all prior negotiations, representations, understandings, or
7 agreements between the parties. There are no verbal agreements which modify, interpret, construe,
8 or otherwise affect this Order in any way.

9 Dated this 13 day of OCTOBER 2011.

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11 Utah Division of Securities

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13 Date: 13 OCTOBER 2011

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15 By: 
16 Dave R. Hermansen
17 Director of Licensing and Compliance
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1 **CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER BY RAYMOND JAMES &**
2 **ASSOCIATES, INC. AND RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.**

3 Raymond James & Associates, Inc. and Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. (together
4 “Raymond James”) hereby acknowledges that it has been served with a copy of this Consent Order,
5 has read the foregoing Order, is aware of its right to a hearing and appeal in this matter, and has
6 waived the same.

7 Raymond James admits the jurisdiction of the Division, neither admits nor denies the Findings
8 of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained in this Order, and consents to entry of this Order by the
9 Division as settlement of the issues contained in this Order.

10 Respondents shall not claim, assert, or apply for a tax deduction or tax credit with regard to
11 any state, federal, or local tax for any administrative monetary payment that Respondents shall pay
12 pursuant to this Order.

13 Raymond James states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever was made to it to
14 induce it to enter into this Order and that it has entered into this Order voluntarily.

15 Dennis W. Zank represents that he is President of Raymond James & Associates, Inc., and
16 that, as such, has been authorized by Raymond James & Associates, Inc., to enter into this Order
17 for and on behalf of Raymond James & Associates, Inc.

18 Donald K. Runkle represents that he is Senior Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer of
19 Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., and that, as such, has been authorized by Raymond James
20 Financial Services, Inc., to enter into this Order for and on behalf of Raymond James Financial
21 Services, Inc.

22 DATED this 11th day of Oct., 2011.
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RAYMOND JAMES & ASSOCIATES, INC.

By: *Dennis W. Zank*
Dennis W. Zank

Title: President

STATE OF Florida)
County of Pinellas)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 11th day of October, 2011.

Cynthia A. Crane
Notary Public

My commission expires:



RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

By: *Donald K. Runkle*
Donald K. Runkle

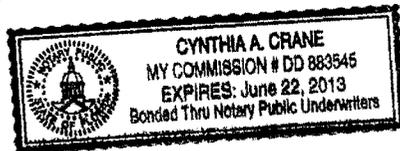
Title: Senior Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer

STATE OF Florida)
County of Pinellas)

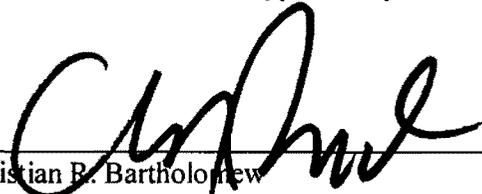
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 11th day of October, 2011.

Cynthia A. Crane
Notary Public

My commission expires:



1 The foregoing Stipulation and Consent
2 Order was reviewed and approved by:

3 

4 Date: 10/11/11

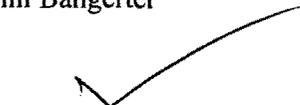
5 Christian B. Bartholomew
6 Attorney for Respondents
7 Raymond James & Associates, Inc., and
8 Raymond James Financial Services, Inc

9 **BY THE UTAH SECURITIES COMMISSION:**

10 The foregoing Stipulation and Consent Order is hereby accepted, confirmed, and entered by
11 the Utah Securities Commission.

12
13 DATED this 27 day of October, 2011.

14 
15 _____
16 Tim Bangerter

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18 _____
19 Jane Cameron

20 Erik Christiansen

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22 _____
23 Jan Graham

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25 _____
26 Laura Polacheck

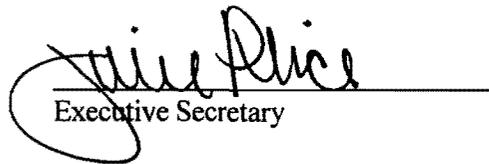
Certificate of Service

I, Julie Price, certify that on the 14 day of November, 2011, I served the foregoing

Stipulation and Consent Order by mailing a copy to:

Christian Bartholomew, Esq.
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
1300 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005

via e-mail: christian.bartholomew@weil.com


Executive Secretary

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