UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

v.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

: 10 Civ. 457 (GLS/DRH)

McGINN, SMITH & CO., INC.,
McGINN, SMITH ADVISORS, LLC,
McGINN, SMITH CAPITAL HOLDINGS CORP.,
FIRST ADVISORY INCOME NOTES, LLC,
FIRST EXCELSIOR INCOME NOTES, LLC,
FIRST INDEPENDENT INCOME NOTES, LLC,
THIRD ALBANY INCOME NOTES, LLC,
TIMOTHY M. MCGINN, DAVID L. SMITH,
LYNN A. SMITH, DAVID M. WOJESKI, Trustee of
the David L. and Lynn A. Smith Irrevocable
Trust U/A 8/04/04, GEOFFREY R. SMITH,
LAUREN T. SMITH, and NANCY MCGINN,

Defendants,

LYNN A. SMITH, and NANCY MCGINN,

Relief Defendants, and

GEOFFREY R. SMITH, Trustee of the David L. and Lynn A. Smith Irrevocable Trust U/A 8/04/04,

Intervenor.

PLAINTIFF'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN OPPOSITION TO THE MOTIONS TO RELEASE CERTAIN ASSETS FROM THE ASSET FREEZE BY DEFENDANTS TIMOTHY M. McGINN AND DAVID L. SMITH

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	1
TABLE OF AUTHORITIES	ii
PRELIMINARY STATEMENT	1
STATEMENT OF FACTS	2
ARGUMENT	4
I. Neither Smith Nor McGinn Have Shown That The Release Of Funds Is Necessary To Pay Their Legal Fees	6
II. The Assets Smith And McGinn Seek To Have Released Are Tainted By The Fraud	8
III. There Has Been No Showing That The Requested Fees And Costs Are Reasonable	13
IV. The Court Should Order An Evidentiary Hearing If The Court Determines That There Is Insufficient Evidence That Particular Assets Are Tainted By The Fraud	14
CONCLUSION	15

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Cases

Caplin & Drysdale, Chartered v. US, 491 U.S. 617 (1989)	5
SEC v. Cherif, 933 F.2d 403 (7th Cir. 1991)	5
SEC v. Coates, No. 94 Civ. 5361, 1994 WL 455558 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 23, 1994)	5, 6, 14
SEC v. Cobalt Multifamily Investors, I, LLC, No. 06 Civ. 2360, 2007 WL 1040309 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 2, 2007)	5, 7
SEC v. Credit Bancorp, Ltd., No. 99 Civ. 11395, 2010 WL 768944 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 8, 2010)	5, 6
SEC v. FTC Capital Markets, Inc., No. 09 Civ. 4755, 2010 WL 2652405(S.D.N.Y. June 30, 2010)	5, 6, 14
SEC v. Infinity Group Co., 212 F.3d 180 (3d Cir. 2000)	4
SEC v. Lauer, No. 03-80612-Civ., 2009 WL 812719 (S.D. Fla. Mar. 26, 2009)	passim
SEC v. Manor Nursing Centers, Inc., 458 F.2d 1082 (2d Cir. 1972)	4, 5
SEC v. Petters, No. 09-1750, 2009 WL 3379954 (D. Minn. Oct. 20, 2009)	6, 7, 13
SEC v. Sekhri, No. 98 Civ. 2320, 2000 WL 1036295 (S.D.N.Y. July 26, 2000)	5, 14
SEC v. Unifund SAL, 910 F.2d 1028 (2d Cir. 1990)	4
Smith v. SEC, 432 Fed. App'x 10 (2d Cir. Aug. 8, 2011)	3
US v. Garcia, 37 F.3d 1359 (9th Cir. 1994)	9
US v. Moore, 27 F.3d 969 (4th Cir. 1994)	9
<i>US v. Ward</i> , 197 F.3d 1076 (11th Cir. 1999)	9

Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") submits this Memorandum of Law in opposition to the motions by defendants Timothy M. McGinn ("McGinn") and David L. Smith ("Smith") to release assets from the asset freeze to pay for their attorneys' fees and costs.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

The motions by defendants Smith and McGinn for relief from the asset freeze so that they can advance fees to their counsel in a parallel criminal proceeding should be denied. In this action, the SEC has alleged a massive securities fraud. Investor losses approximate \$130 million. The Court froze the defendants' assets to protect defrauded investors in the event of a final judgment in favor of the SEC. The court already has found that the "record to date demonstrates that the total amount of investors' funds obtained through fraud by defendants dwarfs the value of the assets frozen by the SEC for the benefit of such investors." (Dkt. No. 277 (MDO, dated Feb. 2, 2011, denying motion by Iseman Cunningham for fees), at 4-5).

The defendants' motions should also be denied because they do not show that, without access to the frozen funds, they would be unable to retain counsel of their choice. In addition, the frozen funds that the defendants seek to have released from the asset freeze are tainted by the fraud. Finally, the SEC and the Court cannot make a determination now whether the defendants' requests for fees and costs are reasonable. If the Court concludes that additional evidence is necessary to determine whether a particular asset is tainted by the fraud, the SEC requests that the Court hold an evidentiary hearing before releasing any funds from the asset freeze.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Procedural History

On April 20, 2010, the SEC commenced this action alleging that defendants McGinn and Smith, and entities they controlled, engaged in a wide-ranging securities fraud. On the same day, the Court entered a temporary restraining order freezing the defendants' assets and appointing a receiver over the corporate assets. (Dkt. No. 5.) Investor losses approximate \$130 million. *See* Declaration of Kerri L. Palen, dated Feb. 24, 2012 ("Palen Decl.") at ¶ 3. The amount owed to investors is substantially higher than the funds that have been frozen or are in the receivership. *See* Dkt. No. 425 (Second Report of Receiver, filed November 16, 2011, noting that receivership bank accounts had an aggregate balance of \$8,197,217.11 as of November 4, 2011.)

On July 7, 2010, after a three-day evidentiary hearing, the Court granted the SEC's motion for a preliminary injunction continuing the asset freeze over the assets of defendants. Smith and McGinn, finding that the SEC had demonstrated a substantial likelihood of success on the merits of its claims against the defendants. (Dkt. No. 86, at 30-31.) The Court also continued the asset freeze over a stock account in the name of David Smith's wife, Lynn Smith (the "Stock Account"). In its decision, the Court found that the Stock Account had received illgotten gains to which Lynn Smith (as a relief defendant) had no right. (*Id.* at 31-33.) The Court further stated that because the fraudulent payments were "commingled with potentially legitimate funds, separating the legitimately held funds in the Stock Account and the checking account from the fraudulently obtained funds would be nearly impossible." (*Id.* at 32.) The Court also found in the alternative that the freeze over the Stock Account should be continued under a theory of joint ownership because "David Smith enjoyed unfettered control over the [Stock Account]." (*Id.* at 9, 34-36.) In the July 7 decision, the Court denied the SEC's motion

for a preliminary injunction as to a trust created by David and Lynn Smith (the "Trust"). The Court later refroze the Trust's assets on the SEC's motion for reconsideration. (Dkt. No. 194.) The Second Circuit affirmed the Court's decision. *Smith v. SEC*, 432 Fed. App'x 10 (2d Cir. Aug. 8, 2011).

There has been extensive motion practice in this action, including three appeals to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. Discovery was completed on December 16, 2011. During discovery, the SEC took the depositions of 23 witnesses, including Smith and McGinn, who both appeared for their depositions and testified. On January 26, 2012, Smith and McGinn were charged in a 30-count Indictment with conspiracy, mail fraud, wire fraud, securities fraud, and filing false tax returns.

Alleged Grounds for Relief from the Asset Freeze

Defendants Smith and McGinn now for the first time seek relief from the asset freeze. They both claim, with no supporting documentation apart from their own statements, that without relief from the asset freeze in this action they will be unable to pay their attorneys' fees in the criminal action. They each seek release of personal assets that they claim are not tainted by the fraud. Neither Smith nor McGinn seek release of any receivership assets.

Smith. Smith declares that he currently has "no source of income or unrestrained assets." (Dkt. No. 440-2 at ¶ 5.) He seeks a release from the asset freeze of \$300,000 to pay his attorneys. (Dkt. No. 440-1 at 3.) In his accompanying memorandum of law, Smith states that he seeks to release \$300,000 from the "Smith family assets" and that "[a]mong the assets Mr. Smith is asking this Court to consider releasing are Lynn Smith's stock account [the Stock Account] or liquid cash assets used by the receiver." (Id.) Smith defines the "Smith family assets" in paragraph 7 of his declaration to include the Stock Account, the Trust's assets, his and Lynn

Smith's retirement accounts, the Vero Beach property, the Saratoga Springs residence, a life insurance policy for Lynn Smith and a life insurance trust, for which Lynn Smith is the beneficiary. Smith also includes a letter dated February 9, 2012, signed by his wife's attorney, stating that she approves the use of \$300,000 of her funds related to the Stock Account's investment in Pine Street Capital for Smith's defense. (Dkt. No. 440-2, Ex. A.)

McGinn. McGinn declares that his only sources of income are the income from his self-employment as a sales representative for a company identified as Total Merchant Services, his social security benefits, and his wife's unemployment benefits which total \$5,051 per month. He claims that his living expenses are \$4,500, which leaves only \$551 per month to pay attorneys' fees and costs. (Dkt. No. 439-2, at ¶¶ 5-9.) He seeks the release of 10 specific assets, including real and personal property, a bank account and a retirement account, that he estimates have a total likely value of \$128,330. (*Id.* at Schedule A.) McGinn has not submitted any documentation apart from his declaration to support his assertions.

ARGUMENT

The purpose of an asset freeze is to facilitate enforcement of any disgorgement remedy ordered upon a finding that defendants violated the securities laws. *See, e.g., SEC v. Infinity Group Co.*, 212 F.3d 180, 197 (3d Cir. 2000) ("A freeze of assets is designed to preserve the status quo by preventing the dissipation and diversion of assets.") (citation omitted). The court has broad authority in civil enforcement actions brought by the SEC to fashion appropriate relief and take actions necessary to protect defrauded investors. *See SEC v. Unifund SAL*, 910 F.2d 1028, 1041 (2d Cir. 1990); *SEC v. Manor Nursing Centers, Inc.*, 458 F.2d 1082, 1103 (2d Cir. 1972). The court must balance the interests of investors in preserving the assets for possible later restitution with the interests of the parties seeking release from the freeze. *See* Dkt. No. 277, at 3-4 (denying request by Iseman Cunningham for payment from frozen Trust assets); *Manor*

Nursing Centers, 458 F.2d at 1106 ("the disadvantages and possible deleterious effect of a freeze must be weighed against the considerations indicating the need for such relief").

Courts that have considered requests for relief from asset freezes imposed in SEC actions in order to pay attorney fees in parallel criminal cases have paid particular attention to a defendant's Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights. These courts, however, have made clear that a defendant has no right to use funds tainted by the fraud to pay legal bills. *See, e.g., SEC v. Cherif,* 933 F.2d 403, 417 (7th Cir. 1991) ("A criminal defendant has 'no Sixth Amendment right to spend another person's money for services rendered by an attorney.") (*quoting Caplin & Drysdale, Chartered v. US,* 491 U.S. 617, 626 (1989)); *SEC v. FTC Capital Markets, Inc.,* No. 09 Civ. 4755, 2010 WL 2652405, at * 9 (S.D.N.Y. June 30, 2010); *SEC v. Credit Bancorp, Ltd.,* No. 99 Civ. 11395, 2010 WL 768944, at *3 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 8, 2010); *SEC v. Lauer,* No. 03-80612-Civ., 2009 WL 812719, at * 1 (S.D. Fla. Mar. 26, 2009); *SEC v. Cobalt Multifamily Investors, I LLC,* No. 06 Civ. 2360, 2007 WL 1040309, at *3 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 2, 2007); *SEC v. Coates,* No. 94 Civ. 5361, 1994 WL 455558, at *3 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 23, 1994).

To obtain relief, a defendant must initially show that without access to the frozen funds, his Sixth Amendment rights would be violated because he would be unable to obtain the counsel of his choice. Dkt. No. 440-1 at 2; Dkt. No. 439-1, at 3 (*citing SEC v. Sekhri*, No. 98 Civ. 2320, 2000 WL 1036295, at *1-2 (S.D.N.Y. July 26, 2000) (denying request to release fees to pay counsel); *FTC Capital Markets*, 2010 WL 2652405, at *7; and *Coates*, 1994 WL 455558, at *3)). Upon such a showing, the court then considers whether there is probable cause that the funds sought to be released are tainted by the fraud. *See, e.g., Credit Bancorp*, 2010 WL 768944, at *4; *Coates*, 1994 WL 455558, at *3. Finally, even where a Sixth Amendment right to use frozen funds has been established, the court may limit the release if the amount requested is

unreasonable or excessive. *See*, *e.g.*, *S.E.C.* v. *Petters*, No. 09-1750, 2009 WL 3379954, at *3 (D. Minn. Oct. 20, 2009) (refusing to allow the full amount of fees and expenses requested because the amounts were excessive); *FTC Capital Markets*, 2010 WL 2652405, at *9.

Smith's and McGinn's motions fail at every step: they do not make a showing of need; the funds requested to be released from the asset freeze are tainted; and McGinn and Smith have presented no evidence as to the reasonableness of the fees and costs they request. Their motions for access to the frozen funds should be denied.

I. Neither Smith Nor McGinn Have Shown That The Release of Funds Is Necessary to Pay Their Legal Fees

Smith. Smith declares that he "currently has no sources of income or unrestrained assets." Dkt. No. 440-2 (Smith Decl., at ¶ 5). But Smith fails to mention the \$600,000 that his wife received in July 2010 on the sale of the property on Sacandaga Lake. See, e.g., Dkt. 303 (Lynn Smith Memorandum of Law in Opposition to Motion for Sanctions, at 16 (noting sale to of Sacandaga Lake property to Trust for \$600,000)). He also fails to mention that he and his wife recently received \$14,000 for the rent of their property in Saratoga Springs. See Declaration of David Stoelting, dated Feb. 24, 2012 ("Stoelting Decl."), at ¶ 2, and Ex. A. Further, Smith provides no evidence of any attempt to seek employment at any time during the almost two years that the asset freeze has been in place.

Moreover, despite the freeze and despite their failure to obtain employment, the Smiths have continued to maintain their Saratoga Springs household for nearly two years. In addition, they have been able to pay certain of their bills and to make expenditures. For example, in the summer of 2011, they spent over \$3,300 on an engagement dinner at the Saratoga National Golf Club. Stoelting Decl. at ¶ 3. Given their failure to disclose their sources of income, Smith's blanket declaration of inability to pay legal fees is insufficient. *See, e.g., Cobalt Multifamily*

Investors, 2007 WL 1040309, at *3 (requiring a "competent showing of need"). Cf. Petters, 2009 WL 3379954, at * 2 (finding showing of need where defendant was incarcerated and relief-defendant wife presented evidence that she had been seeking employment without success and rental income she received on property was insufficient).

McGinn. McGinn's assertions in his declaration regarding his sources of income and expenses are not supported by any documentation. Moreover, some facts appear to contradict the statements in his declaration. For example, he declares that he lives in Florida and that one of the expenses he is seeking to pay from frozen funds is travel from his home in Florida to New York to attend court. McGinn Decl. ¶¶ 1, 8. At her deposition on November 28, 2011, however, McGinn's wife, Nancy, testified that she and McGinn are renting a townhouse in Waterford, New York, and that they are both living there. Stoelting Decl. Ex B (Deposition of Nancy McGinn ("N. McGinn Dep."), at 62, 79-80). In addition, McGinn declares that Nancy receives \$375 per month in unemployment benefits. McGinn Decl. ¶ 7. Nancy testified at her deposition, however, that she was employed for at least part of the year as an innkeeper. Stoelting Decl. Ex. B (N. McGinn Dep., at 14, 60-61). In addition, McGinn's credibility is in question because he already has been found in contempt of court in this action. Dkt. No. 207 (MDO, dated Dec. 1, 2010, finding McGinn in contempt). Because McGinn has not provided documentation to support the sources of his income and his expenses, there is evidence that appears to contradict some of his declarations, and his credibility is in question, he has not adequately established a need for frozen funds.

As such, the court should deny Smith's and McGinn's requests for relief from the asset freeze.

II. The Assets Smith and McGinn Seek To Have Released Are Tainted by the Fraud

Smith. All of the assets listed as "Smith family assets" in Smith's declaration are tainted by the fraud:

The Stock Account¹

The Court has heard extensive evidence regarding the Stock Account. After a three-day hearing with numerous witnesses and exhibits, the Court made the following relevant findings regarding the Stock Account: (1) Smith used the Stock Account to make numerous short-term loans to MS & Co. related entities, all of which were repaid from MS & Co. related accounts (MDO I, at 10); (2) the Stock Account received funds that were derived from fraudulently obtained investments (*Id.* at 31); and (3) the ill-gotten gains were commingled with potentially legitimate funds such that separating the funds would be nearly impossible (*Id.*). Based on the evidence already presented and the findings the Court has made, the Court should conclude that there is sufficient evidence that the Stock Account is tainted by the fraud. *See Lauer*, 2009 WL 812719, at *4.

In *Lauer*, for example, the defendant requested a release of funds that he claimed to have acquired before the fraud began. 2009 WL 812719, at *1-2. The district court concluded that the requested funds were tainted by the fraud and that it was "unnecessary to attempt to segregate in some manner the tainted funds from the commingled account . . . The presence of some tainted funds . . . is sufficient to taint [all]." *Id.* at *4 (*quoting US v. Garcia*, 37 F.3d 1359, 1365 (9th Cir. 1994) (ellipses in original)). The court continued that "[b]ecause money is

Smith's motion contains a letter from counsel for Lynn Smith consenting to the use of up to \$300,000 of her funds from the cash held by the Receiver that relates to the Stock Account's investment in Pine Street Capital. The funds used to purchase the Pine Street investment were from the Stock Account and, as discussed in this section, the entire Stock Account is tainted by the fraud.

fungible, the government must prove only that the tainted proceeds were commingled with other funds," and that "[w]hen money is commingled, the 'illicitly-acquired funds and the legitimately-acquired funds . . . cannot be distinguished from each other. . . " *Id.* at *5 (*quoting US v. Ward*, 197 F.3d 1076, 1083 (11th Cir. 1999) and *US v. Moore*, 27 F.3d 969, 976-77 (4th Cir. 1994)).

Like the account in question in *Lauer*, the Court here has concluded that the Stock Account received tainted funds and that such funds were commingled with potentially-legitimate funds. Accordingly, the Stock Account is tainted by the fraud and funds should not be released from the Stock Account to pay Smith's attorneys' fees and costs.

The Real Property

Smith lists three pieces of real property in his list of "Smith family assets:" the Sacandaga Lake property (now owned by the Trust), the Vero Beach property and the Saratoga Springs property. Even though these properties were purchased prior to the time period of the fraud, there is evidence that the mortgage payments, taxes and other upkeep for the properties was paid for with proceeds of the fraud. For example, the mortgage payments for both the Vero Beach property (\$6,188 per month) and Saratoga Springs property (\$4,667 per month) were generally paid each month from a Smith account that received many fraudulently obtained funds. Palen Decl. at ¶ 4-5. Similarly, payments for taxes due on these properties and on the Sacandaga Lake property were also paid from this account. *Id.* Funds from this Smith account also were used to pay a total of over \$18,000 in 2007 for a deck that presumably relates to one of these properties. *Id.*

In *Lauer*, the district court found that a condominium purchased prior to the fraud was tainted because tainted funds were used to maintain ownership, use and benefit of the property. *Lauer*, 2009 WL 812719, at * 3 ("[W]hen tainted funds are used to pay costs associated with

maintaining ownership of the property, the property itself and its proceeds are tainted by the fraud."). Similarly, here, tainted funds were used to maintain ownership, use and benefit of the properties and therefore, the asset freeze should not be lifted so as to allow payments from any sale of these properties to pay Smith's attorneys' fees and costs. (The SEC would support the sale of these properties where the equity, if any, from a sale would be held by the Receiver.)

The Trust

The Trust assets are also tainted by fraud. The Second Amended Complaint alleges that in August 2004, when the Charter One stock worth more than \$4 million was transferred to the Trust, the Smiths had intent to hinder, defraud or delay present or future creditors. *See* Second Am. Compl. ¶¶ 144-175, 206-211 (Dkt. No. 334) (fraudulent conveyance claim).

Among other evidence of their fraudulent intent at the time of the transfer, the Smiths created the Trust about one year after the launch of the first fraudulent offering, and they knew or should have known that these offerings would be unable to meet their obligations to investors. In addition, David and Lynn Smith were named as defendants in a securities fraud lawsuit filed in 2003 and settled in 2004 with a payment of \$200,000 to the plaintiff. Smith's handwritten notes from several years before the transfer demonstrate his knowledge that his fraudulent securities practices had caused him to be "overwhelmed by the thought of financial losses." Dkt. No. 103-1, at 7-10. The actions of the Smiths and their agents in concealing the Annuity Agreement in this action further demonstrates that the Trust was created as a vehicle to hinder, defraud or delay creditors. Accordingly, the asset freeze should not be lifted to allow payments of Smith's counsel in the parallel criminal proceeding from the Trust's assets.²

Moreover, unlike Lynn Smith, the Trustee for the Trust, Geoffrey Smith, does not purport grant authority to use Trust assets to pay for Smith's legal fees in the criminal proceeding. The

Smith's 401(k) and IRA accounts

Smith's 401(k) was funded by payments to Smith from MS & Co., and from MS & Co. directly through its matching program.³ Many of these payments were made during the period of the fraud. For example, Smith's W-2s for the years 2004 to 2010 show a total of \$115,000 being deposited into his 401(k) account. Palen Decl. Ex. 1. Other records show \$14,000 in contributions from MS & Co. during that time. *Id.* These funds were commingled with untainted funds and the account appreciated over time. It would be difficult to untangle the untainted and tainted funds and, therefore, the court should find the entire 401(k) account tainted by the fraud. *See Lauer*, 2009 WL 812719, at * 4-5.

Similarly, Smith's IRA account is tainted by the fraud. As of January 1, 2004, which is the earliest statement currently in the SEC's possession for Smith's IRA account, the account only held \$4,419. Palen Decl. Ex.2. During the period from 2004 to 2010, Smith contributed \$18,000 to the account, and the account appreciated. *Id.* These contributions came from the Stock Account and the 2007 contribution came from Smith's M&T Bank account shortly after a large transfer to him from TDM Cable Funding, LLC. *Id.* Like the 401(k) account, it would be difficult to untangle the untainted and tainted funds and, therefore, the court should find the entire account tainted by the fraud.⁴

absence of a letter, or any mention in the Trust's motion and accompanying papers, suggests that the Trustee opposes use of the Trust funds to pay for Smith's legal fees.

The Court already has denied Smith's motion for a release of the 401(k) assets, finding that the money in that account "will be important in either facilitating repayment [to investors] or determining whether [Smith] has an ability to pay the amount ordered disgorged." Dkt. No. 221, at 5.

Smith also includes the cash value of two life insurance policies in his list of the "Smith Family Assets." Smith submits no information to support any claim that these assets are untainted by the fraud. At this time, there is not sufficient information to determine whether

McGinn. McGinn seeks to release from the asset freeze ten specific items, which are listed in Schedule A to his declaration. Dkt. No. 439-2 (Schedule A). For the assets listed in numbers 1 through 6, there is insufficient information to determine whether they are tainted by the fraud. McGinn offers no evidence to support his assertions, and his credibility is in question. The SEC requests an evidentiary hearing with respect to these items, and any other items for which the Court determines there is insufficient evidence to find that they are tainted by the fraud (as discussed in Section IV, below). McGinn's retirement account (number 10 on Schedule A) appears to have been funded prior to 2003 and, therefore, does not appear to be tainted by the fraud.

Boca Raton Property and Furniture (Numbers 7 and 8 on Schedule A)

Like Smith's real property discussed above, the mortgage and upkeep of McGinn's Boca Raton property was paid for with proceeds of the fraud. For example, McGinn's mortgage for the Boca Raton property (\$3,539 per month), maintenance and taxes were generally paid from two McGinn accounts that received the proceeds of the fraud. Palen Decl. ¶¶ 6-7. McGinn also wrote a check from one of these accounts for over \$20,000 to "Furniture Land South" shortly after the Boca Raton property was purchased. In general, these accounts appear to have paid all of McGinn's living expenses (that were not otherwise being paid directly by a McGinn Smith entity), including credit card payments, during the period of the fraud. *Id*.

these policies are tainted by the fraud and the SEC, therefore, requests an evidentiary hearing with respect to these items.

In addition, Smith includes Lynn Smith's IRA account in his description of the "Smith family assets." To the extent that Smith is seeking to use funds from this account to pay his attorney fees, the account should not be released from the freeze because the account is tainted by the fraud. The money Lynn Smith used to fund the account came primarily from the Stock Account during the period of the fraud, and the 2007 transfer came from Smith's M&T Bank account shortly after a transfer to that account from TDM Cable Funding, LLC. Palen Decl. Ex. 3.

Moreover, the Boca Raton property likely has no equity. *See* Dkt. No. 221 (denying release of funds for upkeep of this property). The SEC would support a sale of the Boca Raton property.

M&T Bank Account (Number 9 on Schedule A)

The funds in this account are tainted by the fraud. On April 8, 2010 (less than two weeks before the SEC filed this action), this account received \$50,000 from MS Funding, LLC and \$7,618 from MS & Co. for a total of \$57,617. Of that total, approximately \$9,400 remained at the time the asset freeze was imposed on April 20, 2010. Palen Decl. Ex. 4.

III. There Has Been No Showing that the Requested Fees and Costs are Reasonable

Smith and McGinn each ask for funds to be released for to pay for fees and costs not yet incurred. The simple, generalized statements made by counsel for McGinn and Smith about the complexity of the case are insufficient to show the reasonableness of the requested fees. To determine the reasonableness of fees, a court looks to a reasonable rate for an attorney in the district multiplied by the hours reasonably expended. *See* Dkt. No. 342, at 41-46 (reviewing the SEC's request for fees and determining a reasonable fee). The SEC and the Court cannot make such a determination without any record of the fees incurred. Thus, to the extent that the Court finds a release of funds appropriate, the SEC requests that it and the Court have an opportunity to review the fees and costs incurred to ensure that only those fees and costs deemed reasonable are allowed. *See*, *e.g.*, *Petters*, 2009 WL 3379954, at *3 (denying request for full amount of fees and expenses requested because amounts requested were excessive); *FTC Capital Markets*, 2010 WL 2652405, at *9 (denying release of full amount of fees requested where attorney performed minimal work); *see also Sekhri*, 2000 WL 1036295, at *2 (denying request for additional fees

because amounts already paid from unfrozen funds "did not appear to [the] Court to require augmentation").

IV. The Court Should Order An Evidentiary Hearing If The Court Determines That There Is Insufficient Evidence That Particular Assets Are Tainted By the Fraud

As discussed above, there is sufficient evidence that most of the assets Smith and McGinn seek to have released from the asset freeze are tainted by the fraud. There are a few assets for which there is currently insufficient evidence to determine whether they are tainted by the fraud (including the cash value of Smith's life insurance policies and the items listed as numbers 1 to 6 on McGinn's Schedule A). For these assets, and any others for which the Court determines that there is insufficient evidence of taint, the SEC requests an evidentiary hearing. *See, e.g., Lauer*, 2009 WL 812719, at *1 (finding assets tainted by fraud after briefing and evidentiary hearing); *Coates*, 1994 WL 455558, at *3 (ordering evidentiary hearing).

If an evidentiary hearing is ordered, the SEC requests limited discovery regarding the assets that will be the subject of the hearing.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, the Court should deny the requests by defendants

McGinn and Smith to release certain assets from the asset freeze to pay attorneys' fees and costs.

Dated: New York, New York

February 24, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Lara Shalov Mehraban

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Of Counsel:

David Stoelting Kevin McGrath Joshua Newville

DECLARATION OF DAVID STOELTING

- I, David Stoelting, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declare as follows:
- 1. I am a Senior Trial Counsel in the Enforcement Division of the New York Regional Office of the Securities and Exchange Commission. I have been employed with the Commission since February 2004. I make this declaration in support of the SEC's opposition to the motions to amend the asset freeze to permit payment of attorney fees and costs by David L. Smith and Timothy M. McGinn.
- 2. During discovery, the SEC sent a subpoena to one of the banks at which Lynn Smith has an account. In reviewing the documents produced by the bank pursuant to that subpoena, I noticed a check made payable to Lynn Smith in the amount of \$14,000. On October 27, 2011, I telephoned the woman on whose account the check was drawn and who signed the check. She told me that she had rented the Smiths' residence in Saratoga Springs, New York from late July through Labor Day of 2011, at a cost of \$14,000. She rented the home through a broker and never met the Smiths. Her check is attached at Exhibit A.
- 3. The SEC learned during discovery that in the summer of 2011 the Smiths gave an engagement party at the Saratoga National Golf Club. On October 27, 2011, I spoke with an employee of the Saratoga National Golf Club. She confirmed that the Smiths held an engagement dinner at the club. She told me that the dinner cost \$3,338.40, and was paid for by a credit card in Lynn Smith's name.
- 4. Attached as Exhibit B are true and correct excerpts of the deposition of Nancy McGinn on November 28, 2011.

Case 1:10-cv-00457-GLS-DRH Document 448-1 Filed 02/24/12 Page 2 of 11

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed:

New York, New York

February 24, 2012

David Stoelting

Exhibit A



Account Number:

Date:

September 08, 2011

Page:

1 of 1

The Image shown below represents an official copy of the original document as processed by FNB of Scotia.

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Exhibit B

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3 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK 4 ************************** 5 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, 6 Plaintiff, 7 -vs- 10 Civ. 457 (GLS/DRH) 8 McGINN, SMITH & CO., INC., McGINN, SMITH & DVISOPS LLC 8	
5 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, 6 Plaintiff, 7 -vs- 10 Civ. 457 (GLS/DRH) 8 McGINN, SMITH & CO., INC., McGINN, SMITH & DVISOPS, LLC	i
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7 -VS- 10 CiV. 457 (GLS/DRH) 8 McGINN, SMITH & CO., INC., McGINN, SMITH ADVISORS LLC	
MACININ SMITH ADVISORS LLC	
9 McGINN, SMITH CAPITAL HOLDINGS CORP., EXHIBITS	
FIRST ADVISORY INCOME NOTES, LLC, 10 No. Description Page	
10 FIRST EXCELSIOR INCOME NOTES, LLC, FIRST INDEPENDENT INCOME NOTES, LLC, 11 398 Plaintiff's first request for 9 production of documents to	
11 THIRD ALBANY INCOME NOTES, LLC, 12 defendant Nancy McGinn	
TIMOTHY M. McGINN, DAVID L. SMITH, 13 399 Letter dated 10/21/2011 23	
12 LYNN A. SMITH, GEOFFREY R. SMITH, addressed to Honorable Individually and as Trustee of the David L. 14 Judge D. Homer from	
13 and Lynn A. Smith Irrevocable Trust U/A 8/04/04, Eleanor and Russell Laustrup	•
LAUREN T. SMITH, and NANCY McGINN, 15 400 E-mail dated October 13, 2009 33	
Defendants. 16 from Timothy McGinn to Nancy McGinn	
15 17 401 Series of e-mails between 35	
LYNN A. SMITH, and Tim McGinn and Bonnie Sindel	
16 NANCY MCGINN, 402 Three-page document containing 39	
18 GEOFFREY R. SMITH, Trustee of the 19 quick claim deed 20 403 Document prepared by SEC 44	
David L. And Lynn A. Smith Irrevocable summarizing transfers from	
19 Trust U/A 8/04/04, 21 accounts in the name of	
20 Intervenor. Mr. McGinn to Nancy McGinn 21 * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	
22 404 E-mail chain between Nancy McGinn 46	
23 and Timothy McGinn	
24 25 25	
Page 2	Page 4
1 N. McGinn 1 N. McGinn	
2 405 Copies of canceled checks from 48	
3 EXAMINATION BEFORE TRIAL of NANCY MCGINN, 3 Timothy McGinn to Nancy McGinn	
4 held at Phillips Lytle, LLC, Albany, New York, and Nancy Laustrup	
5 on November 28, 2011 before NORA B. LAMICA, 4	
6 Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for 406 Document prepared by SEC titled 50	
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Page 13 Page 15 1 N. McGinn 1 N. McGinn 2 I worked at a place -- it was called 2 anything, no. 3 Capotia (phonetic). It was a debt-reducing company. I 3 Q. When did you stop working? A. I stopped in -- dates are what really kills me 4 was only there for a short time. Prior to that I was 4 -- 2004, maybe it was 2003. I still had the SEFCU. 5 raising children so I would waitress and things like 6 that. That's when I was working I had the SEFCU accounts. Q. Where were you employed? 7 Q. You understand that one of the reasons we're 7 A. The New York State Legislature. 8 here today is because of events that happened involving 8 your husband, Tim McGinn. Do you understand that? 9 Q. What did you do? 10 A. I was the majority leader's, one of his 10 Yes, I do. 11 secretaries. 11 Q. Are you currently married to Mr. McGinn? Q. And who was the majority leader? 12 A. 12 13 Q. Roughly when did you get married to 13 Joseph Bruno. Α. 14 Mr. McGinn? Q. How long did you work for Mr. Bruno? 14 A. About six years. I started in 1999 so ---15 A. July 19, 2006. 15 And do you currently reside with Mr. McGinn? 16 maybe it was '98. I'd really have to look in my records. 16 17 I just don't -- I didn't really think much about it 17 Yes, I do. 18 How long have you lived together? 18 time-wise. That's fine. We're just trying to get your 19 It was eight years in October when we bought 19 Q. 20 best recollection. So your employment for Mr. Bruno 20 the house. 21 ended around the 2004 time period; is that correct? 21 Q. And roughly when did you buy the house? A. Yes. 22 A. I think it was October of -- it was eight 22 23 years ago, '04 or '03. I forget when the house was 23 Have you had any employment since then? Q. Just recently. Last year I started working, 24 purchased. 24 25 last September. 25 You're referring to the house in Niskayuna? Page 14 Page 16 N. McGinn 1 N. McGinn 1 2 Where do you currently work? 2 A. Yes. I am. 3 A. It's called The Mansion Inn and it's a bed and 3 Q. Did you have any involvement in the business affairs of McGinn Smith? 4 breakfast. 4 5 Q. Where is it located? 5 Α. No, I did not. 6 A. Rock City Falls. 6 Q. Were you ever employed by McGinn Smith? 7 Q. What do you do there? 7 No, I was not. A. I'm an innkeeper. We do events, we do 8 Were you ever on the payroll for any purposes 9 weddings, things like that. It's my niece through such as health insurance or anything like that? 10 No. 10 marriage, it's her family's place. I'm currently not A. 11 working there now. They're closed during the winter so Did you ever have any role with any company 11 12 that was affiliated with McGinn Smith? 12 just summertimes. 13 A. No. 13 And who owns the bed and breakfast? Q. 14 My nephew's wife's family. Q. Did you ever have any role with any company Could you identify their names just for the 15 that was affiliated with your husband, Mr. McGinn? 15 Q. 16 record? 16 A. No. A. The last name is Wojidka. It's 17 During the period of your marriage, did 17 Jeffrey Wojidka, the father. 18 Mr. McGinn keep you up-to-date on business affairs of 18 COURT REPORTER: Could you spell that? 19 McGinn Smith at all? 19 20 THE WITNESS: I could try. It's 20 A. No. I never got involved in any of that at W-O-J-I-D-K-A. 21 all. 21 Q. What is your educational background? 22 22 Did he ever tell you anything about how the 23 Just high school. 23 business was going or what kinds of things that they were Α. 24 Q. And where were you employed prior to the time 24 working on? 25 you worked for Mr. Bruno in the State Legislature? 25 A. No.

Page 57 Page 59 N. McGinn 1 N. McGinn 1 2 Q. And do you have any way sitting here today of 2 accurate to you? 3 identifying which cash deposits came from which source? 3 A. Yes. Q. Do you recall a cash deposit in the amount of A. I really wouldn't know. I couldn't do that. 4 5 I just -- I couldn't recall what each of them would be 5 \$720 on or about June 2, 2008? A. Not really, no. 6 from. 6 7 MR. NEWVILLE: Let's take five minutes. Q. Do you have any understanding sitting here 7 8 today as to where the money came from for that deposit or 8 (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.) 9 MR. NEWVILLE: We're back on the record. 9 what it was used for? 10 Q. Just a few clarification points. How old are 10 A. Well it could be some landscaping I had done. 11 your kids? 11 It could be something that may have happened to the A. 12 house. These people, they don't take credit cards so you 12 26, 24 and 20. Did they reside with you and Mr. McGinn during 13 always have to have cash to give them. It could be, once 13 14 the entire period of time up until recently? 14 again, numerous things. I just don't recall exactly what 15 these are for at all. 15 Q. These records that we're looking at now, they 16 They lived in the Niskayuna house, correct? 16 17 don't reflect withdrawals that you made in cash. These 17 A. Correct. During that period of time did you and 18 are deposits that you made of cash into your account. 19 Mr. McGinn pay your children's expenses for various 19 A. Right. 20 things? Let me withdraw that. From the 2003 to 2010 20 Q. So if you needed to pay a landscaper or 21 time period did you pay your children's expenses when 21 somebody for work done around the house, you wouldn't 22 they needed it? 22 need to deposit cash into your account, you would 23 A. Well depending on what expenses were. If they 23 withdraw cash? 24 A. But I would write a check off of that, put the 24 were old enough to work, they kind-of paid for their own 25 cash in and write a check off of that and then I'd have a 25 clothing and things like that. But yes, as an obligation Page 58 Page 60 N. McGinn N. McGinn 1 1 2 as a parent I did buy clothes when need be, I fed them. 2 record. Q. But I don't understand why you would have \$720 3 I did the normal things. But they also had a father that 3 4 in cash lying around that you needed to use to pay --4 would do whatever had to be done as well. They lived 5 A. In '08 I was not working so it was probably 5 with me but their father also paid their expenses. Q. How much time -- let me backup. There's a 6 payments I had to make. And Tim would probably cash his 7 check and then give me the cash so I could put it in my 7 house in Florida that you and Mr. McGinn own, correct? 8 account. That's how that worked. That's what we used to That's correct. 8 9 Roughly when did you purchase that house? 9 do. Three years ago so 2008 -- 2007 or 2008. Q. He would cash his check and take out currency? 10 10 11 And that house in Florida was put into both of A. Yes, if I needed it for specific cash 11 12 your names, correct? 12 payments, whether it be a cash payment, whether it be a Correct. 13 car payment that was in my name. Just many things it 13 Α. 14 could be. 14 Joint tenancy to your understanding? Q. Go back and take a look at Exhibit 406. The 15 We're both on the deed. 15 16 grand total of cash that we've seen that you've deposited 16 Q. Okay. What discussions did you have when you 17 purchased that house about putting the Florida house in 17 into your account is around \$53,000 from January '06 to 18 both of your names? 18 May of 2010. Do you see that? 19 A. That I wanted to be on it as well. We were 19 A. Mm-hmm. Yes. 20 married at this point. Typically that's what you do when 20 Q. And is it your testimony that those deposits 21 could be some combination of cash that was provided to 21 you're married, you buy a home together. We wanted it to 22 be our retirement home so-to-speak. 22 you by either Mr. McGinn or cash that came to you from 23 your children or various other sources? 23 How much time do you spend at the Florida Q. 24 home? 24 A. Yes. I would say it could be from any of 25 I do not spend too much time. I'm working

25 those.

	Page 61		Page 63
1	N. McGinn	1	N. McGinn
2	now. It's tough to get down. Not too much time.	2	Q. How did he come to work with the people at
3	Q. What about during the 2007 to 2009 time	3	AmeriBank?
4	period?	4	A. He found it online I believe.
5	A. I would just go down on occasion because I	5	Q. What kind of services does AmeriBank offer
6	still had kids in school, so I wouldn't leave them for	6	that he works for?
7	that much time.	7	A. It's credit card swiping machines.
8	Q. How much time did you husband spend in Florida	8	Q. Credit card processing?
9	during the 2007 to 2009 time period?	9	A. Processing, yes.
10	A. Not much more than I did. You know. It's	10	Q. He's working in some sort of sales role to
11	hard to he would go down maybe for a few days longer	11	your knowledge?
12	than I would but really it was never a long length of	12	A. Yeah. I would say that would be the best
13	time. At that point we weren't able to.	13	description.
14	Q. Currently have you been spending any time over	14	Q. Do you know anything else about other
15	the past say year in the Florida house?	15	employment that he's had since the SEC case was filed?
16	A. I was there in April last.	16	A. He has not had any other employment.
17	Q. How much time did you spend there?	17	Q. Let's take a quick look back at the large
18	A. About a week.		
19	Q. Are you and Mr. McGinn paying the maintenance	19	A. 407?
20	and keeping up the Florida house?	20	Q. We've got 407, we've got 408. Those are
21	A. We pay what we can.	21	copies of the cash deposits. And then Exhibit 406, which
22	Q. Do you have plans to sell the Florida house?	ı	is a summary prepared of various cash deposits that the
23	A. Not as of right now.	1	SEC has identified. My question is whether any of the
24	Q. The mortgage is not current on that house?		deposits in cash were related at all to any loans that
25	A. No, it is not.	25	you had between you and Mr. McGinn?
23	71. 110, 110 1101.	1	
20	Page 62		Page 64
1	Page 62 N. McGinn	1	Page 64 N. Mc Ginn
	Page 62 N. McGinn Q. You mentioned you currently reside at an	1 2	Page 64 N. McGinn A. What kind of loan?
1	Page 62 N. McGinn Q. You mentioned you currently reside at an address in Waterford; is that correct?	1 2 3	Page 64 N. McGinn A. What kind of loan? Q. I'm just wondering whether there were any
1 2 3 4	Page 62 N. McGinn Q. You mentioned you currently reside at an address in Waterford; is that correct? A. That's correct.	1 2 3 4	Page 64 N. McGinn A. What kind of loan? Q. I'm just wondering whether there were any loans that were made between you and Mr. McGinn?
1 2 3	N. McGinn Q. You mentioned you currently reside at an address in Waterford; is that correct? A. That's correct. Q. And I think when we spoke last week you said	1 2 3 4 5	Page 64 N. McGinn A. What kind of loan? Q. I'm just wondering whether there were any loans that were made between you and Mr. McGinn? A. Between he and I?
1 2 3 4 5 6	Page 62 N. McGinn Q. You mentioned you currently reside at an address in Waterford; is that correct? A. That's correct. Q. And I think when we spoke last week you said you were in the process of moving, right?	1 2 3 4 5 6	Page 64 N. McGinn A. What kind of loan? Q. I'm just wondering whether there were any loans that were made between you and Mr. McGinn? A. Between he and I? Q. Yes.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Page 62 N. McGinn Q. You mentioned you currently reside at an address in Waterford; is that correct? A. That's correct. Q. And I think when we spoke last week you said you were in the process of moving, right? A. Yes, we moved.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Page 64 N. McGinn A. What kind of loan? Q. I'm just wondering whether there were any loans that were made between you and Mr. McGinn? A. Between he and I? Q. Yes. A. No.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	N. McGinn Q. You mentioned you currently reside at an address in Waterford; is that correct? A. That's correct. Q. And I think when we spoke last week you said you were in the process of moving, right? A. Yes, we moved. Q. And you reside there with your husband,	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Page 64 N. McGinn A. What kind of loan? Q. I'm just wondering whether there were any loans that were made between you and Mr. McGinn? A. Between he and I? Q. Yes. A. No. Q. Was there ever any transfer made between the
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	Page 77	4	Page 79 N. McGinn
1	N. McGinn	1 2	
1	about Mr. Bruno in the papers did you discuss his role at	3	
	McGinn Smith at all with your husband?	4	
4	A. I didn't really discuss it. I probably said,		
5	"What's going on?" I had no idea it was even happening	5	
	to the Senator because I wasn't there at the time when	6 7	
1	all this took place. You know. All I know is that I	8	
	think he was a salesperson or something at McGinn Smith.	9	
	I didn't know specifics. And I don't even think at that	_	
١	point I don't think he was even working at	11	you mentioned? A. Yes.
11	McGinn Smith at that point so I didn't really think much	12	į
	about it.	13	,
13	Q. Do you recall at some point your husband	14	•
1	testified in the proceedings involving Mr. Bruno?		
15	A. Yes, I do remember that.	15	
16	Q. Did you discuss with him his testimony at all		
17	before he went in?	17	
18	A. I really didn't because I don't even think	18	
1	that's something he should be discussing with me and	19	
۱	vice-versa. I would never want to put myself in a	20 21	
21	situation you know, if I knew something or didn't know	22	}
1	something, I'd rather not know what he has to testify	l	Q. And Waterford is right next to Clifton Park, correct?
	•		·
24	Q. Well before you came in to testify here today	24 25	•
25	did you speak at all with your husband about your	25	Q. Have you signed any is that lease in your
}			
	Page 78		Page 80
1	N. McGinn	1	Page 80 N. McGinn
2	N. McGinn testimony?	2	Page 80 N. McGinn name?
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DECLARATION OF KERRI L. PALEN

- I, Kerri L. Palen, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declare as follows:
- 1. I am a staff accountant in the New York Regional Office of the Securities and Exchange Commission, where I have worked since 2010. Prior to joining the Commission, I worked for over 16 years at Deloitte and at Alvarez & Marsel as an auditor and financial fraud investigator. I am a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Fraud Examiner. I submit this declaration in support of the SEC's opposition to the motions to amend the asset freeze to permit payment of attorneys' fees and costs by David L. Smith ("Smith") and Timothy M. McGinn ("McGinn").
- 2. This declaration is based on my review of a database maintained for McGinn, Smith & Co., Inc. ("MS & Co."), bank records for Smith and McGinn, bank records for a number of entities owned or controlled by McGinn and/or Smith, and other records listed below.
- 3. From September 2003 through April 2010, MS & Co. and various issuers owned or controlled by McGinn and/or Smith raised over \$143 million dollars through two types of unregistered debt offerings: the Four Funds offerings (2003-2006) and the Trust offerings (2006-2010). According to MS & Co.'s database, as of April 2010, investors in these offerings were owed approximately \$130 million.
- 4. An account at M&T Bank ending in 9965 in the name of Smith received proceeds of the fraud, including payments from Cruise Charter Ventures, (\$50,000), Integrated Excellence (\$35,000), McGinn Smith Transaction Funding, LLC (\$376,438), MS Funding, LLC (\$626,000), NEI Capital, LLC (\$360,000), TDM Cable Funding LLC (\$694,000) and TDMM Cable Funding (\$74,000), for a total of \$2,215,438.

- 5. The Smith M&T Bank account made monthly mortgage payments for the Vero Beach property of \$6,188 per month and the Saratoga Springs property of \$4,667 per month. This account also made payments for taxes for these properties and the Sacandaga Camp property. In 2007, the account also paid a total of \$18,000 to various contractors for a deck.
- 6. Accounts at M&T Bank ending in 9504 and 2675 in the name of McGinn received proceeds of the fraud, including payments from Cruise Charter Ventures, (\$190,036), Integrated Excellence (\$50,000), McGinn Smith Transaction Funding, LLC (\$230,000), MS Funding, LLC (\$747,051), NEI Capital, LLC (\$210,000), TDM Cable Funding LLC (\$834,541), TDMM Cable Funding (\$82,500) and TDMM Cable Junior Trust 09 (\$30,000), for a total of \$2,374,128.
- 7. The McGinn M&T Bank accounts made the monthly mortgage payments for the Boca Raton property of \$3,539 per month. McGinn also wrote a check from this account to "Furniture Land South" of \$21,379.57 on July 11, 2007, which is shortly after he purchased the Boca Raton property. These accounts appear to have paid McGinn's living expenses during the period of the fraud, including the property taxes related to the Boca Raton property, credit card payments, landscaping fees, country club dues, utilities, and clothing.
- 8. I prepared the attached exhibits summarizing certain records that I have reviewed. The sources for the information are listed in each exhibit.

Exhibit No.	Description
1	David Smith's 401(k) for the years 2004-2010
2	David Smith's IRA for the years 2004-2010
3	Lynn Smith's IRA for the years 2004-2010
4	Timothy McGinn's M&T Bank account

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: New York, New York February 24, 2012

Kerri L. Palen

Exhibit 1

David Smith 401(k)

•			MS&Co Matching
Year	Employee Contribution		Contributions
2004	\$ 8,000	\$	3,500
2005	18,000		-
2006	20,000		3,500
2007	20,500		3,500
2008	20,500		3,500
2009	22,000		-
2010	6,000		
Total ·	\$ 115,000	<u>\$</u>	14,000
	s deposited to David 1(k) since 2004:	\$	129,000

Sources: David Smith's W-2 Statements, Piaker and Lyons tax workpapers and John Hancock annual statements.

Exhibit 2

David Smith Individual Retirement Account (IRA)

4,419

Balance in David Smith's IRA account on 1/01/2004 (excluding unpriced IASG securities)

Date of Contribution	Source of Contribution	А	mount
4/20/2004	Stock Account	\$	3,500
4/13/2006	David Smith account, funded by the Stock Account		4,500
4/9/2007	David Smith account, funded by TDM Cable Funding, LLC		5,000
4/15/2008	Stock Account		5,000
Total IRA Contribution	s made for the period 2004 through 2008	\$	18,000

Sources: Bank account and IRA account statements.

Exhibit 3

Case 1:10-cv-00457-GLS-DRH Document 448-2 Filed 02/24/12 Page 9 of 11

Lynn Smith Individual Retirement Account (IRA)

Date of Contribution	Source of Contribution	Α	mount
2005		\$	4,500
4/9/2006	David Smith account, funded by the Stock Account		4,500
4/9/2007	David Smith account, funded by TDM Cable Funding, LLC		5,000
4/15/2008	Stock Account		5,000
Total IRA Contribution	s made for the period 2004 through 2008	\$	19,000

Sources: Bank account and IRA account statements.

Exhibit 4

Description of Last Two Deposits Into Timothy McGinn's Bank Account

Balance in Timothy McGinn's bank account on 4/23/2010 \$ 9,372

Last Deposits Made into Account:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description of Transactions</u>	<u>Amount</u>
4/8/2010	Deposit from MS&Co	\$ 7,618
4/9/2010	Deposit from MS Funding, LLC	\$ 50,000

Source: Bank account statements, copies of deposited items and cancelled checks.