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,	Commodity Futures Trading Commission
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	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NOTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
	SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION
2	UNDERSEAL
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	Ω
1	UNITED STATES COMMODITY
5	FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION,
6	Colvil Alton N2654
7	UNDER SEAL
9	ν.
9	HIGHLANDS CAPITAL
0	MANAGEMENT, L.P., a California
	limited partnership; and GLENN KANE JACKSON, an individual,
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4	Defendants.
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	COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES,
6	COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES, AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF
5 6 7 8	COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES, AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF
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6	COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT INJUNCTION, CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES, AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF

Plaintiff, the United States Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission" or "CFTC"), by its attorneys, alleges as follows: I. <u>SUMMARY</u>

1. Beginning in or about January 2006 and continuing until December 2009, Defendants Highlands Capital Management ("Highlands") and Glenn Kane Jackson ("Jackson"), individually and in his capacity as founder, manager, employee, and/or agent of Highlands, solicited and accepted more than \$4.305 million from at least 23 members of the general public (hereinafter referred to as "pool participants") for the purported purpose of trading off-exchange foreign currency contracts ("forex").

2. Defendants offered pool participants subscriptions to two limited partnerships, Highlands Private Clients ("Private Clients") and Highlands Capital Partners ("Capital Partners") (collectively the "Pools"), which were to pool funds collected from pool participants and use the funds to trade forex on the pool participants' behalf. Instead, Defendants used only a portion of those pool participants' funds to trade forex (which trading resulted in net losses). Although they have paid pool participants approximately \$617,000, Defendants have refused to return pool participants' remaining funds despite repeated demands to do so. Approximately \$2.056 million of pool participant funds remains unaccounted for.

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3. As part of the solicitation of pool participants, Defendants made false claims, both written and spoken, regarding Jackson's success and background as a forex trader, including the forex trading track record of the Pools.

4. Further, Jackson sent false account statements and trading summaries and made verbal statements to pool participants claiming that Defendants were engaging in profitable forex trading when, in fact, they were not.

5. By virtue of this conduct and the further conduct described herein, Defendants have engaged, are engaging, or are about to engage in acts and practices in violation of the Commodity Exchange Act (the "Act"), 7 U.S.C. §§ 1 *et seq*. (2006), as amended by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-246, Title XIII (the CFTC Reauthorization Act of 2008 ("CRA")), §§ 13101-13204, 122 Stat. 1651 (enacted June 18, 2008).

6. Jackson committed the acts and omissions described herein within the course and scope of his employment or office at Highlands. Therefore, Highlands is liable under Section 2(a)(1)(B) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 2(a)(1)(B) (2006), and Section 1.2 of the Commission's Regulations ("Regulations"), 17 C.F.R. § 1.2 (2009), as principal for its agent's acts, omissions, and failures in violation of the Act, as amended by the CRA.

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7. Jackson is liable under Section 13(b) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13c(b) (2006), as a controlling person of Highlands for its violations of the Act, as amended by the CRA, because Jackson did not act in good faith or knowingly induced, directly or indirectly, the acts constituting the violations.

8. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 6c of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1 (2006), and Section 2(c)(2)(C) of the Act, as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 2(c)(2)(C), the Commission brings this action to enjoin Defendants' unlawful acts and practices and to compel their compliance with the Act and to further enjoin Defendants from engaging in certain commodity and forex-related activity. In addition, the Commission seeks civil monetary penalties and remedial ancillary relief, including, but not limited to, trading and registration bans, restitution, disgorgement, rescission, pre- and postjudgment interest, and such other relief as the Court may deem necessary and appropriate.

9. Unless restrained and enjoined by this Court, Defendants are likely to continue to engage in the acts and practices alleged in this Complaint and similar acts and practices, as more fully described below.

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#### **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

10. Section 6c(a) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1 (2006), authorizes the Commission to seek injunctive relief against any person whenever it shall appear to the Commission that such person has engaged, is engaging, or is about to engage in any act or practice constituting a violation of the Act or any rule, regulation, or order thereunder.

11. The Commission has jurisdiction over the conduct and transactions at issue in this case pursuant to Section 6c of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1, and Section 2(c)(2)(C) of the Act, as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 2(c)(2)(C\_.

12. Venue properly lies with the Court pursuant to Section 6c(e) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1, because the pool participants reside, and Defendants transacted business in the Northern District of California, and certain of the transactions, acts, practices, and courses of business alleged in the Complaint occurred, are occurring, and/or are about to occur within this District.

#### **III. PARTIES**

13. U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission is an independent federal regulatory agency that is charged by Congress with the administration and enforcement of the Act, 7 U.S.C. §§ 1 *et seq.*, as amended by the CRA, and the Regulations promulgated thereunder, 17 C.F.R. §§ 1.1 *et seq*. The Commission

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maintains its principal office at Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20581.

14. Highlands Capital Management, L.P. is a California limited partnership with its principal place of business listed as 220 Jackson Street, Third Floor, San Francisco, California 94111. Highlands was formed in January 2006 and is the general partner of the Pools purportedly with the exclusive right and authority to manage, operate, and conduct the business of the Pools. Highlands is not, and has never been, registered with the Commission.

15. Glenn Kane Jackson resides in Tiburon, California 94920. Jackson is a founder, incorporator, director, manager, officer, employee, and/or agent of Highlands and held himself out to the public as the person in charge of Highlands. Jackson is also the "forex trading advisor" and manager of the Pools. Jackson is not, and has never been, registered with the Commission.

#### IV. FACTS

#### Background

16. From approximately January 2006 through December 2009, Defendants solicited and accepted at least \$4.305 million from at least 23 pool participants for the purported purpose of trading forex.

17. Defendants offered pool participants subscriptions to two limited partnerships, Private Clients and Capital Partners, the terms of which were communicated to pool participants by Defendants, both verbally and through Private Offering Memoranda, Agreements of Limited Partnership, and related documents. According to Defendants' representations, the pool participants' money was to be pooled in the name of the Pools and traded by Jackson with the purported goal of capital growth through forex trading. Pool participants' partnership interests in the Pools were to grow (or shrink) depending on the profits (or losses) from Defendants' forex trading.

18. The Private Offering Memoranda and related documents for both of the Pools provided that Highlands would act as the general partner to each with the exclusive right and authority to manage, operate, and conduct the business of the Pools. In order to subscribe to the Pools, pool participants were required to grant Highlands an irrevocable limited power of attorney concerning all partnership business.

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19. The Private Offering Memoranda for both of the Pools provided for withdrawal (upon 30 days notice), of a pool participant's funds within 10 days of the end of each calendar quarter. The Private Offering Memoranda further provided that Highlands could suspend withdrawals by pool participants if: (i) the markets were closed or trading is suspended, (ii) regulatory or contractual prohibitions prevented the liquidation of sufficient "portfolio securities" to fund the withdrawals, (iii) the sale of "portfolio securities" would "seriously prejudice" the interests of non-redeeming pool participants, or (iv) there was a "breakdown in the means of communication normally used" to determine the value of the partnership's "investments."

## Solicitation

20. As part of the solicitation of pool participants, Jackson made false representations regarding his past success and background as a forex trader as well as his track record trading the Pools.

21. For example, Jackson claimed to have never experienced a single losing year trading forex. Defendants' domestic forex trading accounts managed and controlled by Jackson, however, consistently incurred net losses each year from 2006 to 2009, collectively exceeding \$3.406 million.

22. Jackson also provided pool participants with copies of his resume suggesting that he had obtained Series 7 and Series 63 certifications from the National Association of Securities Dealers when, in fact, Jackson had never been certified as such.

23. Jackson knew that the foregoing representations made to pool participants about his background and trading history made to pool participants were false. Jackson made these false statements with the intent to mislead pool participants.

# The Money Trail

24. Based on Jackson's misrepresentations and omissions regarding his forex trading success and background, beginning in or about January 2006, and continuing until December 2009, at least 23 individuals wired at least \$4.305 million to Defendants for trading forex. Pool participants provided approximately \$885,000 of this amount to Defendants after June 18, 2008.

25. Specifically, at least nine individuals signed subscription agreements and wired approximately \$1.357 million to Defendants for the purpose of trading forex through Private Clients; at least 14 individuals signed subscription agreements and wired approximately \$2.947 million to Defendants for the purpose of trading forex through Capital Partners.

26. Of the approximately \$4.305 million provided by pool participants to Defendants for trading forex through the Pools, only approximately \$1.742 million was ever deposited into domestic forex trading accounts held in the name of either of the Pools.

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27. More specifically, only \$114,000 of the \$1.357 million provided by Private Clients' pool participants was ever deposited into a domestic forex trading account, and of the \$114,000, only approximately \$3,500 was traded; the remainder was transferred from the trading account to a bank account controlled by Jackson within days after the initial deposits were made.

28. Similarly, only approximately \$1.628 million of the \$2.947 million provided by Capital Partners' pool participants was ever deposited into a domestic forex trading account, all of which was lost in trading.

29. Between February 2006 and June 2009, in response to pool participant requests, Defendants paid pool participants approximately \$617,000 from the Pools' forex trading accounts. Thus, of the approximately \$4.305 million provided by pool participants to Defendants, approximately \$1.628 million was traded and lost, approximately \$617,000 was, over time, paid to pool participants, and the remaining approximately \$2.056 million remains unaccounted for, including at least \$700,000 provided by pool participants to proposed Defendants after June 18, 2008.

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## False Statements

30. Beginning as early as August 2008 and continuing through December 2009, Defendants sent account statements and other documents to pool participants showing that Defendants' forex trading was generating consistent profits.

31. For example, Defendants sent at least one pool participant an IRS K-1 tax form showing profits for 2008 of \$63,000 on his partnership interest of \$370,000. Other pool participants received statements showing quarterly returns for the third quarter of 2009 of 20.74%. Defendants also sent pool participants trading summaries for two purported Private Clients' forex trading accounts showing 80.6% and 12.85% returns, respectively, for the trading period November 2007 through December 2008. All of these statements were false.

32. Defendants knew that the foregoing account statements and other representations about Defendants' forex trading made to pool participants were false. Defendants made these false statements with the intent to mislead pool participants.

# Denial of Pool participants' Withdrawal Requests

33. Although Defendants honored withdrawal requests from pool participants totaling approximately \$617,000, Defendants responded to other withdrawal requests with delay and numerous

explanations as to why the pool participants' money could not 2 (or would not) be returned.

For example, in early 2009 Jackson assured some of the 34. 4 pool participants that their money would be returned "next 5 week," "next month," or on a specified date. None of these 6 7 assurances was honored. Instead, Jackson offered the pool 8 participants various excuses for failing to return their money, 9 including:

a. that the pool participants' money was "tied up due to new CFTC regulations;"

b. that there had been "margin problems" at the futures commission merchant ("FCM") through which Defendants' forex trades were purportedly cleared;

c. that the partnership agreement gave Jackson unfettered discretion over the pool participants' funds and that he was not required to return the money unless he determined that it was in the best interest of the partnership.

35. Each of these explanations was false and inconsistent with the terms of participation in the Pools.

# Jackson's Control of Highlands

36. Jackson was the founder, principal, manager, and agent of Highlands and of the Pools and at all material times held himself out to the public as such. Jackson solicited pool

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participants to trade forex through the Pools and, in doing so, sent partnership offerings, subscription agreements, account statements, and related documents to pool participants and prospective pool participants. Jackson also carried out and controlled all forex trading conducted on behalf of the pool participants through the Pools. At all material times, Jackson maintained control of bank and other accounts where pool participant funds were held.

# Nature of the Underlying Forex Transactions

37. Neither Defendants, the Pools, nor the futures commission merchants that were the counterparties to the forex transactions entered into and/or contemplated by Defendants and the pool participants were financial institutions, registered broker dealers, insurance companies, bank holding companies, investment bank holding companies, or the associated persons of such entities.

38. Defendants pooled pool participants' funds, acted as intermediaries between pool participants and the futures commission merchants, and opened accounts at futures commission merchants in the names of the Pools. The Pools were not "eligible contract participants" ("ECPs") as that term is defined in the Act. See Sections 1a(12)(A)(iv) and (v), of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 1a(12)(A)(iv) and (v), (2006). An ECP, as relevant here, is

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1 a. a pool that (i) has total assets exceeding \$5,000,000; 2 and (ii) is formed and operated by a person subject to 3 regulation under this chapter, 7 U.S.C. 4 § 1a(12)(A)(iv); or 5 b. a "corporation, partnership, proprietorship, 6 7 organization, trust, or other entity - (I) that has 8 total assets exceeding \$10,000,000 ... or a net worth 9 exceeding \$1,000,000; and enters the transaction . . . 10 to manage the risk associated with an asset or 11 liability owned or incurred or reasonably likely to be 12 13 owned or incurred, by the entity in the conduct of the 14 entities business." 7 U.S.C. § 1a(12)(A)(v). 15 39. The Pools did not have assets exceeding \$5,000,000, 16 nor was their respective net worth in excess of \$1 million; 17 thus, the Pools were not ECPs pursuant to Sections 1a(12)(A)(iv) 18 or (v) of the Act. 19 20 Defendants traded (and/or offered to trade) forex on a 40. 21 margined or leveraged basis in trading accounts containing pool 22 participants' funds. The forex transactions conducted (or 23 contemplated) by Defendants neither resulted in delivery within 24 two days nor created an enforceable obligation to deliver 25 26 between a seller and a buyer that had the ability to deliver and 27 accept delivery, respectively, in connection with their lines of 28 business. Rather, these forex contracts did, or were to, remain

1	open from day to day and ultimately were, or were to be, offset
2	without anyone making or taking delivery of actual currency (or
3	facing an obligation to do so).
4	V. VIOLATIONS OF THE COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT
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6 7	COUNT I
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9	Violations of Sections 4b(a)(2)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by
10	the CRA,
11	to be codified at 7 U.S.C. §§ 6b(a)(2)(A)-(C)
12	(Fraud in Connection with Forex)
13	
14	41. The allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 40
15	are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
16	42. Sections $4b(a)(2)(A)-(C)$ of the Act as amended by the
17	CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. §§ $6b(a)(2)(A)-(C)$ , make it
18	unlawful:
19 20	for any person, in or in connection with any order to
20	make, or the making of, any contract of sale of any commodity for future delivery, or other agreement,
22	contract, or transaction subject to paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 5a(g), that is made, or to be made, for
23	or on behalf of, or with, any other person, other than
24	on or subject to the rules of a designated contract market - (A) to cheat or defraud or attempt to cheat
25	or defraud the other person; (B) willfully to make or cause to be made to the other person any false report
26	or statement or willfully to enter or cause to be entered for the other person any false record; (C)
27	willfully to deceive or attempt to deceive the other person by any means whatsoever in regard to any order
28	or contract or the disposition or execution of any order or contract, or in regard to any act of agency
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performed, with respect to any order or contract for or, in the case of paragraph (2), with the other person.

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Section 4b(a)(2)(A)-(C) of the Act, as amended by the 43. CRA, applies to the forex transactions, agreements or contracts offered to or entered into by Defendants for or on behalf of Defendants' pool participants. See Section 2(c)(2)(C)(iv) of the Act, as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 2(c)(2)(C)(iv).

44. As set forth above, from at least June 18, 2008, through December 2009, in or in connection with forex contracts, 12 13 made or to be made, for or on behalf of, or with, other persons, Defendants cheated or defrauded or attempted to cheat or defraud their pool participants and prospective pool participants and willfully deceived or attempted to deceive their pool participants and prospective pool participants by, among other things, knowingly, (i) misrepresenting Jackson's background and trading success as a forex trader, (ii) misappropriating pool participant funds, and (iii) making or causing to be made false 22 account statements, trading summaries, and tax forms to pool participants misstating the value of, and trading activity in, 25 their accounts., all in violation of Sections 4b(a)(2)(A) and 26 (C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. §§ 6b(a)(2)(A) and (C).

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45. As set forth above, from at least June 18, 2008, through December 2009, in or in connection with forex contracts, made or to be made, for or on behalf of, or with, other persons, Defendants willfully made or caused to be made false reports to pool participants and prospective pool participants by, among other things, knowingly providing pool participants fraudulent account statements, trading summaries, and tax forms that misrepresented the value of pool participants' accounts and pool participants' holdings, in violation of Section 4b(a)(2)(B) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(2)(B).

46. Defendants engaged in the acts and practices described above knowingly or with reckless disregard for the truth.

47. At all relevant times, Jackson controlled Highlands and the Pools, directly or indirectly, and did not act in good faith or knowingly induced, directly or indirectly, Highlands's conduct alleged in this Complaint. Therefore, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13c(b) (2006), Jackson is liable for Highlands's violations of Sections 4b(a)(2)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. §§ 6b(a)(2)(A)-(C).

48. The foregoing acts, misrepresentations, omissions, and failures of Jackson occurred within the scope of his employment or office with Highlands, therefore, Highlands, is liable for

those acts, omissions and failures pursuant to Section 2(a)(1)(B) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 2(a)(1)(B) (2006), and Regulation 1.2, 17 C.F.R. § 1.2 (2009).

49. Each misrepresentation, omission or instance of misappropriation and each issuance of a false statements, including but not limited to those specifically alleged herein, is alleged as a separate and distinct violation of Sections 4b(a)(2)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. §§ 6b(a)(2)(A)-(C).

## VI. <u>RELIEF REQUESTED</u>

WHEREFORE, the Commission respectfully requests that the Court, as authorized by Section 6c of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1, and pursuant to its own equitable powers, enter:

a) An order finding that Defendants violated Sections
4b(a)(2)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified
at 7 U.S.C. §§ 6b(a)(2)(A)-(C);

b) An order of permanent injunction prohibiting
 Defendants and any of their agents, servants, employees, assigns,
 attorneys, and persons in active concert or participation with any
 Defendant, including any successor thereof, from engaging,
 directly or indirectly:

(i) in conduct in violation of Sections 4b(a)(2)(A)(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7
U.S.C. §§ 6b(a)(2)(A)-(C); and

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(ii) trading on or subject to the rules of any registered entity (as that term is defined in Section la(29) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § la(29) (2006);

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(iii) entering into any transactions involving commodity futures, options on commodity futures, commodity options (as that term is defined in Regulation 32.1(b)(1), 17 C.F.R. § 32.1(b)(1) (2009)) ("commodity options"), and/or foreign currency (as described in Sections 2(c)(2)(B) and 2(c)(2)(C)(i) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. §§ 2(c)(2)(B) and 2(c)(2)(C)(i)) ("forex contracts") for their own personal account or for any account in which they have a direct or indirect interest;

(iv) having any commodity futures, options on commodity futures, commodity options, and/or forex contracts traded on their behalf;

(v) controlling or directing the trading for or on behalf of any other person or entity, whether by power of attorney or otherwise, in any account involving commodity futures, options on commodity futures, commodity options, and/or forex contracts;

(vi) soliciting, receiving, or accepting any funds from any person for the purpose of purchasing or selling any commodity futures, options on commodity futures, commodity options, and/or forex contracts;

(vii) applying for registration or claiming exemption from registration with the Commission in any capacity, and engaging in any activity requiring such registration or exemption from registration with the Commission, except as provided for in Regulation 4.14(a)(9), 17 C.F.R. § 4.14(a)(9) (2009);

(viii) acting as a principal (as that term is defined in Regulation 3.1(a), 17 C.F.R. § 3.1(a) (2009)), agent or any other officer or employee of any person registered, exempted from registration or required to be registered with the Commission, except as provided for in Regulation 4.14(a)(9), 17 C.F.R. § 4.14(a)(9) (2009).

c) An order directing Defendants, as well as any successors, to disgorge, pursuant to such procedure as the Court may order, all benefits received from the acts or practices which constitute violations of the Act, as amended by the CRA, as described herein, and pre- and post-judgment interest thereon from the date of such violations;

d) An order directing Defendants to make full restitution to every person or entity whose funds they received or caused another person or entity to receive as a result of acts and practices that constituted violations of the Act, as amended by

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the CRA, as described herein, and pre- and post-judgment interest thereon from the date of such violations;

e) An order directing Defendants and any successors thereof, to rescind, pursuant to such procedures as the Court may order, all contracts and agreements, whether implied or express, entered into between them and any of the pool participants whose funds were received by them as a result of the acts and practices which constituted violations of the Act, as amended by the CRA, described herein;

f) An order directing each Defendant to pay a civil monetary penalty in the amount of the higher of (1) triple the monetary gain to each Defendant for each violation of the Act, as amended by the CRA, described herein or (2) \$140,000 for each violation of the Act committed on or after October 23, 2008, and \$130,000 for each violation committed before October 23, 2008, plus post-judgment interest;

An order requiring Defendants to pay costs and fees as 1 g) 2 permitted by 28 U.S.C. §§ 1920 and 2412(a)(2); and 3 Such other and further relief as the Court deems h) 4 proper. 5 6 7 Dated: June 17, 2010 Respectfully submitted, 8 9 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF U.S. COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION 10 Three Lafayette Centre 11 1151 21<sup>st</sup> Street NW Washington, DC 20581 12 (202) 418-5000 (main) (202) 418-5531 (fax) 13 14 1.5 Matthew Elkan DC Bar No. 413161 16 (202) 418-5398 (direct) 17 melkan@cftc.gov 18 Patrick Pericak DC Bar No. 503329 19 (202) 418-5399 (direct) 20 ppericak@cftc.gov 21 Daniel C. Jordan VA Bar No. 36382 22 (202) 418-5339 (direct) 23 djordan@cftc.gov 24 25 26 27 28 Complaint - 22