



David L. Kornblau
First Vice President
and General Counsel
Global Regulatory Affairs

Office of General Counsel

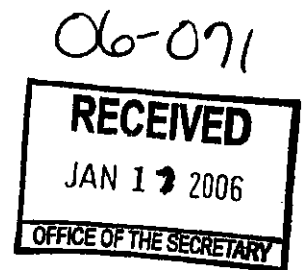
222 Broadway
16th Floor
New York, New York 10038
212 670 0313
FAX 212 670 4507
david_kornblau@ml.com

January 11, 2006

VIA UPS

Confidential Treatment Requested

Nancy Morris
Secretary
Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F. Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20549



Notice of Representation Pursuant to Rule 8(b),
17 C.F.R. 200.735-8(b)

Dear Ms. Morris:

This statement is filed in compliance with the Commission's notice of representation requirement.

I was formerly Chief Litigation Counsel in the Division of Enforcement and resigned effective August 5, 2005, to accept employment with Merrill Lynch. This is to advise you that I will be representing Merrill Lynch in the matters on the attached list. In the course of my representation of Merrill Lynch, it is contemplated that I will appear before, or communicate with, the Commission or the staff of various offices of the Commission by telephone, correspondence, or otherwise.

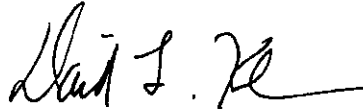
While an employee of the Commission, to the best of my recollection, I did not have official responsibility for, nor did I participate personally or substantially in the attached matters. I have cleared my representation of Merrill Lynch in these matters with (b)(6) of the Commission's Ethics Office.

Nancy Morris, Secretary
Page 2

Since my participation in these matters may continue for an indefinite period involving more than one communication with, or appearance before, the Commission or its staff, this statement is intended to cover all my appearances and communications that relate directly to the attached matters.

In addition, I request confidential treatment for this letter because it refers to ongoing nonpublic investigations. See Rule 8-4c, 17 C.F.R. 200.735-8(d)(3).

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David L. Kornblau", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David L. Kornblau

List of Matters

1. In the Matter of (b)(7)(A)
2. In the Matter of ~~Arhinet-the~~exchange, Inc. (MHO-10279)
3. In the Matter of (b)(7)(A)
4. In the Matter of IShopNoMarkup.com (04-CV-4059 DRH E.D.N.Y.)
5. In the Matter of Liberty Corp (MHO-10303)
6. In the Matter of (b)(7)(A)
7. In the Matter of Sina Corp. (HO-10199)
8. In the Matter of (b)(7)(A) and In the Matter of Eaton Vance Corp (B-02075)
9. In the Matter of (b)(7)(A)
10. In the Matter of
11. In the Matter of
12. Pooled Muni Bonds
13. Municipal Bond Pricing
14. Trading in the Securities of R.F. Micro Devices, Inc. (HO-09502)
15. In (b)(7)(A)
16. Competitive Tech, Inc. (MB-02169)
17. SEC v. One or More Unknown Purchasers of Call options for the Common Stock of Placer Dome Inc., Civil Action No. 05-9300